



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2012**

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 4, 2012, 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 7:40 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Charbonneau.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee O'Leary

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chairperson Charbonneau noted that all Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓			
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Vincent Atallah	✓			
Michael Blair	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Mario Ciccarelli**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; Administrator of School Effectiveness; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary /Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 4, 2012, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Interest**

A Disclosure of Interest was declared by Trustee Burkholder with Item C5.1 of the Public Agenda, as she has a family member who is associated with the Quartek Group.

Disclosures of Interest were declared by Trustee O'Leary with Item F4.1 of the In Camera Agenda. This trustee has family members who are teachers, or employees of the Board. He left the meeting during discussion of this item.

**5. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 13, 2012**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 13, 2012, as amended - Item 4.2.2 change June 2014 to June 2015 in the recommendation to read:

***THAT** the Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy – Safe Schools, be reviewed no later than June 2015.*

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Policy Committee**

**1.1 Unapproved Minutes**

**Policy Committee Meeting – November 27, 2012**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of November 27, 2012, as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **1.2 Approval of Policies**

### **1.2.1 Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction Policy (#100.7)**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction Policy (#100.7), as presented.

**CARRIED**

### **1.2.2 Student Parenting Policy (#302.5)**

Moved by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Student Parenting Policy (#302.5), as presented.

**CARRIED**

### **1.2.3 Accessibility Standards Policy (new) (Interim)**

Trustees recommended that the Student Transportation Policy (500.2) be listed under References on the Policy Statement.

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Accessibility Standards Policy (*new*) (*Interim*), as amended to include Student Transportation Policy (500.2) under References on the Policy Statement.

**CARRIED**

## **1.3 Policy Schedule**

Director Crocco presented the Policy Schedule.

## **1.4 Policy Update**

Director Crocco presented the Policy Update.

## **2. Niagara Catholic Learning Management System – Teacher/Student Communication Demonstration**

Mario Ciccarelli, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Mark Di Tomasso, e-Learning Consultant, Anna Perrotta and Ryan Sauriol, Grade 7 & 8 Student Success Literacy & Numeracy Technology Education Coaches, who presented the report on the new and enhanced Niagara Catholic Learning Management System (LMS).

Trustees, along with Principals who were in attendance, were provided with a demonstration on how the LMS enhances and supports classroom teaching and interaction with students by delivering online training, teaching and webinars for students.

Trustees asked questions of Superintendent Ciccarelli and asked for an update in April or May 2013.

**3. Mental Health Workers In Schools**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Colleen Atkinson, Amy Dowd, and David O'Rourke – Special Education Coordinators, who presented the update on Mental Health Workers in Schools which addressed the Niagara Catholic 2012-2013 Enabling Strategies.

Trustees asked questions of Superintendent Baldasaro and the Special Education Coordinators and discussed the report.

**4. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities**

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education/Human Resources, presented the report on the Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities in December and January for information.

**5. Monthly Updates**

**5.1 Capital Projects Progress Report**

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services, presented the Capital Projects Progress Report.

**5.2 Student Trustees' Update**

Vincent Atallah and Michael Blair, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

**5.3 Senior Staff Good News Update**

Senior Staff highlights included:

**Superintendent Forsyth-Sells**

- Lakeshore Catholic High School submitted twenty pieces of student art to the Ontario College of Teachers in Toronto for the Christmas Gallery, which will be on display at the Ontario College of Teachers for the month of December.
- Art work created by eight students from Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School have been selected as winning submissions to the "Windows to the World", National Art Competition for the Children's Respiratory Unit at the Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem. Each winner will receive a trophy at the Special Award Presentation Ceremony on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013, and a place on one of the six posters that will be distributed nationally.

**Superintendent Baldasaro**

- St. Ann Catholic Elementary School in St. Catharines was selected to paint art on the windows at City Hall in St. Catharines.

**Superintendent Lefebvre**

- Preliminary indications are that the number of participating elementary schools for the Holy Childhood Walk has increased this year. The schools are on target to meet or exceed last year's total of approximately \$15,000.00 in school donations.

**Controller of Facilities Services Whitwell**

- St. Andrew Catholic Elementary School received a Conservation Achievement Award for their ECO Club planting team's project of building a Living Willow Dome.

The Willow Dome, which is an outdoor teaching/learning space made from 15 feet willow whips woven into the shape of a dome, will provide shade and shelter that would create an area of retreat and a sense of calm for students.

**D. INFORMATION**

**1. Trustee Information**

**1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 27, 2012**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 27, 2012 issue for Trustees' information.

**1.2 Calendar of Events – December 2012**

Director Crocco presented information on the Calendar of Events – December 2012.

**1.3 Annual Administrators, Trustees and Priests Faith Formation – December 13, 2012**

Director Crocco presented information on the Annual Administrators, Trustees and Priests Faith Formation being held December 13, 2012 at Club Roma in St. Catharines.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications.

**1.4 Blessing of Addition and Renovations to Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School – December 17th, 2012**

Director Crocco presented information on the Blessing of Addition and Renovations to Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School being held on December 17th, 2012.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications.

**1.5 Additional Information**

Director Crocco provided the following information:

- December Board Meeting will be held December 18, 2102
- A copy of a letter sent home to all families regarding the implementation of the Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy was provided to all Trustees. A Resource pamphlet in currently being designed for distribution to all families and new registrants in January and February 2013.

## **E. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

Director Crocco provided the following information:

- Superintendent Ciccarelli and Controller of Facilities Scott Whitwell continue to work on the Demographic and School Utilization Report for the January Board Meeting.
- Senior Staff continues to wait for information from the Ministry of Education regarding capital funding for St. James, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary Schools and Lakeshore Catholic High School.
- French Immersion Information Meetings began on Monday, December 3, 2012 and will continue until December 12. An Information Report containing feedback regarding the implementation of French Immersion will be presented at the January Committee of the Whole or Board Meeting.

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole move into the In Camera Session.

**CARRIED**

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Meeting at 8:55 p.m. and reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 4, 2012.

**CARRIED**

### **SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section A: Student Trustees Present held on November 13, 2012, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

### **SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section B: Student Trustees Excluded held on November 13, 2012, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F3)**

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the December 4, 2012 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.**

Approved on the **18<sup>th</sup>** day of **December 2012.**

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Maurice Charbonneau  
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer