



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2010

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, January 12, 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 Vice-Chairperson Dekker.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chairperson Burtnik.

Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
John Belcastro	✓		
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Gary Crole			✓
John Dekker	✓		
Frank Fera		✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Tony Scalzi	✓		
Student Trustees			
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; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; **Mark Lefebvre**, Administrator of School Effectiveness; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 12, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

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

5. **Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 1, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 1, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. **Policy Committee**

1.1 **Unapproved Minutes**

Policy Committee Meeting – January 12, 2010

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of January 12, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED

1.2 **Policies**

1.2.1 **Admission of Students Policy (301.1) (Reviewed)**
Interim Administrative Guidelines

Director Crocco presented the Admission of Students Policy and Interim Administrative Guidelines, and highlighted the recommended changes. This Policy is currently being vetted.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Admissions of Students Policy (301.1), as presented.

CARRIED

1.2.2 **Safe Schools Policy: Interim Bullying Prevention**
and Intervention Policy (302.6.8)

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education/Human Resources, presented the Admission of Students Policy and Interim Administrative Guidelines, and highlighted the changes. This Policy is currently being vetted.

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Interim Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8), as presented.

CARRIED

1.2.3 Safe Schools Policy: Interim Progressive Student Discipline Policy (302.6.9)

Superintendent Iannantuono presented the Safe Schools Policy: Interim Progressive Student Discipline Policy and highlighted the changes. This Policy is currently being vetted.

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Interim Progressive Student Discipline Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

1.3 Policy Development Update

Director Crocco presented the Policy Development Update.

2. Report of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee for the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools and St. Michael Catholic Elementary School, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Vice-Chairperson Dekker who chaired the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools and St. Michael Catholic Elementary School, Niagara-on-the-Lake Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee, introduced and provided background information on the mandate of the Committee.

James Woods, Controller of Plant presented the report of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee for the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools and St. Michael Catholic Elementary School, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Mr. Woods stated that the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee, which was mandated as a result of the Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) Report by Senior Staff presented to the Board at the May 26, 2009 Board Meeting, considered the following information prior to making a recommendation to the Committee of the Whole; Current student population in all schools; Projected student population growth in all schools for the next fifteen years; Number of surplus spaces in all schools; Number of portables at all schools; Current existing boundaries of all schools; Recommendations and feedback from Senior Staff, Principal and Vice-Principals, Parents/Guardians, and Members of the Community during the consultation process about proposed boundary changes; Information from the City of Niagara Falls regarding potential growth and development in Niagara Falls; Realignment of transportation routes for students; and Full Day Early Learning Programs (FD ELP) for 4 and 5 year old pupils

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the report of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee for the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/ St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools and St. Michael Catholic Elementary School Niagara-on-the-Lake and approve the recommendations as presented.

1. **THAT** the St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School proposed boundary changes as recommended through the Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR), and as approved by the Board motion of May 26, 2009 with students transferred to St. Patrick, St. Mary, and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools for September 2010 be maintained.

THAT the new boundary description for **St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School** be described as:

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to

South: Newman Hill (centerline) to **Magdalen St. (and its projection) to Slater Ave. to Roberts St.**

West: MacDonald St to Stamford St to Florence Ave to Rosedale Ave to Sixth Ave (excluding) to the CNR to

North: to the Queenston Chippawa Power Canal to the point of commencement on the Niagara River

THAT the new boundary for **St. Mary Catholic Elementary School** be described as:

East: Commencing on Sixth Ave to Rosedale Ave (excluding) to Florence Ave (excluding) to Stamford St (excluding) to MacDonald St (excluding) to **Roberts St. (centerline)**

South: **Slater Ave (centerline) to Magdalen St. (centerline) to Victoria Avenue. (centerline)**

West: **Ferry St. to Lundy's Lane to Glenholme to**

North: the QEW to the CNR to Thorold Stone Rd (centerline) to Stanley Ave (centerline) to the CNR to the point of commencement on Sixth Ave

THAT the new boundary description for **Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School** be described as:

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to

South: Corfield St (and its projection) to Stanley Ave to the Welland River to

West: Wilson Cres (and its projection) to McLeod Rd to Dell Ave (and its projection) to the power transmission lines **to Drummond Rd to Culp Street to Franklin Ave**

North: **to Lundy's Lane to Ferry Ave. (and its projection)** to the point of commencement on the Niagara River

2. **THAT** upon further consideration by the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee that the following proposed boundary changes occur for St. Vincent de Paul, Loretto Catholic, Cardinal Newman, and Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary Schools and for Saint Michael and Saint Paul Catholic Secondary Schools effective September 2010.

St. Vincent de Paul

East: Commencing on the QEW to

South: Alpine Drive (and its projection and including all cul de sacs off of Alpine - Yvette, Kathleen and Valerie) to Kalar Road (centerline) to **Beaverdams Road (centerline)**,

West: Thorold Townline Road (centerline) to the City Boundary (Niagara Falls & Thorold) to

North: The City boundary (Niagara Falls & Niagara-on-the-Lake) to the point of commencement on the QEW.

Loretto Catholic

East: Commencing on **Montrose Road (centerline)** at Lundy's Lane (centerline) to

South: McLeod Road (centerline) to

West: City Boundary (Niagara Falls and Thorold) to

North: **Lundy's Lane (centerline)** to the point of commencement on **Montrose Road.**

Cardinal Newman

East: Commencing on the QEW to

South: Lundy's Lane (centerline) to

West: **Thorold Townline Road (centerline)** to

North: **Beaverdams to Kalar Road (centerline) to the projection of Alpine Drive (excluding all cul de sacs off of Alpine – Yvette, Kathleen, Valerie – and its projection) to the point of commencement on the QEW**

Sacred Heart

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to

South: **to Bossert Road (excluding – and its projection)** to King Road (excluding) to Bossert Road (excluding) to Beck Road (excluding) to Shisler Road (excluding) to

West: the township lot line between lots 5 and 6 (**Morris Road**) to

North: **the Welland River to Stanley Ave. (excluding) to Corfield St. (excluding – and its projection) to the point of commencement on the Niagara River.**

Saint Michael High School

East: Commencing on the Niagara River

South: Netherby Road (excluding)

West: the Canada Southern Railway to the Lyons Creek to the township lot line between lots 5 and 6 (between Morris and Crowland Roads) to the Welland River to the City Boundary (Niagara Falls and Thorold) to

North: **Lundy's Lane (centerline) east to the QEW to 420 Hwy. to Glenhome Ave. (centerline) to south to Lundy's Lane (centerline) east along Lundy's Lane to Ferry (and its projection) to the point of commencement on the Niagara River.**

Saint Paul High School

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to

South: **to Victoria Avenue to Ferry St. (and its projection) to Lundy's Lane (centerline) to Glenholme Ave. (centerline) to 420 Hwy. to**

West: **QEW (centerline) south to Lundy's Lane (centerline)** to Thorold Townline Road (centerline) to

North: the City Boundary (Niagara Falls and Thorold and Niagara Falls & Niagara on the Lake) to the point of commencement on the Niagara River.

3. **THAT** students, who are currently in Grades 8 to Grade 12, who are currently residing in the St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School (NF) or the Loretto Catholic Elementary School attendance area and have been affected by the proposed elementary or secondary boundary changes will have transportation provided to either St. Paul or St. Michael Catholic High Schools in Niagara Falls until graduation. If required, transportation will continue for their sibling(s) until the current grade 8 student graduates from secondary school.
4. **THAT**, the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee continue to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake with an annual report to the Board.

5. **THAT**, new requests for attendance area exceptions will be reviewed in accordance with Board Policy/Guidelines 301.1, Admission of Students. Attendance area exceptions will not be granted to students who wish to attend St. Vincent de Paul, Cardinal Newman and Loretto Catholic except for the purpose of keeping siblings together within the same school.
6. **THAT**, Senior Staff will review Board Policy/Guidelines 301.1, Admission of Students, within the current Policy and Administrative Guideline Review Process.

CARRIED

3. **Crown Ward Education Championship Team**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education welcomed David Pihach, Administrator: Student Success, who presented the report on the Crown Ward Education Championship Team. He stated that the Ministry of Education has developed a newly formed *Crown Ward Education Championship Team* which includes Family and Children's Services; the Niagara Catholic District School Board; the District School Board of Niagara, Brock University, Niagara College and the two local French School Boards. These groups will share their expertise and expand the service and support continuum; as well as improve the ability of youth with Crown wardship status and their social workers, foster parents or caregivers to understand, navigate and use the services and supports available to them.

4. **Student Voice Initiative - SpeakUp Projects**

Superintendent Baldasaro asked Administrator Pihach to elaborate on the report regarding the Student Voice Initiative - SpeakUp Projects. In May 2008, Education Minister Kathleen Wynne met with 60 students at a forum held by the Ministry of Education at which students shared their ideas on how to promote Student Voice, what they wanted from their education and how to get more students excited about learning and going to school.

All schools in the Niagara Catholic District School Board had the opportunity to submit projects to the Ministry of Education to be considered for funding. The Niagara Catholic District School Board received funding approval totaling \$11,302 for eleven different projects in eight of our schools (four secondary and four elementary).

5. **Elementary Progress Report Card Growing Success – Elementary Reporting 2010 – 2011**

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, and Robert DiPersio Administrator: Special Projects presented information on the Elementary Progress Report Card Growing Success – Elementary Reporting 2010 – 2011.

During the spring of 2007, Niagara Catholic was selected as one of nine (9) school boards in the province to participate in the Elementary Report Card Pilot Project. Each of these Catholic Elementary Schools participate in the development of a pilot progress report card that was brought forward as the Niagara Catholic model in consultation with staff, parents, and students.

According to Ministry of Education, as a result of this project the fall progress report cards will contain several features that will facilitate better communication among parents, teachers, and students, encourage students to set goals, assist parents in supporting learning at home, and help teachers establish plans for teaching.

6. Niagara Catholic District School Board Intensive French Program - Update

Superintendent Baldasaro; Administrator: School Effectiveness Framework Mark Lefebvre; and FSL /ESL/Arts Consultant Jayne Evans, presented the Niagara Catholic District School Board Intensive French Program - Update.

The Intensive French Program is a literacy-based approach to teaching French as a second language that is incorporated into the Grade 5 or 6 Core French program for five (5) months of the school year. In this program, French is offered intensively for approximately 70% of the school day from September through January.

The increased proficiency in the French language lends itself to the possibility of further extended studies in French in order to meet the graduation expectations as set out by the Federal Action Plan 2013.

7. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, presented the report on the Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities for information.

8. H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management

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

9. Monthly Updates

9.1 Capital Projects Progress Report

James Woods, Controller of Plant, presented the Capital Projects Progress Report.

9.2 Student Trustees' Update

Juliana Ciccarelli, Student Trustee, gave a brief verbal update on the activities of the Student Senate.

9.3 Family of Schools Superintendents' Monthly Update

The Family of Schools Superintendents gave brief verbal reports highlighting the activities in their schools.

Superintendent Ciarlo

- St. Theresa Catholic Elementary School Teacher Tim Atkinson along with his wife and children were recently on America's Funniest Home Video. They won \$10,000 for first place and are qualified to win the \$100,000 grand prize.
- Dr. David Williams, CSA Astronaut, spoke to the students at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School about setting goals and pursuing their dreams.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells

- Students at St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School were given the opportunity to hold the Olympic Torch that was a part of the 2010 Olympic Torch Relay.
- Notre Dame College School Librarian Patti Beck was presented with the Arrive Alive Drive Sober 2009 Peter Wong Award for her dedication to Ontario Students Against Impaired Driving.

- In the spirit of giving St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls donated 181 pounds of food to 105.1 the River Project Share challenge; raised \$310 in Canadian Tire Money to buy gifts for students for Christmas; and provided 10 families \$100 gift card to Lococo's.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – December 15, 2009

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – December 15, 2009 issue for Trustees' information.

1.2 Calendar of Events – January 2010

Director Crocco presented information on the Calendar of Events – January 2010.

1.3 Bishop's Gala – January 29, 2010

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that the 7th Annual Bishop's Gala is being held on Friday, January 29, 2010, and to contact Sherry Morena for tickets.

Father Jim Mulligan and Les Soeurs du Sacre-Coeur will be receiving the Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction.

1.4 BEC Breakfast – February 12, 2010

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that the BEC Breakfast is being held Friday, February 12, 2010 at 7.30 am at the Sheraton Fallsview, and to contact Sherry Morena for tickets.

1.5 Vision 2020 Strategic Plan

1.5.1 Discovery Sessions

1.5.2 School/Community Discovery Sessions

1.5.3 Trustee Discovery Sessions – Part 2 – February 9, 2010 – 5:30 p.m.

1.6 OCTSA AGM: Thunder Bay – April 29 - May 1, 2010

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that the 80th Annual OCTSA AGM and Conference is being held in the Spring in Thunder Bay, and to contact Sherry Morena if they are attending.

1.7 2010 Board Committee Membership

Director Crocco presented the 2010 Board Committee Membership status to the Trustees.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

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 9:15 p.m. and reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 12, 2010.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

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 December 1, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

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 December 1, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the January 15, 2010, Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **January 12, 2010.**

Approved on the **9th** day of **February 2010.**

John Dekker
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer