



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

### TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, April 14, 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 Vice-Chairperson Fera.

#### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Charbonneau.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro		✓
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
<b>Student Trustees</b>		
Ashley McGuire	✓	
Christina Volpini	✓	

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Rob Ciarlo**, **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; **Christine Graham**, Program Officer - Curriculum; **Marcel Jacques**, Program Officer - Student Support 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 Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 14, 2009, 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 March 10, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 10, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Policy Committee**

**1.1 Unapproved Minutes**

**Policy Committee Meeting - April 8, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of April 8, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**1.2 Policy Development Update**

Director Crocco presented the Policy Development Update, and highlighted, for example, a few of the policies being developed along with the anticipated timelines. He informed Trustees that Senior Staff has begun the process of a cyclical review of all policies and administrative guidelines. Three policies and administrative guidelines are currently being vetted with feedback to be presented at the May 25, 2009 Policy Committee Meeting.

Director Crocco spoke to the new "Safe Physical Intervention with Students Policy" being developed to comply with Government regulations with an expected implementation date of January 1, 2010. Also being developed are the "Self-Identification of Aboriginal Students Policy" and "Accessible Customer Service Policy" with Superintendent Forsyth-Sells as the lead. The "Conflict of Interest for Employees Policy" and "Code of Conduct - Trustees Policy" will be submitted to the Policy Committee in the Fall of 2009 pending finalization of the Minister's review of the Governance Review Committee recommendations to ensure Board compliance.

**2. Gifted Elementary Education Modules 2008-2009 - Student Support Services**

Superintendent of Education Forsyth-Sells welcomed Marcel Jacques, Program Officer-Student Support Services, and David O'Rourke, Coordinator Student Support Services, who presented the report on the Gifted Elementary Education Modules 2008-2009 Student Support Services. The Trustees were presented with a brief video and music video prepared by students in the gifted modules.

3. **Reading Recovery in Niagara Catholic**

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, introduced Christine Graham, Program Officer: Curriculum, who presented background information on the Reading Recovery in Niagara Catholic program. Jill Ferneyhough, Reading Recovery Teacher/Leader, elaborated on the various aspects of the Program and spoke of the many positive results. The Presenters provided the favorable EQAO Literacy results from students within the Program. Trustees asked questions of staff and expressed their support for implementing the Reading Recovery Program in all of the Board's schools.

4. **Primary Class Size Capital Projects**

James Woods, Controller of Plant Services, presented the report on Primary Class Size Capital Projects.

5. **Extended Overnight Field Trip/Excursion/Exchange Trip Approvals 2008-2009**

Superintendent Iannantuono presented the information report from the Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee.

6. **Catholic Education Week 2009**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, presented the report on Catholic Education Week 2009.

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. **Financial Reports**

8.1 **Monthly Banking Transactions**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of March 2009, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

8.2 **Statement of Revenue and Expenditures**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at March 31, 2009, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

9. **Monthly Updates**

9.1 **Capital Projects Progress Report**

Controller of Plant Woods presented the Capital Projects Update was for information.

## **9.2 Student Trustees' Update**

Ashley McGuire, 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 Baldasaro**

- St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School - Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds Project and TD Friends of the Environment have each offered \$1950 for two ECO Greening projects.
- St. Ann Catholic Elementary School in Fenwick won the Standard Trophy for Outstanding Representation for the Junior Division of the Niagara Regional Science Fair, with a Grade 2 student winning 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Junior Division.

### **Superintendent Ciarlo**

- Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School in Grimsby donated 2245 can goods to the Grimsby Benevolent Fund to assist community members in need.

### **Superintendent Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**

- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School - In recognition of a partnership between Holy Cross and Community Care, Nancy Cookson, Hairstyling teacher, will be given an award at the Community Care Dinner Celebration. Ms. Cookson will be participating in the "Wigs for Kids" project with her Hairstyling students which helps children who have experienced hair loss as a result of medical circumstances.
- Denis Morris Catholic High School - Denis Morris' play, entitled "Stroke Static" won the award for the "Best Experimental Play" at the Sears Drama Festival. Student John Petrowski won the Award of Excellence for his portrayal of Russell Albert, and the Denis Morris Tech Crew also received an award. Denis Morris will be competing in the Regional Festival in Brantford.
- Fifteen Denis Morris Catholic High School students are currently working in Guatemala on the "Wells of Hope" project with Ted Vanderzalm and his family.

### **Superintendent Iannantuono**

- Niagara Catholic District School Board 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Technology Skills Competition - Approximately 300 students qualified to represent their schools in the 16 different areas of the Competition. Winners will advance to either a qualifying round taking place at Niagara College or advance directly to the Provincial Competitions. Winners of the Provincial level will advance to the Nationals.
- Denis Morris Catholic High School - The Voltage Robotics Team competed in their first ever Robotics Challenge at the Greater Toronto Regional Event. The 3 day event included practice sessions, qualifying, and elimination rounds. The Team finished the qualifying round with a commendable ranking of 14<sup>th</sup> out of 59 teams. The Team received the Rookie Inspiration Award and Top Seeded Rookie Award.
- Transportation Technology Race Car Project - Students from Notre Dame College School and Lakeshore Catholic High School built a "Pure Stock" race car from a donated vehicle, which will compete at this year's Humberstone Speedway season. Niagara Catholic's stock car was displayed at both the Niagara Square and Seaway Mall, at which it received recognition as the "Best Appearing Car".

## **D. INFORMATION**

### **1. Trustee Information**

#### **1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - March 31, 2009**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - March 31, 2009 issue for Trustees' information.

#### **1.2 Volunteer Breakfast - April 20, 2009**

Director Crocco presented information on the Volunteer Breakfast.

#### **1.3 Graduation Celebration - Class of 2009 - Thursday, May 14, 2009**

Director Crocco presented information on the Graduation Celebration - Class of 2009.

#### **1.4 System Faith Day - Friday, May 15, 2009**

Director Crocco presented information on the System Faith Day.

#### **1.5 Calendar of Events**

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events to Trustees stating that this item will be included in all future agendas, to keep Trustees apprised of upcoming events.

## **E. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

#### **1.1 Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Follow-Up Report & Recommendations**

#### **1.2 Special Committee of the Whole Meeting - May 26, 2009 - 6:30 p.m.**

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

**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 8:50 p.m. and reconvened at 9:55 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Dekker

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 14, 2009.

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**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 March 10, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

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

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 March 10, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F3)**

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the April 14, 2009, Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

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

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **April 14, 2009**.

Approved on the **12th** day of **May 2009**.

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Frank Fera  
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer