



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010**

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Fera.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
John Belcastro	✓		
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Gary Crole	✓		
John Dekker	✓		
Frank Fera	✓		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Tony Scalzi	✓		
<b>Student Trustees</b>			
Juliana Ciccarelli	✓		
Megan Grocholsky	✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Mark Lefebvre**, Administrator of School Effectiveness; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/ Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of February 23, 2010, as presented.

**CARRIED**

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. **Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 26, 2010**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 26, 2010, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. DELEGATIONS**

1. **Niagara Catholic United Way Donations for 2010**  
**- Peter Papp, Executive Director and Paul Leon, Campaign Chair**

Director Crocco presented brief background information on Niagara Catholic's fundraising efforts for the United Way, which includes staff lunches, dress down days, book sales, raffles and personal donations facilitated through payroll deductions.

Peter Papp, Executive Director, was in attendance to accept a cheque on behalf of the United Way in the amount of \$23,220. Mr. Papp thanked the Trustees and Staff of the Board for their generous donations.

2. **Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Recipients**  
**- Kyle Druzina - St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School**  
**- Jack Fazzari - St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School**

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education presented background information on the Ontario Community Newspaper Association Junior Citizen of the Year Awards.

Kyle Druzina, a Grade 7 student at St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School, and Jack Fazzari, a Grade 5 student at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School, were 2 of 12 recipients of the announced on Friday, January 22, 2009.

Kyle presented information on the challenge he presented to students at St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School to save their pennies for the "Wells of Hope" campaign, which supports the housing and water projects in Guatemala, which raised \$5000.

Jack presented information on the business, " Good Ideas Inc.", he started with a friend to raise money for the Welland Hospital Foundation. Through a variety of activities, such as publishing their own newspaper, and organizing fundraising events such as a car wash, garage sale, book sale, and Christmas party, they raised \$2,000 and have inspired others in their community to contribute.

Chairperson Burtnik congratulated the students on their efforts and asked Trustees Belcastro and Crole to present the students with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics" Pins.

## **C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. School Excellence Program – St. Martin Catholic Elementary School**

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education, introduced Principal Dean Stunt.

Principal Stunt, with the assistance of students and staff showcased St. Martin Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked Principal Stunt, the staff and students for their presentation and performance.

### **2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010 and Consideration of Recommendations**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010, as presented.

**CARRIED**

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2010:

#### **2.1 Approval of Policies**

##### **2.1.1 Safe Arrival Policy (302.3)**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Safe Arrival Policy (302.3), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1.2 Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1.3 Closure of School/Accommodation Review Policy (701.2)**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Closure of School/Accommodation Review Policy (701.2), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.2 Financial Reports**

**2.2.1 Monthly Banking Transactions**

Moved by Trustee Crole  
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2010, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**2.2.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures**

Moved by Trustee Crole  
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at January 31, 2010, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**3. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 6, 2010**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 6, 2010, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**4. Ministry of Education Mid-Year Progress Update**

Director Crocco introduced the report on the Ministry of Education Mid-Year Progress Update, pointing out that this report and the following report on the Mid-Year Progress Review of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010, are linked as they both provide a mid-year review of improving student achievement and a review of the achievement to date of the Niagara Catholic District School Board Priorities.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells presented the Ministry of Education Mid-Year Progress Update. The Board Improvement Planning (BIP) Team, along with Senior Administration, meet as a Board Team and with the Ministry of Education to review and update the plan, in order to meet the needs of all students, to improve student achievement.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells thanked the BIP Team for their hard work and dedication to the task at hand and acknowledged Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects, and Chair of the Team for collating and analyzing the data for preparation for the final document.

**5. Mid-Year Progress Review of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010**

Director Crocco presented the Mid-Year Progress Review of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010, which was designed as part of the transition towards an approved Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

The results of the mid-year review were collated and reviewed by Administrative Council as a measurement of success to date in achieving each indicator within each system priority. Following discussions, specific strategies and timelines were designed, as required, to affect the achievement of each indicator by the conclusion of this academic year.

Director Crocco presented each of the four (4) System Priorities and reported on the achievement level of the indicators within each priority as either completed, in progress or in development.

Director Crocco will present a final report on the 2009-2010 System Priorities at the June 15, 2010 Board Meeting.

**6. School Year Calendar 2010-2011**

Superintendent Iannantuono presented the proposed School Year Calendar 2010-2011 for the Board's consideration. He informed the Board that based on feedback from the consultation process, discussions with the School Year Calendar Committee, Administrative Council and the District School Board of Niagara, modified 2010-2011 Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars will be submitted to the Ministry for approval by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, pending Board approval.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2010-2011 school year.

**CARRIED**

**7. Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee – 2010-2011**

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the report from the Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee – 2010-2011.

**8. H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management**

Director Crocco presented the monthly Board report on the H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management.

## **D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. Correspondence**

#### **1.1 Letter from Minister of Education – Honorable Leona Dombrowsky**

Director Crocco presented the Letter from Minister of Education, Honorable Leona Dombrowsky, acknowledging receipt of a congratulatory letter from the Niagara Catholic District School Board regarding her appointment as Minister of Education, and in appreciation of a copy of the Director's Annual Report 2009.

### **2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended**

Nil Report

### **3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action**

Nil Report

### **4. Trustee Information**

#### **4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – February 9, 2010**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – February 9, 2010 issue for Trustees' information.

#### **4.2 Calendar of Events – March 2010**

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events – March 2010 for Trustees' information.

#### **4.3 Niagara Catholic Skills Competition – Opening Ceremony – March 9, 2010**

Director Crocco informed Trustees of the Niagara Catholic Skills Competition – Opening Ceremony – March 9, 2010.

#### **4.4 Niagara Catholic International Co-operative Education Program – Guatemala 2010**

Director Crocco presented an update on the Niagara Catholic International Co-operative Education Program – Guatemala 2010. He informed Trustees that a blog type link has been created on the Board's website. The Director will keep Trustees updated on the students first Niagara Catholic International Co-op experience.

#### **4.5 Solar Photovoltaic Systems**

Controller of Plant Woods presented information on the recent announcement that Niagara Catholic has received funding support for renewable energy technology projects at Our Lady of Fatima and St. Joseph Catholic Elementary Schools in Grimsby. The funding allocation is for a total funding of \$1,898,746 to install solar photovoltaic systems on the two replacement school buildings, which are now under construction. A full report will be brought to the Committee of the Whole on March 9, 2010.

**5. Open Question Period**

None Submitted

**E. NOTICES OF MOTION  
F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board move into the In Camera Session.

**CARRIED**

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 9:00 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

**G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of February 23, 2010.

**CARRIED**

**SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of January 26, 2010, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of February 9, 2010, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**

**SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of January 26, 2010, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of February 9, 2010, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

The following motions were reported from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of February 9, 2010:

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F5.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F5.1)**

## **H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

## **I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE**

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro  
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the February 23, 2010 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **February 23, 2010**.

Approved on the **30th** day of **March 2010**.

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Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer