



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, 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 Scalzi.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Nieuwesteeg from attending the Board Meeting of October 27, 2009.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg		✓
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Juliana Cicarelli	✓	
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; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of October 27, 2009, 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 September 29, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Dekker
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of September 29, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. **2009 Elementary Schools Junior and Intermediate Chess Team Champions**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Andy Cipro, Principal of St. Edward Catholic Elementary School and Convenor of the Chess Program and Tournaments. Principal Cipro congratulated St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School for winning both the 2009 Regional Area Junior and Intermediate Tournaments. Pat Wigglesworth, Chess Coach, introduced the Championship Teams.

Chairperson Burtnik and Trustee Crole presented the students with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics" pins.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. **School Excellence Program – Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School**

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education introduced Principal Patsy Rocca and Vice-Principal Angela Villella.

Music Teacher Penny Bartok led the St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School Choir in a performance.

Principal Rocca, with the assistance of staff showcased Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

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

2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 13, 2009 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 13, 2009.

2.1 Financial Reports

2.1.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of September 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

2.1.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at September 30, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

3. Unapproved Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committees

3.1 St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Catholic Schools – October 7, 2009

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee - St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Catholic Schools Meeting of October 7, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

**3.2 Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/
St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools – October 13, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee - Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Meeting of October 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 9, 2009

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 9, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

4.1 Appointment of Community Partner to S.E.A.C. – VIEWS

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School approve the appointment of VIEWS for the Blind and Visually Impaired to the Special Education Advisory Committee as a Community Partner and

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School approve the appointment of Mona O'Brien as a representative of VIEWS for the Blind and Visually Impaired to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

5. Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan Schedule

Director Crocco presented the report on the Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan Schedule for information. He mentioned that all Discovery Session dates, reports and recommendations will be posted on the Board website under the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan tab once received as information by the Board.

The target is to present a Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan at the May 11, 2010 Committee of the Whole Meeting .

6. H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management

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

He pointed out that in addition to the hand sanitizers already located in every school, additional ones will be placed in every classroom, including portables, that do not have a sink. These additional sanitizers have begun to arrive this week.

The Board's Plant Department in conjunction with Principals continue to monitor the cleaning of schools specifically doorknobs, railings, desks and commonly touched hard surfaces are disinfected twice daily.

Senior Staff is currently monitoring absenteeism rates for both staff and students.

Trustees inquired as to whether there are currently any confirmed cases on H1N1 in our schools. Director Crocco stated that according to the Regional Municipality of Niagara there are cases of H1N1 throughout the Niagara Region which likely includes our schools.

7. Preparation of Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2008-2009

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services, presented the report on the Preparation of the Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2008-2009, pointing out that the Ministry of Education requires School Boards to submit Audited Financial Statements and Grant Schedules on an annual basis, and answered Trustees questions.

Superintendent Reich stated that during this time of economic uncertainty, Senior Staff is pleased to present very positive financial results.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Preparation of the Audited Financial Statements for the year 2008-2009, as presented.

CARRIED

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the transfer of funds from the Reserve Fund for Working Funds for the year 2008-2009, as follows:
- \$497,090 from the Reserve for Working Funds (to balance the Financial Statements for Ministry of Education compliance purposes).

CARRIED

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the transfer of funds to the Pupil Accommodation Reserve for the year 2008-2009, as follows:
- \$772,256 to the Pupil Accommodation Reserve (to account for the unspent Capital Grants during the year, in accordance with the regulations).

CARRIED

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 McMaster Children's Hospital – Thank You Letter re Donation

1.2 Thank You Letter re History of Catholic Education in the Niagara Region Book Thorold Public Library

1.3 Thank You Letter re History of Catholic Education in the Niagara Region Book Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, Archbishop of Ottawa

- 1.4 **Thank You Letter re History of Catholic Education in the Niagara Region Book
Most Reverend A.F. Tonnos, Bishop of Hamilton**
- 1.5 **Thank You Letter re History of Catholic Education in the Niagara Region Book
Most Reverend Fred J. Colli, Bishop of the Diocese of Thunder Bay**
- 1.6 **Thank You Letter re History of Catholic Education in the Niagara Region Book
John N. Lighthstone, President & Vice-Chancellor, Brock University**
- 1.7 **OCSTA – Thank You Letter re Niagara Catholic’s Hosting
of OCSTA Regional Meeting**

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 – October 13, 2009**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – October 13, 2009, issue for Trustees’ information.

4.2 **Calendar of Events – November**

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events – November 2009 for Trustees’ information.

4.3 **Year for Priests Dinner Celebration – October 27, 2009**

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the Year for Priests Dinner Celebration on October 27, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. at Club Roma in St. Catharines.

4.4 **Arts & Culture Specialist High Skills Major Launch
Shaw Theatre, Niagara-on-the-Lake – November 3, 2009 -10:30 a.m.**

Director Crocco presented information on the Arts & Culture Specialist High Skills Major Launch - Shaw Theatre, Niagara-on-the-Lake – November 3, 2009 -10:30 a.m.

4.5 **Niagara Children’s Charter Enacted Community Action Session - November 20, 2009**

Director Crocco presented information on the Niagara Children’s Charter Enacted Community Action Session - November 20, 2009, and informed Trustees that he and Superintendent Baldasaro will be representing the Board at the Session.

Trustees available to attend are to notify Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Board Services and Communications Department.

4.6 Niagara Catholic Retirement and Recognition Dinner - June 26, 2010

Director Crocco presented information on the Niagara Catholic Retirement and Recognition Dinner - June 26, 2010.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Fera

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 8:35 p.m. and reconvened at 9:55 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of October 27, 2009.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Dekker

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 September 29, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Crole
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 A: Student Trustees Present of October 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Crole

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 September 29, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Dekker

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 B: Student Trustees Excluded of October 13, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Crole

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that the Board provide a written submission regarding the Public Hearings on Bill 177 by October 29, 2009, to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the October 27, 2009 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **October 27, 2009.**

Approved on the **24th** day of **November 2009.**

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer