



**AGENDA AND MATERIAL**  
**BOARD MEETING**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2009**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**FATHER KENNETH BURNS, C.S.C. BOARD ROOM**  
**CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE, WELLAND, ONTARIO**

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**A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee Belcastro -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meetings
  - 5.1 October 27, 2009 A5.1
  - 5.2 November 10, 2009 A5.2

**B. DELEGATIONS**

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

1. School Excellence Program C1  
St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School
2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 10, 2009 C2  
and Consideration of Recommendations
  - 2.1 Financial Reports
    - 2.1.1 Monthly Banking Transactions for the Month of October 2009 C2.1.1
    - 2.1.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at October 31, 2009 C2.1.2
3. Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools
  - Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meetings
    - 3.1 Approved Minutes of October 28, 2009 C3.1
    - 3.2 Unapproved Minutes of November 16, 2009 C3.2
4. Minutes of the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/  
St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools
  - Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meetings
    - 4.1 Approved Minutes of November 3, 2009 C4.1
    - 4.2 Unapproved Minutes of November 11, 2009 C4.2
5. Approved Minutes of the S.E.A.C. Meeting of October 7, 2009 C5

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| 6. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities | C6 |
| 7. H1N1 Pandemic Update – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management  | C7 |

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

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|--|------|
| 1. Correspondence  |      |
| 1.1 Msgr. Dominic Pizzacalla<br>Thank You Letter re Year for Priests Dinner  | D1.1 |
| 1.2 Michael Mulhall, Bishop of Pembroke<br>Thank You Letter re History of Catholic Education in the Niagara Region Book  | D1.2 |
| 1.3 Fr. Randy Gallant, St. Michael Catholic Church, Fort Erie<br>Thank You Letter re Year for Priests Dinner   | D1.3 |
| 1.4 Msgr. Leo Clutterbuck, St. Alfred Church, St. Catharines<br>Thank You Letter re Year for Priests Dinner  | D1.4 |
| 1.5 Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto<br>Thank You Letter re History of Catholic Education in the Niagara Region Book  | D1.5 |
| 1.6 Fr. Peter Rowe, St. Alexander Church, Fonthill<br>Thank You Letter re Year for Priests Dinner  | D1.6 |
| 1.7 Fr. Chris Gillen, St. Patrick Church, St. Catharines<br>Thank You Letter re Year for Priests Dinner  | D1.7 |
| 2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended  | -    |
| 3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action  |      |
| 3.1 Annual Organizational Meeting of Board – December 1, 2009 – 6:00 p.m.  | -    |
| 3.2 Committee of the Whole Meeting – December 1, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.  | -    |
| 4. Trustee Information   | -    |
| 4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – December 2009  | D4.1 |
| 4.2 Calendar of Events – December 2010   | D4.2 |
| 4.3 Pilgrimage Ad 2009   | D4.3 |
| 4.4 Director’s Letter to Families – Vision 2020 Discovery Sessions   | D4.4 |
| 5. Open Question Period  | -    |
| <i>(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night’s public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)</i> |      |

## **E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

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

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

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

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF  
OCTOBER 27, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of Board Meeting of October 27, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009**

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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	✓	
<b>Student Trustees</b>		
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.

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

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

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Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF  
NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of Special Board Meeting of November 10, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at 9:30 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 10:40 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

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>		
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; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Crole

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of November 10, 2009, as amended:

**ADDITION TO THE IN CAMERA AGENDA**

**SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

ITEM C2 – In Camera Item

**CARRIED**

4. Disclosure of Interest

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

**B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

1. Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2008-2009

Director Crocco presented the report on the Audited Financial Statements for the Year 2008-2009. He informed the Trustees that a revised transfer of \$497,090 from the Reserves for Working Funds was required to balance the budget, and not the \$1.9 million reserve transfer projected when the budget was approved in the spring of 2008.

Director Crocco indicated that the reduction in the transfer amount was due to the increase in elementary, secondary and adult and continuing education enrolment over our projection; additional funding allocations received by the Ministry of Education; and through additional efficiencies and ongoing monitoring throughout last year on expenditures that were within Senior Staff's control.

The Director and Chairperson expressed appreciation to Superintendent Reich and his staff for their work all year long and in the preparation and assistance with our financial statements.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

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

**CARRIED**

**C. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 Special Board Meeting at 10:45 p.m. and reconvened at 10:50 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Crole

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting of November 10, 2009.

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the purchase of property as outlined in Item C1 of the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting – Section B: Student Trustees Excluded of November 10, 2009.

**CARRIED (Item C1)**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item C2 of the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting – Section B: Student Trustees Excluded of November 10, 2009.

**CARRIED (Item C2)**

#### **E. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the November 10, 2009 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 10, 2009**.

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

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Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM  
ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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# Catholic School Profile

# St. Elizabeth

**Principal**  
**Enrico Schirru**  
19M39 Hwy 3  
Wainfleet, Ontario  
L0S 1V0  
905.899.3041

Niagara Catholic District School Board

October 2009

## Director of Education

*John Crocco*

## Superintendent of Education

*Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells*

## Catholic Education Centre

427 Rice Road  
Welland, Ontario  
L3C 7C1  
905.735.0240  
Fax 905.734.8828

## Parish Connection

*St. Elizabeth Church*  
*Fr. Paul Vellakunnathu*

## Board Mission

*“The Mission of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, as a Catholic Community of learners, is to ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills and values to reach their full potential, with Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Light.”*

## School Mission Statement

*“Children are the focus of our community. Their good is at the centre of all that we do.”*

## School Motto or Theme

*“We’ve Got the Spirit.”*

## Who We Are

In 1953, classes, previously held in the local rectory, moved to the first St. Elizabeth School. In 1959, a new two-room school was built, the first electrically heated school in Ontario. Today, St. Elizabeth has expanded to fully meet the needs of our community.

- Grades in the school: JK to Grade 8.
- Total enrolment as of September, 2009 - 141
- Our staff includes 6 classroom teachers, 1 F.S.L. teacher, 1 Educational Resource Teacher, 4 Educational Assistants, 1 Library Technician and a Child Youth Worker.
- Our school facilities include a gym with a stage, library, lab with computers and SMART Board technology, large playground. We are accessible to the physically challenged.
- Our Grades 7 and 8 students attend classes at the *Cyberquest 21 Studio*. The studio introduces students to broad base technologies including aerospace, engineering design, electronics, desktop publishing, audio-video and robotics.
- In addition to the regular Ontario school program we have a Junior Kindergarten program, extended FSL (French as a Second Language), and a full religious program culminating in a Spiritual Centre and Outdoor Education Program (SCOEP), held at the former Our Lady of Grace Catholic School in Crystal Beach. We offer a full day SK program.
- Community groups use our gym and school community.

## What We Stand For

### Community Projects

- Social Justice Initiatives: Niagara Peninsula Children’s Centre( Kids Helping Kids) , Holy Childhood Association Walk, Rankin Cancer Run, Terry Fox Walk, Soles for Souls, Development and Peace, Heart and Stroke Foundation- Jump Ropes for Heart, Treats for Troops, Autism Awareness
- Food and toy drives for St. Vincent de Paul and Santa’s Helpers
- Active participation annually in the Wainfleet Fall Fair.
- We house the “Country Kids Day Care Centre” at our school

### Special Activities/Programs

- Drama/music/ Religion – Special Christmas Para-liturgy, Lent- Passion Play
- Physical Activities: Baseball, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Track & Field, Skating, Soccer, Fitness Club
- Open House/ Programme Night, Pasta Night, Christmas Lunch, Monthly Coffee Sundays, Celebrating the Triad-outdoor mass and picnic, Games Night
- Roots of Empathy
- PALS- recess activities for primary students

### Ideals, Values/Commitments

- We are committed to creating a loving Christ-centered environment. In our school everyone has the opportunity to make a difference!

In May and June of 2009, the EQAO Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics were administered. The results of these provincial assessments were released in September 2009. Students who have achieved a Level 3 or 4 on an EQAO Assessment have achieved the Provincial Standard as established by the Ontario Government.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is celebrating the achievement of students in Grades 3 and 6 for exceeding the provincial averages in the EQAO Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Our commitment to quality Catholic Education, and to the achievement of each individual child, has been demonstrated by the participation of 99% of all Grade 3 and Grade 6 students in the EQAO Primary and Junior Assessments.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board continues to facilitate Student Achievement on the EQAO Assessments through the dedicated and coordinated efforts of its staff through continuous School and Board Improvement Planning initiatives.

Niagara Catholic System Priorities:

- Nurturing our Distinctive Catholic Education
- Improving Student Achievement
- Building Capacity with Trustees, Administrators, Staff and Parents
- Improving Efficiencies in the Structure and Operations of the System to Maximize Performance

### **EQAO Background Information**

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) tests students' skills in reading, writing and mathematics at key points in their elementary-school education. Students are tested twice:

- at the end of Grade 3, to assess what they've learned throughout the Primary Division (Grades 1–3)
- at the end of Grade 6, to assess what they've learned throughout the Junior Division (Grades 4–6).

### **Why does Ontario conduct province-wide tests of reading, writing and mathematics?**

In 1995, Ontario's Royal Commission on Learning recommended such tests for Ontario students. The Commission made this recommendation after consulting with parents, educators, students and others who wanted greater accountability and assurances of quality in the publicly funded education system.

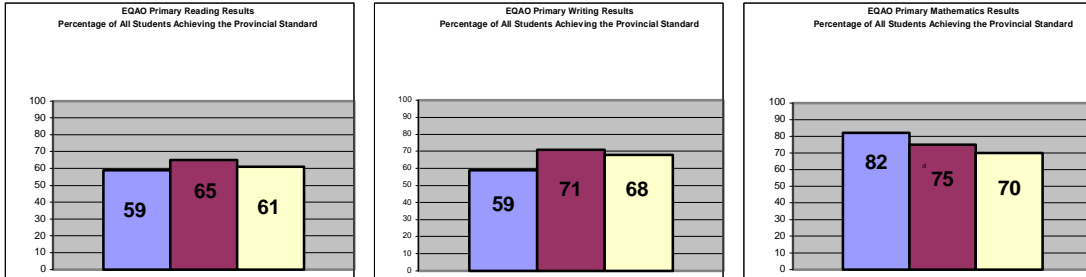
### **What do EQAO results tell me about my child?**

EQAO test results provide a snapshot of your child's achievement in relation to the provincial standard. Students meeting or exceeding the standard (Levels 3 and 4) have demonstrated most or all of the required reading, writing and mathematics knowledge and skills expected at this stage in their education. However, no single test can offer a complete or definitive picture of what your child has learned. In the end, no one better understands the true measure of your child's abilities and knowledge—or is in a better position to assess them—than his or her classroom teacher. When used together, the results of EQAO and classroom tests provide a more complete picture of your child's knowledge.

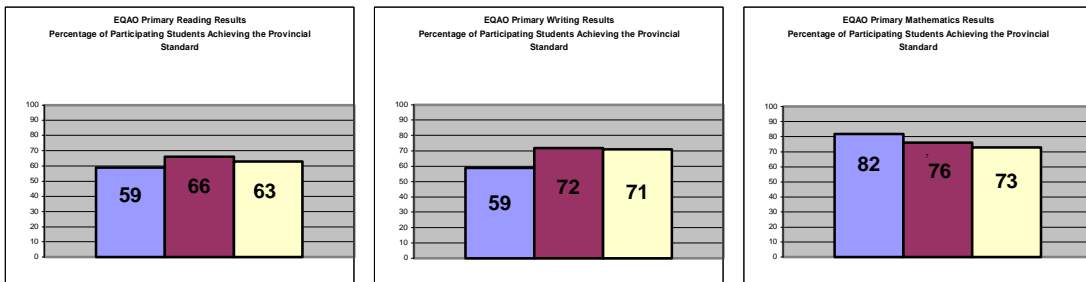
*(A Parent's Guide to EQAO Testing, EQAO, September 2009)*

**EQAO Primary Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics Results**

*All Students (including Exempted and No-Data Students)*

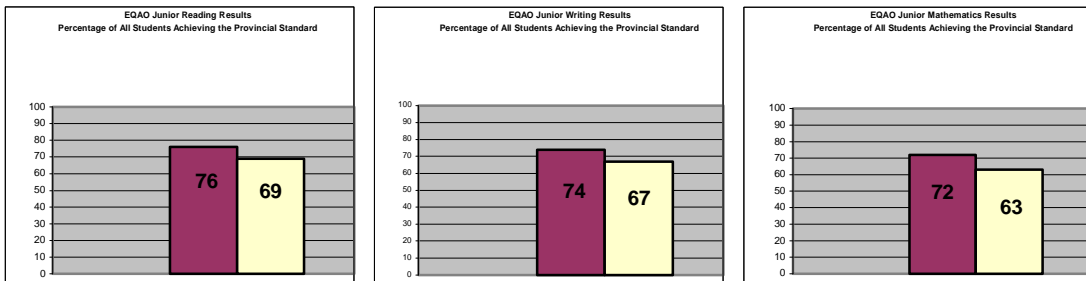


*Participating Students (excluding Exempted and No-Data Students)*

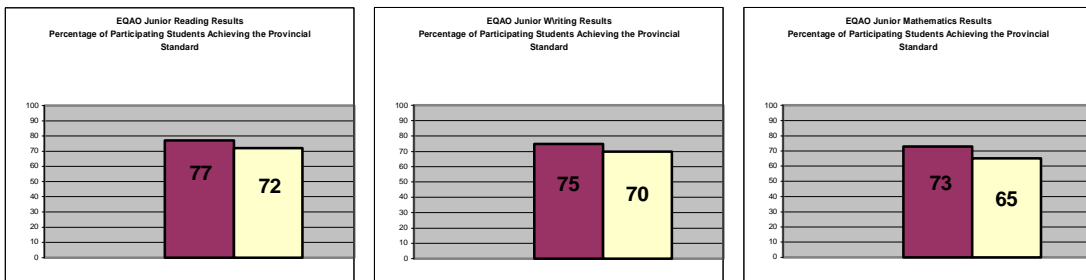


**EQAO Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics Results**

*All Students (including Exempted and No-Data Students)*



*Participating Students (excluding Exempted and No-Data Students)*



School
  Board
  Province

EQAO has established a minimum number of participating students for the public reporting of achievement results. As a result, schools and boards with very few students participating in Grade 3 and Grade 6 will have no results posted publicly. Similarly, reports for schools and boards with very few participating students in one grade may have no results provided in some sections of their public report. The minimum number of participating students for publication of achievement results is 15. The minimum number of respondents for the release of questionnaire results is six. (EQAO Website, 2009).

**Board System Priority****Improving Student Achievement**

- To reduce the gap in student achievement by focusing on increasing Niagara Catholic's "16 by 16" achievement level an average of 3% and the Board graduation rate an average of 2% by June 2010.
- To improve student achievement by focusing on increasing Niagara Catholic's EQAO scores and the OSSLT achievement results an average of 2% by June 2010.
- To develop a Niagara Catholic Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting K-12 Document that will complement and comply with the Ministry of Education Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Policy by June 2010.
- To sustain literacy and numeracy initiatives and implement programs to improve student achievement and pathway success, Kindergarten to Graduation, as outlined in Board and School Improvement Plans.

**Board Improvement Planning****SMART Goals**

Niagara Catholic has developed SMART Goals in the Four Pillars of Student Success:

**Literacy:** To improve student achievement on the EQAO Primary and Junior Reading and Writing Assessments and the

OSSLT through data analysis, targeted interventions and instructional strategies to increase the number of students who achieve the Provincial Standard by 2% by June 30, 2010.

**Numeracy:** To improve student achievement on the EQAO Primary and Junior Mathematics Assessment and the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics (Academic and Applied) through data analysis, targeted interventions and instructional strategies to increase the number of students who achieve the Provincial Standard by 2% by June 30, 2010

**Pathways:** To improve student achievement by targeting instructional supports, programs, strategies and resources that support student transition:

- from home to school entry
- between elementary divisions
- between elementary and secondary panels
- to post secondary destinations

in order to reduce learning gaps and to improve the high school graduation rate by 2% by June 30, 2010.

**Faith, Community, Culture, and Caring:** To improve student achievement by continuing to foster a safe, equitable and inclusive learning environment that

- ensures the distinctive nature of Catholic education
- reflects the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations
- employs focused interventions

to reduce the overall number of suspensions by 2% by June 30, 2010.

**St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School Improvement Planning**

1. By April 2010, all teachers will have sustained literacy initiatives with the focus on *small group instruction* on a daily basis in order to support all facets of literacy leading to enhanced independence.
2. To have 75% of all students, by beginning of April 2010 be able to independently write, without prompts, a 3 pronged response to open response questions emphasizing making meaningful connections.
3. By November 2009, *all* teachers will have offered lessons that are based on the 3-part model of delivery at least once per week, to enhance active student centered learning.
4. To continue to nurture the relationship between St. Elizabeth and Lakeshore Catholic so that 100% of our gr. 8 students will be retained at year's end and successfully transition (in all facets) to secondary school.
5. All stakeholders will continue to promote our Gospel values in support of social justice initiatives, so that by April 2010 there is a marked increase in student initiated opportunities.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 10, 2009, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 10, 2009.

**2.1 Financial Reports**

**2.1.1 Monthly Banking Transactions**

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

**2.1.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at October 31, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 10, 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 Nieuwesteeg.

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>		
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; **Mark Lefebvre**, Administrator of School Effectiveness; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 10, 2009, as amended:

**ADDITION TO THE IN CAMERA AGENDA**

**SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

ITEM C2 – In Camera Item F5

**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 October 13, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 13, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

1. **Academic and Athletic Medalists**

- ***St. Francis Catholic High School - OFSSA Medalists***

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Mike Sheahan, Physical Education Consultant, who spoke briefly of the accomplishments of the St. Francis Catholic High School Golf Team who won Gold Medals at OFSSA

Ken Griepsma, Principal of St. Francis Catholic High School, introduced the Golf Team and spoke of their achievements.

Chairperson Burtnik and Trustee Charbonneau presented the students with Niagara Catholic “Excellence in Athletics” pins.

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

1. **Pilgrimage Sunday - October 25, 2009**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education – Student Achievement, welcomed Terri Paucio, Religious Education and Family Life Consultant who presented the report on Pilgrimage Sunday – October 25, 2009.

Approximately 5,000 Niagara Catholic students, staff, Trustees, Senior Administration, Catholic School Council members and Alumni participated in this year’s annual Pilgrimage. Over \$202,000 was raised in this annual event to assist our needy brothers and sisters in Haiti, Dominican Republic, Dominica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Peru and Rwanda in addition to Development & Peace and Fogquest.

Elli Kubarakos, student of St. Francis Catholic Secondary School performed a song she wrote for Pilgrimage 2009 entitled "Share". Students from each of Niagara Catholic's Secondary Schools spoke briefly about their school's pilgrimage themes as well as special events held to prepare for Sunday, October 25, 2009.

Vice-Chairperson Fera, on behalf of the Trustees, praised the students for their commitment and dedication to others in need. The students were presented with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics" pins.

## **2. Policy Committee**

### **2.1 Unapproved Minutes**

#### **Policy Committee Meeting – October 28, 2009**

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of October 28, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED**

### **2.2 Policy Development Update**

Director Crocco presented the Policy Development Update.

## **3. Father Patrick Fogarty Awards**

Director Crocco presented the report on the Father Patrick Fogarty Awards and informed Trustees that the Class of 2009 student recipients of the Father Fogarty Award were invited as guests to attend the 2009 Father Fogarty Awards Dinner held on Saturday, October 24, 2009 in Mississauga. In keeping with past practice, the cost for parents to attend the Awards Dinner was covered by the Board and the students costs were covered by CEFO. Six of the eight families were able to attend this year's Father Patrick Fogarty Awards Dinner.

## **4. Early Learning Program – Planning for 2010-2011 & 2011-2012**

Superintendent Baldasaro and Administrator Lefebvre presented the report on the Early Learning Program for 2010-2011 & 2011-2012, (full-day early learning for four and five year olds). The Ministry of Education planning allocations of ELP classes for the Niagara Catholic District School Board is 14 classes for Year One (2010-2011 school year) and 7 classes for Year Two (2011-2012).

The Ministry of Education will review transportation cost requirements for 2010-2011 during the first few months of 2010. Schools Boards will need to consult with specified organizations prior to identifying the selected schools.

## **5. School Effectiveness Framework – District Review Process**

Superintendent Baldasaro and Administrator Lefebvre presented the report on the School Effectiveness Framework – District Review Process which was established by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat as a collegial process for growth in the effectiveness of schools. It is intended as a guide for analysis and improvement planning at both the school and Board level.



The District Review Process provides support for the school in identifying strengths and areas for further development. A summary report is provided to the school to assist in sharpening a school's focus and building the capacity of their professional Catholic learning community.

**6. Student Success/Learning to 18 Strategy**

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the report on Student Success/Learning to 18 Strategy, which is a broad, province wide strategy designed to ensure that every student is provided with the tools to successfully complete his/her secondary schooling and reach his/her post secondary goals, whether these goals involve apprenticeships, college, university, or the workplace.

Superintendent Baldasaro answered Trustees questions regarding Student Success/Learning to 18 Strategy.

**7. Ontario Educational Resource Bank (OERB)**

Superintendent Baldasaro welcomed Pat Mete, Consultant - Mentor Connector/Homework Help Initiative who presented the report on the Ontario Educational Resource Bank (OERB). The Niagara Catholic District School Board, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, has launched a campaign to reach every Niagara Catholic teacher, from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 to help support and deliver Ontario Curriculum to students and parents through the promotion of the Ontario Educational Resource Bank, known as the OERB.

**8. Adult and Continuing Education**

Robert Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education presented the Adult and Continuing Education report. The six Niagara Catholic District School Board Adult and Continuing Education sites, as well as on-line learning, offer learners various credit and non-credit courses as well as career-based programs.

Superintendent Ciarlo noted that through the work of staff, effective management, additional Ministry funding for programs, advertising and a positive reputation throughout the Niagara region, the Adult and Continuing Education program contributed \$700,000 towards the Board's overall financial statements.

The Board moved into the In Camera Session to discuss a timed item.

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

**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 9:10 p.m. and reconvened at 10:25 p.m.

**9. Catholic School Councils Annual Report 2008-2009**

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, presented the Catholic School Councils Annual Report 2008-2009 to the Board, which is compliance with School Council legislation, that states every School Council shall annually submit a written report on its activities to the Principal of the school and to the Board that established the Council (O. Reg. 612/00, s. 24 (1)).

If the School Council engages in fundraising activities, the annual report shall include a report of those activities (O. Reg. 612/00, s. 24 (2)).

**10. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities**

Superintendent Iannantuono presented the report on the Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities for information.

**11. H1N1 – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management**

Director Crocco presented the monthly Board report on the H1N1 Pandemic – Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management, which included up-to-date information from the Niagara Region Public Health Department and within the Board's Pandemic Plan implementation.

Director Crocco informed Trustees that Senior Staff is continuing to monitor the daily absenteeism of students and staff, and that Principals are continuing to provide the exemplary leadership with their school communities regarding prevention, monitoring and reduction strategies.

Staff is continuing close dialogue with the Niagara Regional Health Department in order to provide information and answer questions from staff, parents, and the media.

**12. Financial Reports**

**12.1 Monthly Banking Transactions**

Moved by Trustee Crole

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

**CARRIED**

**12.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures**

Moved by Trustee Dekker

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

**CARRIED**

**10. Monthly Updates**

**10.1 Capital Projects Progress Report**

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

**10.2 Student Trustees' Update**

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

**10.3 Family of Schools Superintendents' Monthly Update**

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

## **D. INFORMATION**

### **1. Trustee Information**

#### **1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – October 27,2009**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – October 27, 2009 issue for Trustees' information.

#### **1.2 Calendar of Events – November 2009**

Director Crocco presented information on the Calendar of Events – November 2009.

#### **1.3 Proposed Changes to Municipal Elections Act contained in Bill 212 – Good Government Act 2009**

Director Crocco presented correspondence form OCTSA regarding the Proposed Changes to Municipal Elections Act contained in Bill 212 – Good Government Act 2009.

## **E. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

## **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 November 10, 2009.

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Crole

**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 October 13, 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 October 13, 2009, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F3)**

Moved by Trustee Dekker

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that the purchase of property be approved as outlined in Item F4 of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting – Section B: Student Trustees Excluded of November 10, 2009.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board the approval of the recommendation as outlined in Item F5 of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting – Section B: Student Trustees Excluded of November 10, 2009.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

**THAT** the November 10, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 10, 2009.**

Approved on the **1st** day of **December 2009.**

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Frank Fera  
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS  
MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS  
OCTOBER 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of October 2009, as presented.

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Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

**MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS  
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2009**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of October, 2009 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a monthly list of payments is available in the Trustee Lounge for the trustees to review at their convenience.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of October 2009 as presented.

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Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services  
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services  
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education  
Date: November 10, 2009

## Appendix A

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON BANKING TRANSACTIONS	
SUMMARY OF BANK TRANSACTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF:                      OCTOBER, 2009	
DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	BANK ACCOUNT
CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF MONTH	(A) 49,097,151
<b>OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH</b>	
1. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE GRANTS	15,375,902
2. OTHER GRANTS (EPO, O.E.Y.C.)	699,067
3. INTEREST REVENUE	8,842
4. MUNICIPAL TAXES	0
5. TUITION FEES REVENUE - A.C.E. & OTHER	761,767
6. SALE OF LAND (Re: Thomas Centre)	6,875
7. GOVERNMENT REBATES (GST 68% REBATE ON TAXABLE PURCHASES)	0
8. RECOVERY OF COSTS (LTD, WCB, BENEFITS, OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS))	376,838
9. OTHER CASH RECEIPTS	
- Reimbursements of Employee Benefits	11,312
- Green Shield Refund	0
10. PROCEEDS FROM DEBENTURE ISSUE (NET)	0
11. CAPITAL LOAN PRINCIPAL ADVANCES	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS AND LOAN ADVANCE</b>	<b>(B) 17,240,603</b>
<b>OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH</b>	
1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (NET OF CANCELLED CHEQUES AND DEBT REPAYMENTS)	(19,311,981)
2. TEACHER PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(1,722,087)
3. O.M.E.R.S. PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(308,917)
4. CANADA SAVINGS BONDS DEDUCTIONS	(144,192)
5. TRANSFER TO 4 OVER 5 TRUST ACCOUNTS	(65,460)
6. OTHER DEBITS	(42,360)
7. INTEREST PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	(927,712)
8. PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	(308,683)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>(C) (22,831,391)</b>
CASH BALANCE AT END OF MONTH	A + B - C = D (D) 43,506,363

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON LOAN BALANCES				
SUMMARY OF LOAN BALANCES AS AT :      OCTOBER, 2009				
The Debentures & Capital Loans are made up as follows:				
Loan Description	Opening Balance	Loan Advances	Loan Repayments	Ending Balance
1. GPL1 Loan      25 YR.	(13,199,588.06)			(13,199,588.06)
2. GPL2 Loan      25 YR.	(10,129,567.35)			(10,129,567.35)
3. GPL3 Loan      25 YR.	(4,683,110.00)			(4,683,110.00)
4. Capital Loan    20YR.	0.00			0.00
5. Capital Loan    20YR.	0.00			0.00
6. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(2,373,000.00)			(2,373,000.00)
7. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(3,539,000.00)			(3,539,000.00)
8. Capital Projects - Completed 2001	(21,188,846.99)		\$225,197.38	(20,948,657.64)
9. Capital Projects - Completed 2002/03	(22,328,838.18)			(22,328,838.18)
10 Capital Projects - Completed 2004/05	(9,084,725.98)		\$64,687.72	(9,016,231.97)
11 Capital Projects - Completed 2005/06	(8,171,752.73)			(8,171,752.73)
<b>Total Debentures &amp; Capital Loans</b>	<b>(94,698,429.29)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(308,683.36)</b>	<b>(94,389,745.93)</b>

PREPARED BY : William Turnath  
 PRESENTED BY: Larry Reich

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES  
OCTOBER 31, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at October 31, 2009, as presented.

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Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009





NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES  
AS AT OCTOBER 31, 2009**

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In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at October 31, 2009 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a copy of the Financial Statements is available in the Trustee Lounge for the trustees to review at their convenience.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at October 31, 2009 as presented.

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Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services  
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services  
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education  
Date: November 10, 2009

# Appendix A

## NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES AS AT OCTOBER 31, 2009

ACCOUNT DISCRIPTION	THIS YEAR					LAST YEAR		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% AVAIL	\$ AVAIL	COMMITTED	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% AVAIL
<b>REVENUE</b>								
REVENUE	51,179,122	-228,706,573	122.4%	-279,885,695	0	49,134,359	-221,457,182	122.2%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>51,179,122</b>	<b>-228,706,573</b>	<b>122.4%</b>	<b>-279,885,695</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49,134,359</b>	<b>-221,457,182</b>	<b>122.2%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>								
BOARD ADMINISTRATION	1,314,097	7,247,593	81.9%	5,933,496	319,382	1,209,756	7,168,736	83.1%
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	18,580,401	107,959,111	82.8%	89,378,710	388,423	17,887,172	103,557,495	82.7%
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	11,552,302	64,695,655	82.1%	53,143,353	357,827	10,946,855	62,845,816	82.6%
CONTINUING EDUCATION	740,633	6,097,576	87.9%	5,356,943	427,434	783,016	5,986,817	86.9%
PLANT OPERATIONS	1,748,596	16,781,170	89.6%	15,032,574	322,423	1,730,706	16,683,203	89.6%
PLANT MAINTENANCE	396,561	3,365,294	88.2%	2,968,733	144,644	443,139	3,358,014	86.8%
TRANSPORTATION	920,544	10,692,347	91.4%	9,771,803	9	1,183,262	10,779,861	89.0%
CAPITAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	1,469,961	11,867,827	87.6%	10,397,866	404,948	537,287	11,077,240	95.1%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>36,723,095</b>	<b>228,706,573</b>	<b>83.9%</b>	<b>191,983,478</b>	<b>2,365,090</b>	<b>34,721,193</b>	<b>221,457,182</b>	<b>84.3%</b>

PREPARED BY : William Tumath  
Finance Department

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE ST. CATHARINES  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS  
ATTENDANCE AREA AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF OCTOBER 28, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of October 28, 2009, as presented.

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Prepared by: St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools  
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Presented by: Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE  
ST. CATHARINES ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
FAMILY OF SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE AREA  
AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28, 2009**

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Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee for Meeting held on Wednesday October 28, 2009, at 4:00 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 4:15 p.m.

1. **Opening Prayer**

The Opening Prayer was led by Rob Ciarlo.

2. **Attendance**

The following were in attendance:

**Rob Ciarlo**, Superintendent of Education, Resource to Committee, Recording Secretary

**Kathy Burtnik**, Trustee

**Maurice Charbonneau**, Trustee

**Tony Scalzi**, Trustee

**James Woods**, Controller of Plant

**Kathy Levinski**, Manager of Plant

3. **Election of Committee Chairperson**

Moved by Trustee Tony Scalzi

Seconded by Trustee Maurice Charbonneau

**THAT** Trustee Kathy Burtnik, be nominated for the position of Chairperson for the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee.

4. **Review of Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of October 7, 2009**

Rob Ciarlo presented the Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of October 7, 2009 for review.

5. **Consideration of New Proposed Boundaries for the Elementary Schools in St. Catharines**

Rob Ciarlo presented the Report to the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Committee and reminded the Committee that the recommendations for boundary changes are draft.

After dialogue with Principals and staff, the revised boundary recommendations for consideration are the clusters of: Mother Teresa and St. Anthony as one cluster and Assumption, Canadian Martyrs, St. James and Our Lady of Fatima as the second cluster in the elementary panel. The recommendations for a boundary changes to St. Theresa and St. Christopher and St. Ann and Mother Teresa were removed.

Presentations to the Catholic School Council meetings for each cluster of schools will be made in order to receive input from the public and to aid the committee with its decisions.

James Woods presented maps showing the current and proposed draft boundaries and graphs illustrating the current utilization and proposed utilization for the affected schools.

**6. Consideration of New Proposed Boundaries for the Secondary Schools in St. Catharines**

Boundary recommendations for the secondary schools; Denis Morris, Holy Cross and St. Francis were removed.

A letter will be sent to secondary families advising that the committee followed the Pupil Accommodation Review Report of March 2009 with regard to reviewing the secondary boundaries and recommended that no change be made.

Rob Ciarlo will have the draft recommendations for boundary changes and meeting dates posted to the Board website.

**7. Approval of Recommendations**

Moved by Maurice Charbonneau  
Seconded by Tony Scalzi

**THAT** the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee proceed with the draft recommendations and present them to the community for consultation.

**8. Adjournment**

Moved by Maurice Charbonneau  
Seconded by Tony Scalzi

**THAT** the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting be adjourned.

This meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE ST. CATHARINES  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS  
ATTENDANCE AREA AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF NOVEMBER 16, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of October 28, 2009, as presented.

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Prepared by: St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools  
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Presented by: Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
ST. CATHARINES ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
FAMILY OF SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE AREA  
AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2009**

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Minutes of the St. Catharines Ad Hoc Boundary Review Committee of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on Monday November 16, 2009, 6:30 p.m. at Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School.

**Committee Members:**

Kathy Burtnik, Trustee, Committee Chairperson  
Moe Charbonneau, Trustee  
Tony Scalzi, Trustee

**Board Resource:**

Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education  
James Woods, Controller of Plant  
Kathy Levinski, Manager of Plant Services

**Members of the Public:**

27 in total, 19 from the Canadian Martyrs community, 6 from Our Lady of Fatima, 1 from Assumption and 1 from St. James

**1. Opening Prayer**

Led by Mr. Ciarlo.

**2. Welcome and Introductions of Committee Members**

Mr. Ciarlo welcomed everyone to the community consultation meeting for the St. Catharines Ad Hoc Boundary Review and introduced committee members, board resource and the following principals in attendance; Dan Trainer, Marilyn Burcsik, Brian Lavell, Clare Ventresca and Vice-Principal, Debbie Guthrie.

**3. Terms of Reference**

Mr. Ciarlo reminded the attendees that the purpose of meeting is to receive input on the proposed draft boundaries from the community. He said that the Niagara Catholic District School Board is trying to be as transparent and open as possible. Our students are always first in our minds, but we must be fiscally responsible. We are dealing with the proposed changes in clusters. The first cluster is that of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary, Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary, Assumption Catholic Elementary and St. James Catholic Elementary. The second cluster is Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary and St. Anthony Catholic Elementary.

The origin of the Ad Hoc Boundary Review Committee goes back to 2009 when the Board requested that an Accommodation Review Committee look at all schools. The ARC identified certain schools to determine their viability and status of their future. A report dated March 31, 2009 included the following recommendation by the ARC, "That...a St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all the Elementary and Secondary schools in St. Catharines. According to the Board's Attendance Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines."

Terms of reference for the work we have done are the maintenance of demographic stability and the maximization of utility of the schools within the City of St. Catharines.

A letter outlining the process for the review went home to each of the families in the affected region. Rob reviewed the process including the timelines for committee meeting and consultation. The trustee's interest is to mitigate the amount of movement within the cluster areas. The committee has consulted with principals for additional feedback.

Rob outlined the dates for meetings, community consultation and presentation of reports to the Board.

#### **4. Presentation of Proposed Recommendations by Robert Ciarlo and James Woods**

Mr. Woods presented aerial maps showing the current boundaries for the Cluster 1 schools and the proposed draft recommendations. Mr. Woods told the audience that the Board is facing declining enrolment in Our Lady of Fatima and over capacity at Canadian Martyrs which has stable enrolment and four portables. Assumption is under capacity and St. James is over capacity.

The proposed boundary changes will increase enrolment at Assumption and St. James very little, but tidy up the boundary. Approximately 58 students would be moved from Canadian Martyrs to Our Lady of Fatima with this proposal.

Mr. Woods presented graphs showing the effect of enrolment projections until 2022-23 against the current school capacity, current boundary, new proposed boundary with full day learning and without full day learning and status quo for Assumption, St. James, Our Lady of Fatima and Canadian Martyrs.

#### **5. Questions and Recommendations by Community Members about Cluster 1:**

Comment: I would prefer to see the proposed boundaries on a map with the street names, not words.

Response: We will send out larger copies of the maps to the principals for distribution.

Question: I'd like to know how this change will benefit my grade 6 and 7 children at Canadian Martyrs?

Answer: The purpose of the meeting is to get information. Our objective is to look at the whole region and make sure that we are being fiscally responsible. We believe that we are delivering a high level academic program at every school. Your child will not be disadvantaged at a program level by changing schools. We would like to glean some ideas from this community partnership.



**Question:** There are a lot of emotional contacts and connections at this school. Would the committee consider excluding grades 6 or 7 and up because they are socially going to be impacted?

**Answer:** Parents are asked to speak their minds this evening. From the perspective of the Board we have to look at this with the process that is in place. The Board is going to have to do something to make it feasible and maintain our schools. We cannot build onto schools when we have space down the road and we have to do something that will affect individual kids. We cannot say that grade 6 is the trigger. There is going to be a process once the boundaries have been established, through the out of boundary process and we will look at it on a case by case basis. We need to make our decisions based on the collective good. A committee member added that we are looking at the long term and we want to make the best decisions that will put us in the best position for the future. Mr. Ciarlo continued by saying that if we did nothing, we might be in a triple grade situation at Our Lady of Fatima. The ARC process gave us the clear message that they did not want Our Lady of Fatima closed. We will continue to follow the Out of Boundary Policy and the current out of boundary students will be able to continue that permission. Mr. Ciarlo cautioned if parents make out of boundary requests, we will not provide bussing. The Board appreciates daycare issues, but it does not provide bussing.

**Question:** My kids are going to have to be bussed to Our Lady of Fatima, and you are talking about fiscal responsibility. Did you think of that? I am 1.55 km away from Canadian Martyrs and do not qualify for a bus.

**Answer:** Yes, we did recognize the fact that our current draft boundaries will add an additional bus. Our current transportation policy provides bussing if a student is 1.6 km away. Your child will be going a little bit further, but they will have a bus. It is fiscally responsible to add a bus. Our dollars are better spent on teachers and students rather than portables and heating empty schools. If we leave things as they are, Canadian Martyrs would need an addition and Our Lady of Fatima will have triple grades and we do not want that for the students. We are looking at this process across the entire system and the hope and mathematics should work out to be cost neutral across the Board. If we add a bus here, we may be removing a bus somewhere else in the board.

**Question:** How do you now that this is not a short term solution?

**Answer:** We do not know that, but we do know that if we don't do anything, it will be more disadvantageous.

**Question:** My child is within walking distance now, why are you taking children who are walking and putting them on a bus? We have 5 buses that come into Canadian Martyrs, why are you not taking the kids from the other end?

**Answer:** There isn't a single person here that wants their child affected, and we are here to do what is the best for the students at Canadian Martyrs and Our Lady of Fatima Schools. We do not want to lose a Catholic school in St. Catharines. We have to ask ourselves if it is reasonable to put kids on a bus and drive by a school. We have to look at the cost and how long students are on the bus. We try to keep to an exact science so we don't drive farther than we have to. This scenario affects the fewest number of people in St. Catharines, but we are here to listen to your questions and suggestions.

**Question:** How many kids are being displaced to keep Our Lady of Fatima open?

**Answer:** We are proposing to move 58 students.

Question: Why aren't we looking at closing a school and keeping the other ones thriving the way they are?

Answer: We cannot revisit an ARC for 5 years due to the process and guidelines.

Comment: If you move our kids to Our Lady of Fatima now and have another ARC in 5 years, then our kids could get "screwed" twice.

Response: If we close Our Lady of Fatima, the 187 kids attending there now will have to feed into Canadian Martyrs or St. Alfred, or elsewhere. There is no room at Canadian Martyrs so now we have a major expense to add an addition.

Comment: You have the property value if you dispose of that property. Some of these kids have been bullied and are timid, my son is finally feeling like he has his feet on the ground and you are moving him to a school where he is going to feel intimidated again.

Response: I am not downplaying your concerns, but this is hypothetical. We have had to go through this process a number of times and it is amazing how quickly kids adjust. There are processes put in place in the welcoming community to address any concern that you may have.

Question: Hypothetically, my son could bounce back, and thrive, but he may not.

Response: There isn't one school in Ontario that doesn't experience bullying on a regular basis, and all administrators are trained to handle these situations. As trustees of the Board, one of our main objectives is to maintain community schools. We are under a fairly strict mandate, by the Ministry of Education, to maximize the space at our schools. The Ministry would not give us permission to use the proceeds from the sale of property before we maximized our space at every school. We are working hard to maintain community schools, because if you close a school you will never get it back. We recognize situations that may be traumatic, there will be some hard lines drawn.

Question: If we are trying to increase the enrolment of Our Lady of Fatima why are you moving that blue part to Assumption and St. James? (The map shows five students being moved from Our Lady of Fatima to Assumption.)

Answer: We are recommending these changes because they are natural boundaries. Assumption enrolment needs to be increased as well. These are only recommendations at this time.

Question: The areas around Bessborough and Appleby are within walking distance of Canadian Martyrs and we walked to school every day unless the weather was bad, I take pride in saying that. How can you take a boundary that is so close out? We should look at Canadian Martyrs at the centre of the radius and expand the boundaries out. If our kids can walk, how can you justify bussing kids who can walk? Is it a safe walk to Our Lady of Fatima?

Answer: Walking is critical and it is important that we get more kids to walk.

Comment: Our children can walk, it does not make sense to take children who can walk, and stick them on a bus.

Question: If these recommended changes go through, when will they take place? What would be the earliest and the latest?

Answer: The earliest would be September 2010. We will make recommendations, and through community input, we will take into consideration any recommendations provided such as phasing in. We need to maximize the utilization of our schools.

Comment: My kids can walk to school. If they were to walk to Our Lady of Fatima, they would be walking along Linwell Road, a major street and along the CN rail path compared to Canadian Martyrs where there is no traffic.

Comment: I am proposing to grandfather the kids, maybe at grade 3 so it is not detrimental.

Question: Everything is so symmetrical, let's look at radius, and look at how much it will cost to bus. I was happy that my kids didn't have to take a bus like I had to for 9 years.

Answer: When we looked at the radius, it became a domino effect throughout the whole of St. Catharines. Part of the mandate that brought us to this recommendation is that we did not cause a domino effect. It was not good for the communities. If you draw a radius, one person on one side of street goes to one school the other side to another school.

Question: What are the numbers like at St. Christopher?

Answer: They have one portable and over capacity, but are stabilizing within 15 years.

Comment: Is it my understanding that St. Nicholas is closing.

Response: They are on a review for 5 years. St. Nicholas and Michael J. Brennan are trying to build enrolment.

Question: Why is Canadian Martyrs taking Queenston Street kids and Dieppe Road kids? They could fold over to St. Theresa or St. Christopher. You could change the boundary from Queenston St. to Dieppe Road from the Canal to Bunting, why aren't we looking at that? Move the southern most boundary to St. Nicholas. Take the kids out of Canadian Martyrs and move them into St. Nicholas. The kids are bussed into Canadian Martyrs from that region.

Answer: We will look into it, but this does not address the issue at Our Lady of Fatima. Most of St. Nicholas is industrial.

Question: We have public schools in the area, if they have declining enrolment; why not put Our Lady of Fatima with a public school? What if we leave to go to the public Board?

Answer: Our business is to educate children whose parents want them educated in Catholic schools. The public board is facing same situation as we are. Putting two small communities together does not eliminate triple grades. I pray that you are all as committed to Catholic education because of what it offers and because it is distinctively different than the other board. We will not make poor decisions if you decide to leave the system. Our priority is Catholic education and to maintain the links with our parishes. Our Lady of Fatima and Canadian Martyrs share the same parish and that is very significant to the Board and how we make decisions. We do appreciate what is happening in coterminous board, but we will solve our problems

Question: Has the Board looked at grandfathering in the current students in current locations? Page 65 of 324 Education Act says that student can stay in the school that they started at (see handout attached).

Answer: We have begun the process of looking at that. Grandfathering everybody, though, just defers the problem for 3 or 4 years. Eventually we have to make a decision. Niagara Catholic is a family, and we have to make decisions even though they may be difficult. We have to make a decision, and if it is not a change to the community of Canadian Martyrs it could be the closure of Our Lady of Fatima and that is a far worse scenario in our eyes as the overseers of Catholic Education. It is far worse to close a school than this

proposed solution. We will do a scenario where we will grandfather kids and we will look at your submission from the Education Act.

Comment: I did some digging on the Board website. (see submission attached).

Response: Thank you for your comments. Would you please submit for our records.

Question: Is St. Alfred under capacity? It might be wisest to close Our Lady of Fatima and move the students to St. Alfred?

Answer: St. Alfred is under capacity but it does not have that much vacant space.

Comment: You are affecting 300 kids not 58 kids. It is 400, the whole school. I am losing faith in the Catholic system because of this. You are looking at this as a business.

Response: There is a certain amount of truth to that as we are called to make tough decisions here. We are here to engage in conversation and hear your personal stories.

Question: If you grandfather, what do you do with the siblings? There are not infinite siblings. If a new family moves into a home, or into the system, they will have to adhere to the new boundary.

Answer: Part of the difficulty in that is that is the time of the process, it could be a ten year process, we have to consider the transportation, etc.

Comment: I am a parent from Our Lady of Fatima and in the spring, when the ARC was in process, we looked seriously at closure and we fought for Fatima. It would be just as heart wrenching to displace 58 children as it would be to displace our children. No matter what the decision is I am sure that the Board would make the accommodations necessary. Your children and you will be welcomed with open arms, we are a Catholic family. You are not being thrown out; you are coming to another Catholic school.

Response: Thank you for your comments.

Comment: It is different for your school being closed than for my kids being displaced.

Response: For clarification, if Our Lady of Fatima was to be recommended for closure those kids would have been accommodated into four schools, not one.

Question: How many children are being displaced? Are you willing to lose 58 kids to the public school? What if we refuse to move?

Answer: It is a challenge, if we do not move these students, it could cause triple grades. We cannot make decisions on a threat; we do not want to lose one single child. We want to maintain Catholic Education everywhere that we have right now. We are trying to find balance; we do not have the option of building.

Comment: We understand that you can't expand when you have space at another school.

Response: We will show you the effect of doing changes with radius. We looked at natural boundaries. A boundary has to be flexible to move with the times, we have to be able to flexible to move with the families.

Comment: It should go on record that we have something big happening in the Catholic school board. There is a potential to upset enough Catholic families so much that they are going to leave the school board and we are going to lose more students.

Response: We cannot base our decisions on people who are not with us. A committee member explained to the audience that when Merritton and Monsignor Clancy closed in 1990, the parents and students had to make decisions about where they would attend. I ran across a

number of kids who did not go to Denis Morris and they felt that anger ruled the decision. Many came to me and said that they wished anger did not come into their decision. The goal of the committee is to do the best for everyone in the system.

Question: Can you show me the boundaries for Canadian Martyrs where does the line stop at Linwell? I am suggesting making the boundary square – keeping the boundary the way it is

Comment: My responsibility is to my two children, and I have to look after their welfare. The Catholic school system and the triad comes into play in our family, but as far as having to move, stress is coming into our home life and we have the school causing the stress point in the triad, now the whole thing is coming apart.

### **Presentation of Cluster 2 – St. Anthony and Mother Teresa**

This cluster deals with only two schools; St. Anthony and Mother Teresa. The enrolment at Mother Teresa continues to grow and we are reaching the point where we will soon not be able to put portables onto the property. We are proposing to move 53 students from Mother Teresa to St. Anthony.

### **Secondary Boundaries**

The mandate required that we look at all the boundaries, elementary and secondary. We are recommending to the Ad Hoc Boundary Review Committee that there should be no changes to the secondary panel at this time.

### **Adjournment**

The committee asked that the public keep the dialogue open to ensure that any thoughts will be heard. The public was invited to email the committee members; they are on the board website, or telephone. We encourage you to please converse with us. This is a starting point of conversation. The reason for the timelines is because we have kindergarten and secondary registrations in January and we wanted to get any changes out to the parents so that families would know where to register their children.

Talk to us; give us your thoughts and your stories so we can make a wise decision to the Board.

Thank you for your passion and your commitment to Catholic education. We respect, hope and pray that you stay committed to Catholic education. We need to continue our mandate of filling the spaces that we currently have within the Board.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE NIAGARA FALLS  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS  
/ST. GEORGE AND ST. JOSEPH (SNYDER) CATHOLIC  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE AREA  
AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF NOVEMBER 3, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Ad Hoc Attendance Area Committee Meeting of November 3, 2009, as presented.

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Prepared by: Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools  
/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools  
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE  
NIAGARA FALLS ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
FAMILY OF SCHOOLS/ ST. GEORGE AND ST. JOSEPH  
(SNYDER) CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS  
ATTENDANCE AREA AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009**

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Minutes of the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in the Holy Cross Community Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**1. Opening Prayer**

The Opening Prayer was led by Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells.

**2. Attendance**

The following were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education

**Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendent of Education, Resource to Committee, Recording Secretary

**John Dekker**, Trustee

**Frank Fera**, Trustee

**Ed Nieuwesteeg**, Trustee

**James Woods**, Controller of Plant

**Regrets**

**Kathy Levinski**, Manager of Plant

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Ed Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the agenda for the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 13, 2009**

Moved by Frank Fera

**THAT** the minutes of the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee meeting of October 13, 2009 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Correspondence**

John Dekker, Chair of the Committee, presented a letter received from Nicole Pasco to be reviewed by the Committee. (See attached).

**5. Presentation of Proposed Boundaries**

James Woods, Controller of Plant, continued the presentation of proposed boundary changes from the October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting. One proposal was presented based on balancing the current enrolment in all Niagara Falls elementary schools, with the exception of Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School for consideration by the Committee. Another proposal included the recommendations from the Niagara Falls Elementary Pupil Accommodation Review.

**Recommendation for Consultation**

The Committee recommended for consultation at the community meetings that the recommendation from the Pupil Accommodation Review be considered for boundary changes. With the closure of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School by September 2010, that revisions to the boundaries of St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools be made to accommodate the students from St. Joseph, as well as a change in the boundary between St. Mary and Notre Dame Catholic Elementary Schools, to the feeder canal, and a boundary change for Our Lady of Mount Carmel/St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary Schools to include students north of Westwood Street and Badger Road and east of Kalar Road.

The proposed boundary changes recommended by the Committee are:

**Boundary Between St. Mary and Notre Dame**

That the proposed boundary between St. Mary and Notre Dame would be the feeder canal extending from the 420 to Ferry Street and would include Bardette Drive, Cropp Street and the Service Road.

**Boundary between Father Hennepin and St. Mary/St. Patrick**

That the proposed boundary between Father Hennepin and St. Mary/St. Patrick be Lundy's Lane/Ferry Street.

**St. Joseph (Snyder)/St. George/Sacred Heart**

The Committee reviewed the boundaries for St. Joseph (Snyder) St. George and Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary Schools, and made the following recommendation for proposed boundary changes for public consultation.



**St. Joseph (Snyder)**

That the southern boundary of St. Joseph (Snyder) would change to Highway 3.

**Sacred Heart**

That the existing boundary for Sacred Heart be changed to Bossert Road.

**Secondary School Boundaries: Saint Paul Catholic High School and Saint Michael Catholic High School**

That the proposed east/west boundary between Saint Paul Catholic High School and Saint Michael Catholic High School be from Thorold Stone Road, Kalar Road, Lundy's Lane, feeder canal, 420/Roberts Street to Lundy's Lane/Ferry Street.

**6. Other**

No discussion

**7. Future Meeting**

The next the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting will be held before the public consultation meeting of November 18, 2009. Date to be announced.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

**From:** "Nicole Pasco" <npasco@cogeco.ca>  
**To:** dekkerj@talkwireless.ca  
**CC:** "Nicole Pasco" <npasco@cogeco.ca>  
**Subject:** Ad Hoc Committeee Niagara Falls Boundary Review

**Date:** Monday, October 19, 2009 2:49 PM  
**HTML | Plain Text | Header | Raw Content**

Dear Members of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Niagara Falls Boundary Review,  
After attending the first meeting held September 13 we feel that some more revisions must be explored along with the proposed feeder canal boundary being removed from St Mary school and moved to Notre Dame.

It was our understanding that as a Ad Hoc committee you would be looking at ALL school boundaries in Niagara Falls to help determine where space was over utilized and underutilized in each individual school. With the knowledge of St Joesph closure 2010 we realize boundaries must be changed to accomodate these pupils and to help all the schools being affected by this change. While St Pat's is taking some students it was explained they can not accomodate any more due to lack of space. Father Hennipen is taking some and will still have surplus space.

St Mary will take the biggest hit as "63 proposed" students may or may not move over to St Mary and 50 plus will definitely have to move out to accomodate the "projected" amount that may come over. We are quite happy to accept and help St Joe students make a smooth transition but it is troubling that 50 plus students have to leave to do so.

Up until last spring St Mary had a portable that was not being used. Suddenly it was removed after being there for 10 plus years. We could easily have a portable or two brought back to our school site to help with the proposed influx of students should our feeder canal be left in place. Surely this solution would cost tax payers less money than a six room addition to St Vincent de Paul.

St Vincent de Paul boundaries should be strongly looked at as it is top heavy with students. Notre dame is closer to St Vincent de Paul than St Mary's (some of our students currently walk to school and would have to take the bus if the feeder canal boundary change comes into effect) and the boundaries could be changed back to accomodate the now decling enrollment at Notre Dame. (why were they not on the ARC for declining enrollment?) Also St. Gab's which is in close proximity to Notre Dame should be looked at to accomodate possible over flow of students from Notre Dame if its boundaries are revised to accomodate the growing St Vincent de Paul. It is our understanding that St Gab's had a extensive renovations to it and the school is currently being underutilized. This makes more financial sense in these hard economic times than adding on to a already overburdened site such as St Vincent de Paul. Remember our Board is already spending hundreds of thousands expanding and renovating many schools currently and is proposing to spend hundreds of thousands more on a new school in the future.

Economically, adding a couple of portables to St Mary's to accomodate a proposed 63 students is just common sense.

Although moving boundaries is never favourable for any students, with the pending closure of St Joe's and a declining population, a total boundary review is needed. Not just for a few schools. That would just be a band aid solution that would end up costing the tax payers more money with the possibility of unneeded additions. It is our fear at St Mary that taking away a growth boundary and giving us a declining boundary (remember St Joe is closing due to lack of enrollment) that we could sit on a Arc again in five years and possibly again be up for closure. With such a tight timeline for the Ad Hoc committee to look at such a broad scale of schools and seeing only a few proposed revisions on the projector screen on Sept. 13 meeting, the committee may be hard pressed to make a decision that is in the best intrest of all students.

St Mary school during the attendance review was 80% full. More than most schools under review. On the projected ruberic over the next 10 plus years - we flat lined. We did not go up in population - and we did not go down. Yet as of September we added almost 30 new students. Projected numbers like surveys are not always accurate. We have no way of knowing 100% how many of the projected 63 students from St Joe's will travel to our school - some may opt to walk to a closer public school. It is hard to predict. Maybe its just the easier solution to change our feeder canal boundary and move those students (many who have been here since JK) and help build Notre Dame's declining enrollment. But it does not address over population at St Vincent de Paul or the under utilized newly renovated St Gab's. Economically spending more money on St Vincent de Paul's over burdened lot does not make sense. Putting a portable back at St Mary's and possibly adding one more for the time being to see if this extra space is needed makes sense.

In closing we must repeat the general facts taken from the Board web site from Oct. 7 Ad Hoc meeting for St Catharines meeting -

That if the boundaries were to change that the cross boundary students will be premitted to continue with

permission to complete their elementary education with their current school(a grandfather clause) in effort to mitigate the anxiety of the Niagara community. This point needs to be emphasized maybe not just for our school but any in Niagara Falls that any boundary change will effect. Any new enrollment to the school (s) could adhere to the new boundaries.

We thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Nicole Pasco  
Mrs Melissa Hesse

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE NIAGARA FALLS  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS  
/ST. GEORGE AND ST. JOSEPH (SNYDER) CATHOLIC  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE AREA  
AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF NOVEMBER 11, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Ad Hoc Attendance Area Committee Meeting November 11, 2009, as presented.

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Prepared by: Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools  
/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools  
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
NIAGARA FALLS ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
FAMILY OF SCHOOLS/ ST. GEORGE AND ST. JOSEPH  
(SNYDER) CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS  
ATTENDANCE AREA AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2009**

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Minutes of the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Review Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 11, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in the Holy Cross Community Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

**1. Opening Prayer**

The Opening Prayer was led by Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells.

**2. Attendance**

The following were in attendance:

**John Dekker**, Trustee

**Frank Fera**, Trustee

**Ed Nieuwesteeg**, Trustee

**John Crocco**, Director of Education

**Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendent of Education, Resource to Committee

**James Woods**, Controller of Plant, Resource to Committee

**Kathy Levinski**, Manager of Plant, Resource to Committee

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Ed Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the agenda for the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 3, 2009**

Moved by Ed Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the minutes of the Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of November 3, 2009 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Discussion of Proposed Boundaries**

The committee requested additional information on the proposed changes to the following boundaries before making their recommendations: between St. Mary and Notre Dame, between Father Hennepin and St. Mary/St. Patrick, Saint Paul Catholic High School and Saint Michael Catholic High School

The Committee reviewed the boundaries for St. Joseph (Snyder) St. George and Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary Schools, and made the following recommendation for proposed boundary changes for public consultation.

**Sacred Heart**

That the existing boundary for Sacred Heart be changed to Bossert Road.

**5. Other**

No discussion.

**6. Future Meetings**

The next Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools/St. George and St. Joseph (Snyder) Catholic Elementary Schools Attendance Area Review Ad Hoc Committee Meeting will be held on November 18, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

The public consultation meeting for the St. Paul High School family of schools originally scheduled for November 18, 2009 has been rescheduled to December 2, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The St. Michael NOTL school community will be invited to the public consultation meeting for the Saint Paul Catholic High School family of schools.

The public consultation meeting for the St. Michael High School family of schools will be November 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The Sacred Heart/St. Joseph Snyder school communities will be invited to the Saint Michael Catholic High School meeting.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF OCTOBER 7, 2009**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 7, 2009, as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, October 7, 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 Racine.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Vice-Chairperson Racine.

2. Roll Call

Members	Present	Excused
Carole Fuhrer		✓
Anna Racine	✓	
Connie Parry	✓	
Heather Schneider		✓
Kim Rosati	✓	
Cyndi Gryp	✓	
Lilly Iuliano		✓
Mike Gowan	✓	
Jim Wells	✓	
Dianne Radunsky	✓	
<b>Trustees</b>		
Gary Crole		✓
Frank Fera	✓	

The following staff were in attendance:

**Yolanda Baldasaro**, Superintendent of Education; **Marcel Jacques**, Administrator Special Education; **Ken Griepsma**, Principal-Secondary; **Mary Kay Kalagian**, Principal – Elementary; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary



### **Introductions**

Vice-Chair Racine introduced Dianne Radunsky and Diane Dakiv of the Ontario Brain Injury Association and welcomed them as new members of the Special Education Advisory Committee. Mona O'Brien of VIEWS was introduced and will become a member of the SEAC for the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Superintendent Baldasaro introduced the class of Special Education Part I who attended the meeting as observers.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Kim Rosati

Seconded by Connie Parry

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 7, 2009 moving Presentations first on the agenda.

**CARRIED**

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Cyndi Gryp

Seconded by Connie Parry

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 7, 2009.

**CARRIED**

### **4. Disclosure of Interest**

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

### **5. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 9, 2009**

Moved by Mike Gowan

Seconded by Jim Wells

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 9, 2009 as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **B. PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Update on 2008-2009 EQAO Results**

Robert DiPersio, Administrator Special Projects presented data on the 2008-2009 EQAO Assessments. Results of the Primary and Junior Division Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, and Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics were given, comparing data of the Niagara Catholic District School Board's results in relation to the province, including the trends over 5 years. Participating students receive an Individual Student Report which includes a summary of the school's results as well as results for the school board and the province. Members asked questions regarding the results.

## **C. VISIONING**

### **1. Goals and Vision for 2009 – Committee Vision**

#### **1.1 Review of Goals to December 2009**

Copies of the Proposed Goals/Objectives for 2008 and 2009 are included in the welcome package for all new SEAC members to review. There was discussion about having a Special Needs Representative on Catholic School Councils and developing guidelines for representatives to follow. Vice-Chair Racine will look for further information.

#### **1.2 Survey to ERTs**

The Chair and Vice-Chair will work collaboratively with Student Achievement Special Education staff on the ERT survey. Information will be provided by the Chair for staff to review.

#### **1.3 SEAC Network**

A suggestion was put forth to connect with other Special Education Advisory Committees. Connie Parry and Mike Gowan will work with the Chair to establish a list of contacts.

## **D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2009**

### **1. Learner Advocacy**

#### **1.1 Special Ed Stats**

The March Elementary and Secondary ONSIS reports were presented for information. Reports included information on Special Education by school and by exceptionalities.

### **2. Parent Outreach**

#### **2.1 Fall Open Houses**

Principals were provided with the SEAC PowerPoint to present to parents on Curriculum Nights and at Catholic School Council meetings.

#### **2.2 Newsletter Submissions**

Information about the Special Education Advisory Committee was sent to the Principals to submit in their October newsletter. Kim Rosati and Vice-Chair Racine will work on a newsletter submission for Student Achievement Special Education staff to review. A suggestion was made to create a link on the Niagara Catholic District School Board's website which will take you directly to the site of the SEAC member's affiliation. Further discussion deferred to the November meeting.

3. **Program and Service Recommendations**

4. **Special Education Budget**

4.1 **Letter to Ministry of Education from SEAC**

A decision was made to forgo the letter to the Ministry of Education at this time.

4.2 **Letter from SEAC to LHINS**

Connie Parry and Jim Wells will draft a letter to the Local Health Integration Network (LHINS) and present it to the SEAC and the Board for approval prior to mailing.

5. **Annual Review**

6. **Other Related Items**

6.1 **Motions Procedure and Review**

There was discussion about the *Motions by SEAC to the Niagara Catholic District School Board* which was presented at the September meeting. A decision was made to move forward with the procedures. A voting member of the SEAC must give notice of motion, in writing, at the preceding SEAC meeting to which the motion is to appear on the agenda for discussion and voting. Notice of Motion has now been placed as a standing item on the SEAC agenda.

**Approval of the Motions Procedures**

Moved by Mike Gowan

Seconded by Jim Wells

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Motions by SEAC to the Niagara Catholic District School Board procedures as presented.

**CARRIED**

6.2 **Minutes Reformatting**

A draft copy of the new agenda and minutes were presented to the members of the SEAC for information and review. Agency reports will now be sent electronically two weeks prior to the SEAC meeting and included in the agenda package. A decision was made to align the SEAC agenda and minutes with the Board agenda and minutes.

**Approval of the Alignment of the SEAC Agenda and Minutes with the Board Agenda and Minutes**

Moved by Connie Parry

Seconded by Kim Rosati

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the alignment of the SEAC agenda and minutes with the Board agenda and minutes.

**CARRIED**

## **E. AGENCY REPORTS**

### **1. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children – Kim Rosati**

- September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 was the Voice for Hearing Impaired Parent Support Group Meeting. The next meeting will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 is the VOICE SEAC workshop.

### **2. Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Lilly Iuliano**

- Nil Report

### **3. Community Living – Welland/Pelham – Heather Schneider**

- Nil Report

### **4. Association for Bright Children – Connie Parry**

- Connie Parry provided her new e-mail address. Information was presented on *Signs of Giftedness*. Please visit [www.abcontario.ca](http://www.abcontario.ca) for more information.

### **5. Community Living – Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln – Cyndi Gryp**

- At the Provincial Special Olympics a student from Our Lady of Fatima in Grimsby won gold and two silver medals. She is shown receiving her medal on the Ontario Special Olympics poster.

### **6. Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara – Carole Fuhrer**

- Nil Report

### **7. Autism Ontario – Mike Gowan**

- Special Education Advisory Committee training will be held in Toronto in November.

### **8. The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine**

- At the October meeting, Debra Charlesworth spoke on caregiver burnout and respite services she provides.

### **9. John Howard Society of Niagara – Jim Wells**

- On September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Rick Dykstra, Member of Parliament for St. Catharines, announced federal support of over \$4.7 million for a local project that will help at-risk youth in the Niagara Region of Ontario. The Niagara Region SNAP (Stop Now and Plan) for Schools program is an evidence-based project implemented to help at-risk youth who are showing signs of aggression, impulsivity and low achievement in school. The 3 1/2-year program will be administered by the John Howard Society of Niagara and operate through regional Catholic and Public schools.

**10. Ontario Brain Injury Association – Dianne Radunsky**

- A copy of the OBIA Review was distributed to the members of the SEAC for information. The Ontario Brain Injury Association provides services to Ontario and beyond. Support services and peer support are available to those affected by ABI (Acquired Brain Injury) and their families. Educational opportunities are provided in conjunction with Brock University. The Provincial ABI Conference will be held in Niagara Falls.

**F. STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Mary Kay Kalagian – Principal, Elementary**

- Nil Report

**2. Ken Griepsma – Principal, Secondary**

- To support initiatives geared toward greater inclusion, the Niagara Catholic District School Board has renamed the General Skills Class and Supported Learning Class designations, replacing them with a single designation of Special Education Class.
- Individualized Education Plans are being finalized and made ready for sending home in mid October. Co-operative education programs for students with special needs will begin this month.
- On October 30<sup>th</sup>, students in the Special Education Classes at our various Catholic secondary schools will be taking part at a special Halloween Masquerade Dance at Denis Morris Catholic High School. Senior Administration and all members of Student Achievement K-12 Special Education at the Catholic Education Centre have also been invited.

**3. Marcel Jacques – Administrator Special Education**

- October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 is a Professional Development day and the following in-services have been provided for Niagara Catholic District School Board Special Education staff:  
Elementary Educational Resource Teachers will receive training on the Revised Arts Curriculum. Educational Assistants will receive a workshop with Dr. McKinlay and a workshop on Structured Teaching. Child and Youth Workers will receive training on Risk Assessments. Secondary Educational Resource Teachers and Special Education Class Teachers will receive DRA and Ontario Comprehension Assessments (OCA) training.

**4. Yolanda Baldasaro – Superintendent of Education**

- A letter was received by VIEWS for the Blind and Visually Impaired wishing to nominate Mona O'Brien to represent their organization on the SEAC. This information will be presented to the Board for approval at the October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Board meeting. This letter is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.
- Charles Beer has been appointed by the province as the independent reviewer for the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005(AODA). Public consultations with Mr. Beer have been scheduled across the province on the following dates:

**Location & Date**

Toronto, October 14, 2009  
London, October 20, 2009  
Sudbury, October 27, 2009  
Ottawa, November 4, 2009

**Registration Deadline**

October 9, 2009  
October 16, 2009  
October 22, 2009  
October 28, 2009

Detailed instructions on how to participate and register can be found at:

<http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/mcass/english/pillars/accessibilityOntario/accesson/participate>

- Superintendent Baldasaro distributed the Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy document for information and review. The Ministry of Education has mandated that school boards establish a policy on the Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy by September 2010.
- Superintendent Baldasaro noted that Chair Fuhrer made a suggestion to use the PAAC on SEAC agenda items and incorporate them with the SEAC agenda.

## **G. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

1. **Gary Crole – Trustee**

- Nil Report

2. **Frank Fera – Trustee**

- Trustee Fera announced the establishment of Attendance Area Ad Hoc Review Committees.

## **H. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Learner Advocacy**

2. **Parent Outreach**

3. **Program and Service Recommendations**

4. **Special Education Budget**

5. **Annual Review, Special Education Plan**

**5.1 Review 2009-2010 Amendments, Statistics and Minority Reports**

New SEAC members can contact Marcel Jacques, Administrator Special Education for information on the Special Education Plan, *Building Bridges to Services 2009 and Beyond*. The Special Education Plan can be found on the Niagara Catholic District School Board's website.

Statistics and Minority reports reviewed under agenda item D1.1 Special Education Stats

**5.2 Ministry Requirements for 2010-2011**

Plans to incorporate the Special Education Plan with the Board Improvement Plan are happening this year. More information will follow.

**6. Other Related Items**

**6.1 Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education**

The Minutes for the meeting of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 2009 were included in the SEAC agenda package for information.

**7. Policy Review**

**I. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**J. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**K. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**L. NEXT MEETING:**

**Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre**

**M. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Jim Wells

Seconded by Kim Rosati

**THAT** the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

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

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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The report on the  
Staff Development Department  
Professional Development Opportunities  
is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education – Human Resources  
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education – Human Resources  
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009





NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## REPORT TO THE BOARD NOVEMBER 24, 2009

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In alignment with the Board's System Priorities, the Department of Staff Development, among its many roles acts as the point of co-ordination among various departments in ensuring that all professional development opportunities for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, occur in a seamless fashion so as to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community.

The following is a listing of activities that will be occurring during the period November 10, 2009 through November 24, 2009.

#### **Thursday, November 12, 2009**

*St. Paul Catholic High School Family of Schools' Intermediate Teachers*

– *Electronic Annual Educational Plan*

- Roll out to this group of schools of a successful pilot conducted last year and dealing with the electronic compilation and transfer of the Ministry of Education sanctioned "Annual Education Plan" from the elementary panel to secondary.

#### **Friday, November 13, 2009**

*Elementary Panel Professional Activity Day*

- Due to the nature of this Professional Activity Day, a series of professional development activities have been scheduled for non-teaching support staff assigned to the elementary panel.

#### **Tuesday, November 17, 2009**

*Leadership Intern Program (LIP)*

- The second of five professional development opportunities for candidates in this group to begin exploring the Ontario Leadership Strategy (OLS) and how their individual career aspirations relate to it.

## **Wednesday, November 18, 2009**

### *Administrative Intern Program (AIP)*

- The first of four professional development opportunities for first and second-year Principals and Vice-Principals and Leadership Pool candidates. Sessions will concentrate on the Ontario Leadership Framework for Catholic Principals and Vice-Principals' Core Leadership Capacities viz., Setting Goals, Aligning Resources with Priorities, Promoting Professional Catholic Learning Communities, Using Data and Engaging in Courageous Conversations.

### *Schools in the Middle Partnership Workshop*

- The first in a series of meetings for the Board's Schools in the Middle (OFIP 3) Schools, whereby under the guidance of the SEF Lead, to provide a focus for the work of the system and school leadership groups in sharing and developing processes for collaborative goal setting, distributed leadership, and shared accountability within School Improvement Teams.

## **Thursday, November 19, 2009**

### *School Administrators, Teachers and Support Staff Behaviour Management Systems (BMS) Training*

- Two concurrent training sessions designed to provide participants with either the full six hour course or three hour refresher course in dealing with proper physical restraint procedures necessary in meeting the different needs of students.

### *Teachers of Secondary Locally Developed Science Course Networking Workshop*

- An opportunity for teachers of Locally Developed Science courses to follow on the success of their English and Mathematics colleagues, in best-practices sharing and development of strategies that will best meet the needs of the students in their classes.

## **Friday, November 20, 2009**

### *Program Chairs Assessment and Evaluation Workshop*

- Workshop designed to listen to the "issues" surrounding classroom assessment and evaluation and to discuss and plan for more effective strategies that align with Ministry of Education expectations. Leading the workshop will be Damian Cooper, one of the authors of the guidelines that will be released by the Ministry shortly.

### *Teachers New to Grades 3 and 6, EQAO Workshop*

- Workshop offered by the Research and Assessment Department, designed to assist teachers in the proper procedures of the administration of the EQAO Literacy and Numeracy tests in Grades three and six.

## **Monday, November 23, 2009**

### *St. Francis Catholic High School Family of Schools' Intermediate Teachers*

#### *– Electronic Annual Educational Plan*

- Roll out to this group of schools of a successful pilot conducted last year and dealing with the electronic compilation and transfer of the Ministry of Education sanctioned "Annual Education Plan" from the elementary panel to secondary.

**Tuesday, November 24, 2009**

*Principals and Teachers, Leading Student Achievement (LSA) Workshop*

- Ministry of Education Workshop designed to assist the Principals and Teachers whose schools are involved in the third stage of the LSA project, adopt the expected curriculum guidelines and timelines.

**Tuesday, November 24, 2009**

*Program Chairs (two per school) - One Life Many Gifts Workshop*

- A program offered through the Ministry of Education for selected program Chairs to be trained to assist with the delivery of curriculum that pertains to organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

This Report will contain a Power Point presentation of Dr. Avis Glaze's address to Niagara Catholic District School Board Secondary Principals and Vice-Principals on Friday, October 9, 2009.

The Report on Staff Development: Professional Development Opportunities is presented for information.

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Prepared By: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education  
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Presented By: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education  
Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development

Approved By: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: H1N1 PANDEMIC UPDATE  
NIAGARA CATHOLIC PREPARATION AND MANAGEMENT**

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The H1N1 Pandemic Update  
– Niagara Catholic Preparation and Management  
is presented for information.

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Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: November 24, 2009

### H1N1 Flu Virus (Swine Flu)

#### Everyone can get a H1N1 Shot

Immunization clinics are now open to everyone to get a H1N1 flu shot.

[Clinic Information >](#)

#### Sign-up for Email Alerts

Enter your name and email address to get weekly updates about H1N1 in Niagara.

Your Name

Your Email Address



#### H1N1 Cases in Niagara

Updated Weekly on Friday, Last Update Nov. 13, 2009

##### New Cases

Nov. 7 - 13

46

##### Total Cases

209

There have been two deaths associated with H1N1 in Niagara.

Niagara's Population is 435,000

**More Statistics:** Niagara · Ontario

#### H1N1 Information

- Symptoms, General Information
- Vaccinations, Clinics
- Precautions, Cleaning
- Travelling
- Parents, Caregivers
- Professionals, Students, Schools

#### For more Information

905-688-8248, ext. 7950  
1-888-505-6074, ext. 7950

Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Flu Tracking in Niagara**

[< H1N1 Home](#)

A community-wide outbreak was declared in Niagara on October 30, 2009. This means there is a significant amount of flu circulating in Niagara.

Niagara Region Public Health uses many sources of information to understand the amount of flu in the community. These sources include:

- Laboratory-confirmed cases of H1N1 and Influenza A/B
- Student absenteeism from elementary and high schools
- Visits to doctors for symptoms of the flu

**Confirmed H1N1 Cases in Niagara**

As of November 13, 2009:

- 46 confirmed cases during the week of Nov. 7 - 13, 2009
- 209 total confirmed cases
- 2 deaths associated with H1N1

**School Absenteeism**

There are 229 schools in the Niagara region. This chart shows the average number of schools reporting student absenteeism.

This information is not exact and some **students may have been absent for reasons other than H1N1**. This information is based on the 5-day school week.

Average # of Schools with >10%, 20% and 30% School Absenteeism by Week

<b>Absenteeism Rates (Average # of schools with)</b>	<b>Wk 40* Oct 5-8</b>	<b>Wk 41* Oct 13-16</b>	<b>Wk 42 Oct 19-23</b>	<b>Wk 43 Oct 26-30</b>	<b>Wk 44 Nov 2 - 6</b>
> 10% Absenteeism	6	8	36	83	71
> 20% Absenteeism	1	1	3	6	8
> 30% Absenteeism	1	1	1	1	1

\* Week 40 and 41 were shorter due to PD day/holiday

**Physicians Reporting Influenza-like-Illness to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care**

Family doctors, pediatrics doctors, nurse practitioners, etc. monitor influenza-like illness (ILI) activity in their healthcare practice during flu season.

They are referred to as a sentinel physician and report each week the total number of patient visits for influenza-like illness out of the total number of patient visits they conduct.

**Surveillance Week 42 (Oct 18 - 24, 2009)**

	# Sentinel Sites	# Sentinel Sites Reporting	Total # ILI	Total Patients Seen	Rate of ILI seen (per 1000)
Niagara region	6	3	10	52	192.31
Ontario	173	94	316	3987	79.26
<b>Surveillance Week 43 (Oct 25 - 31, 2009)</b>					
	# Sentinel Sites	# Sentinel Sites Reporting	Total # ILI	Total Patients Seen	Rate of ILI seen (per 1000)
Niagara region	6	4	11	142	77.46
Ontario	173	103	646	4663	138.54



## Niagara Region H1N1 Website Update – November 20, 2009

### **Situation Update:**

For the week of November 14-20, 2009 Niagara Region Public Health has received 12 new laboratory confirmed cases of H1N1 flu virus, resulting in a total of 224 laboratory confirmed cases in Niagara region (cumulative of 1st and 2nd wave). Please note there was a data reporting error in last week's total. There have been two deaths of Niagara residents associated with H1N1 flu virus.

### **H1N1 Vaccination:**

Niagara Region Public Health, as of Thursday, November 19, 2009, has vaccinated 36,723 individuals and 30,642 H1N1 vaccinations have been administered by physicians and health care sector partners resulting in a total of 67,365 individuals vaccinated against H1N1.

### **New information:**

#### **Clinic Schedule Update November 20, 2009**

As a reminder, H1N1 clinics are now available to all residents who want to receive the vaccine. The clinic schedule has been expanded through December 4, 2009. Please visit the website for an [updated clinic schedule](#).

For the Francophone community, Centre du santé communautaire Hamilton/Niagara is hosting an H1N1 vaccine clinic at 1 Vanier Drive, Welland, on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 from 1-7 p.m. Services will be provided in French, however, bilingual staff will be available if needed.

#### **Information about the H1N1 Vaccines:**

Canada has now approved the unadjuvanted vaccine produced by GSK – Influenza A (H1N1) Unadjuvanted. Previously, Canada had purchased Panvax (unadjuvanted vaccine) from Australia. Therefore, public health units have now received their supply of the unadjuvanted from GSK for use in their clinics. Our website page referring to the two different vaccines and who they are recommended for has been updated to reflect this vaccine being used.

[Which Vaccine is Right for You or Your Child](#)  
[Frequently Asked Questions about the H1N1 Vaccines](#)

For more information on H1N1 visit [H1N1 Flu Virus Website](#).

**Please note, this email account is for outgoing messages only. Please do not reply to this email. Any inquiries can be directed to our H1N1 flu virus Information Line at 905-688-8248 ext. 7950 or toll free at 1-888-505-6074.**

[Unsubscribe from this Email List](#)

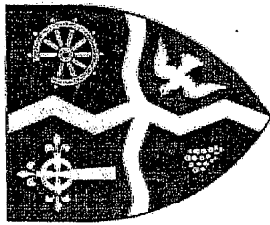


**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
MSGR. DOMINIC PIZZACALLA  
THANK YOU LETTER RE YEAR FOR PRIESTS DINNER**

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John,

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR  
SPONSORING THE DINNER FOR  
THE PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE.

IT WAS A VERY KIND GESTURE  
ON THE PART OF THE BOARD.

THANK YOU FOR AFFIRMATION OF OUR  
WORK. I ALWAYS ENJOYED THE  
RELATIONSHIP I HAD WITH THE  
BOARD AND THE SCHOOLS.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.  
WITH PRAYERS & BEST WISHES

Maryann McHenry

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
DATE**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
MICHAEL MULHALL, BISHOP OF PEMBROKE  
THANK YOU LETTER RE HISTORY OF CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION IN THE NIAGARA REGION BOOK**

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Diocese of Pembroke  
Chancery Office



October 23, 2009

Mr. John Crocco  
Director of Education  
427 Rice Road  
Welland, Ontario  
L3C 7C1

Dear Mr. Crocco,

Thank you for your recent copy of "*Catholic Education: A gift from the past..A present for the future 1842-2007*". This publication is a timely reminder of the rich Catholic heritage present in Ontario and is an especially fitting tribute to the heroic religious communities who have given so much of themselves for the spread of the gospel.

This publication is a timely reminder for each of us to work to keep our schools truly Catholic and ensure that they continue to grow and flourish in our province.

With best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

✠ Michael Mulhall  
Bishop of Pembroke

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
FR. RANDY GALLANT, ST. MICHAEL CHURCH, FORT ERIE  
THANK YOU LETTER RE YEAR FOR PRIESTS DINNER**

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*St. Michael's Church*

Nov. 2nd

Dear John;

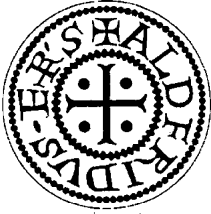
Thanks to you & the Board for a lovely evening, delicious dinner & beautiful gift! Much appreciated my friend. Blessings & Peace, Fr. Randy

310 Central Avenue, Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 3T3 (905) 871 0692

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
MSGR. LEO CLUTTERBUCK, ST. ALFRED CHURCH  
ST. CATHARINES  
THANK YOU LETTER RE YEAR FOR PRIESTS DINNER**

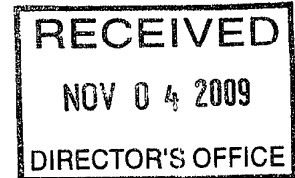
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# St. Alfred

## Roman Catholic Parish

October 30<sup>th</sup> 2009



Mr. John Crocco  
Director  
Niagara District Catholic School Board  
427 Rice Rd.  
Welland, Ontario  
L3C 7C1

Tel. 905-735-0240  
Fax. 905-735-0247

### Re: Year of the Priest Dinner Celebration

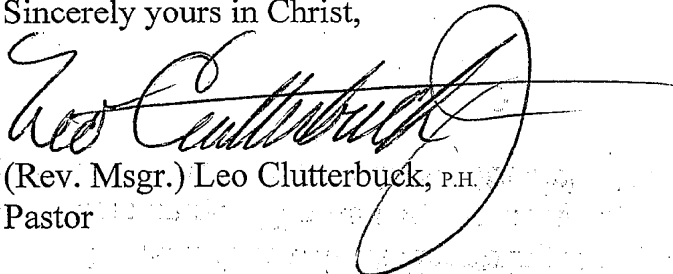
Dear Mr. Crocco:

I extend sincere thanks for taking this opportunity to appreciate the priests within our community. The dinner, the company and the entertainment really helped us appreciate the support we share with each other.

The priests with us at St. Alfred's have also expressed their thanks. They come from various countries throughout the world and have had many and varied experiences of school/church relations. The model we demonstrate here in Ontario and particularly in Niagara Catholic has deepened their appreciation of the relationship we enjoy.

Please bring our greetings to the Trustees and our deepest appreciation. We keep you all in our prayers and through the month of November, our prayers for those who have worked tirelessly in establishing Catholic education in Niagara.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



(Rev. Msgr.) Leo Clutterbuck, P.H.  
Pastor

c.c. file...

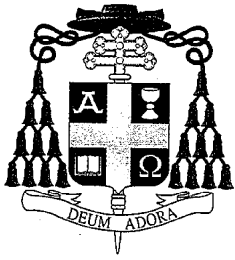


**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
THOMAS COLLINS, ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO  
THANK YOU LETTER RE HISTORY OF CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION IN THE NIAGARA REGION BOOK**

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**MOST REVEREND THOMAS COLLINS**  
**ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO**

1155 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4T 1W2  
Tel: (416) 934-0606 • Fax: (416) 934-3452



November 5, 2009

Mr. John Crocco  
Director of Education  
Niagara Catholic District School Board  
427 Rice Road  
Welland, Ontario  
L3C 7C1

Dear Mr. Crocco,

Archbishop Collins asked me to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for the copy of *Catholic Education: A gift from the past*. His Grace appreciates your kindness in sending the book to him.

Yours truly,

Silvija Vigeon  
Senior Executive Assistant to  
Archbishop Thomas Collins

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
FR. PETER ROWE, ST. ALEXANDER CHURCH, FONTHILL  
THANK YOU LETTER RE YEAR FOR PRIESTS DINNER**

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Behold I make  
all things new

--Rev. 21:5

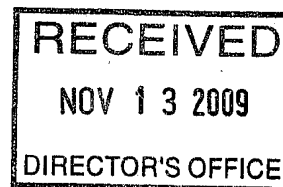


*St. Alexander*  
*Roman Catholic Church*

P.O. Box 773 † 50 Pelham Town Square † Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0 † Phone 905/892-3090 † Fax 905/892-4006

November 9, 2009.

Mr. John Crocco,  
Director of Education, N.C.D.S.B.,  
427 Rice Rd.,  
Welland, ON L3C 7C1



Dear Mr Crocco:

I find myself reflecting back over a superlative evening spent in the company of my brother priests, as well as many members of the Catholic Education community of Niagara, and I cannot help but be filled with gratitude. Allow me, then, to express my personal thanks to you for honouring the "Year for Priests" through such an occasion, and not only for the gathering held at Club Roma but also for the totally unexpected gift of the icon of Christ the Good Shepherd.

Everything about the evening was memorable, as I look back. October 29 provided me with yet another opportunity to mingle with fellow clergy, indeed, but also with senior staff, principals and vice-principals alike. For that reason, I found the table arrangements to be most agreeable. Of course, the fine fare served by the staff of Club Roma was exquisite, as always. The entertainment offered by the family and the school children added considerably to the pleasing nature of the event. Lastly, the words addressed to all by yourself, our bishop, the chair of the Board, and others, gave a noteworthy "injection of optimism" for the future as clergy and educators set forth once more to work in tandem.

For this and so much more, I thank you. It is evident that, as Director of Education, you have made it your endeavour to assert the prominent place in society held by Catholic Schools in Ontario, and I, for one, welcome your efforts.

Sincerely, and rejoicing in the Lord always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter T. Rowe".

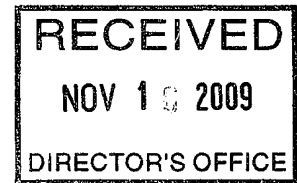
(Fr.) PETER T. ROWE

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
FR. CHRIS GILLEN, ST. PATRICK CHURCH, ST. CATHARINES  
THANK YOU LETTER RE YEAR FOR PRIESTS DINNER**

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OFFICE OF PASTOR  
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church  
31 Chestnut Street East, St. Catharines On, L2T 1G8  
Telephone: 905 227-2358. Facsimile 905 680-5168  
[stpatschurch@yahoo.ca](mailto:stpatschurch@yahoo.ca) [www.saintpats.ca](http://www.saintpats.ca)  
[fr.Christopher@hotmail.com](mailto:fr.Christopher@hotmail.com) [www.couarge@truth.com](http://www.couarge@truth.com)

Mr. John Crocco  
Director of Education  
Niagara Catholic District School Board  
427 Rice Road.  
Welland, ON, L3C 7C1

November 11th, 2009.

Dear Mr. Crocco (John),

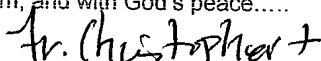
Greetings in the Lord who is ever present and among us.  
I wish to thank you for a wonderful and magnificent gathering Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, as the Niagara Catholic District School Board both acknowledged and celebrated this special year dedicated to the "Year For Priests".

From the beginning to the end the whole evening and celebration was filled with faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these being "love" according to the words of St. Paul. Fitting words as we have just ended a Jubilee Year dedicated to St. Paul.

I was surely filled with love, faith and hope at this wonderful gathering both at our table conversations and then the musical performances from St. Edward's Catholic Elementary School Choir and the Kaas Family, Notre Dame College School. Also the excellent addresses from our Bishop Most Reverend James M. Wingle, and Chairperson Kathy Burtnik. Words to take to heart and in pastoral and educational action in this special year.

I thank you for the lasting gift of the Icon of Christ. A personal treasured gift that I will hold dear for many years to come - God willing. I've decided to display it in the church in this special year dedicated to the PRIESTHOOD. May we all be filled with grace as we celebrate this year dedicated to priestly service while also commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Death of Saint John Vianney, Universal Patron of Priests. Again, I simply say thank you!

Shalom, and with God's peace.....

  
Rev. Fr. Christopher G. Gillen. P.P.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

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# Spotlight

ON  
NIAGARA CATHOLIC

www.niagaracatholic.ca

November 10, 2009

## 34th Annual Pilgrimage Raises Over \$202,000



**More than 5,000 Niagara Catholic students, staff, alumni and family members participated in the 34th Annual Pilgrimage for Social Justice on Sunday, October 25th, raising money and awareness for social justice projects around the world. The Niagara Catholic Pilgrimage has raised more than \$5.4 million since 1974.**

The 34th Annual Niagara Catholic Pilgrimage for Social Justice took place on Sunday, October 25th and raised more than \$202,000 for various social justice initiatives around the world.

At the November 10th Committee of the Whole Meeting, Niagara Catholic Religion and Family Life Consultant Terri Paucio shared scenes from the Pilgrimages in Grimsby, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Welland and Port Colborne.

The Pilgrimage helps some of the most impoverished people around the world.

More than 600 St. Francis Catholic Secondary School staff and students raised in excess of \$51,500 for Fogquest, St. Marc School in Haiti and the Dominican Canadian Development Group.

Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School more than doubled the amount raised in 2008, collecting \$21,000 for projects in Las Pajas, Dominican Republic.

Notre Dame College School raised \$45,000 for a variety of organizations in the Dominican Republic and Peru.

Saint Paul Catholic High School raised \$24,000 for the Holy Cross School and Orphanage in Milhot, Haiti.

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School raised \$19,000 for the Ste. Croix Elementary School in Thibeau, Haiti.

Lakeshore Catholic High School raised \$16,700 for projects in Dominica and El Salvador.

Denis Morris Catholic High School raised \$16,000 for projects in Guatemala and Haiti.

Saint Michael Catholic High School raised \$13,000 for Hope for Rwanda Childrens' Fund.

## Understanding the District Review Process

An update on the School Effectiveness Framework District Review Process was presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on November 10th.

The District Review Process is a part of the School Effectiveness Framework, established by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, to encourage continual improvement of schools.

Student Learning and Achievement, Instructional Leadership, Assessment and Evaluation and Curriculum and Instructional Strategies are the essential components of the Framework.

The District Review Process (DRP) provides support to help schools identify strengths and areas for further development. Using the components, a District Review Team (DRT) will work with schools to determine the scope of the review. The DRT will collect data to help guide improvement planning and the implementation of strategies to increase student improvement.

A summary report will be provided to help the school's sharpen its focus as a Professional Catholic Learning Community (PCLC).





## St. Francis Golfers As Good As Gold at OFSAA



Members of St. Francis Catholic Secondary School's Boys' Golf Team recently brought home gold from the OFSAA Golf Tournament. The team was introduced to the Board at the November 10th Committee of the Whole Meeting, and were presented with Niagara Catholic Excellence in Athletics pins. From left are Trustee Maurice Charbonneau, Brad Graham, Josh Rempel, Robert Ellis, Board Chairperson Kathy Burtnik and Paul Lenartowich.

## Niagara Catholic to Receive 14 ELP Classes

The Ministry of Education has planned an allocation of 14 Early Learning Program (ELP) classes for the Niagara Catholic District School Board for the 2010-2011 school year, and seven classes for the following year.

The first year of Ontario's ELP, which will provide full-day learning for four- and five-year-olds, will begin in September 2010.

The program has two components. The core component will be offered during the hours of each instructional day. An educator team of one certified teacher and one registered early childhood educator (ECE), will deliver the program. The class size for the ELP will be a Board-average of 26 students, with an adult-child ratio of 13:1.

The extended day component to the Early Learning Program will be available both before and after school, beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. Students will participate in the extended day at the option of parents and guardians. This component of the ELP will be available in schools with sufficient demand to make it financially viable. The extended day program will be led by ECE instructors and will be funded by parents on a cost-recovery basis.

For the first year of the program, the Board is expected to select schools where the ELP can be implemented without need of capital construction or renovations. The Board will identify priority sites for year-two implementation that minimize the need for new capital funding.

The Ministry requires School Boards to prepare for the first two years of the ELP program by selecting schools where all JK/SK classes can comply with the new ELP model and be new, full-day JK/SK classrooms. As well, schools should service low-income neighbourhoods, be in areas where the ELP will have a minimal impact on existing child-care and Early Years programs, be in areas where students would benefit from increased learning opportunities created by the ELP and be and be ready to implement the new Early Learning Program.

# A+++

+ Congratulations to Connie Stanlik, Ali Hand, Caleigh Hand, Cassandra DiFruscio, Norah Chaput, Perri Champion, Everett Champion, Maddie Pellegrini, Conor Campaigne, Brevin Graziani, Valerie Borghesi, Alexander Rotundo, Samantha Antonio, Haleigh Cumiskey, Christopher Vecchi, Vince Attalah, Maleah Beupit, Cassidy Werner, Brianna Roma and Rachel Delduca, who all landed parts in Silver Mist Production's Christmas musical, Scrooge.

+ Congratulations to Kyra Reilly (Blessed Trinity), Karolina Walczyk (Denis Morris), Carolyn Richardson (Holy Cross), Samantha Webb (Lakeshore Catholic), Paul Ferrara (Notre Dame), Tealle DeLuca (St. Francis), Melissa Lefebvre (Saint Michael) and Chris Colanieri (Saint Paul), who were Niagara Catholic's recipients of the 2009 Father Fogarty Award. The Award is presented annually by the Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario to the student in each Catholic Secondary school who best upholds and honours the ideals of his or her school through their work or level of involvement in the school community.

*Congratulations!*

## Policy Review Update

The Board currently has four Policies being vetted.

The Accessible Customer Service Policy and Safe Physical Intervention Policy are new policies being developed.

The Accommodation Review Policy and the Employment Workplace Harassment Policy are existing policies being reviewed/ revised by the Board to ensure they continue to meet system needs.

Nurturing Souls & Building Minds

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - DECEMBER**

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# December 2009

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

	1	2	3	4	5
	Org/CW Mtgs	SEAC Mtg			
6	8	9	10	11	12
National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women		Grade 8 Masses	Administrators/Trustee/Parish Priest Luncheon		
13	14	15	16	17	18
		Board Mtg			
20	21	22	23	24	25
					Christmas
26	27	28	29	30	31
				~ Board Christmas Shutdown ~	New Year's Eve
				~ Board Christmas Shutdown ~	



Niagara Catholic District School

Events posted at [www.niagaracatholic.ca](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca)

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
PILGRIMAGE AD 2009**

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**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**34th Annual Pilgrimage for Social Justice**

25 Years of Social Justice



**More than \$202,000 raised for children around the world this year!**

Dominica ✦ Dominican Republic ✦ El Salvador ✦ Guatemala ✦ Haiti ✦ Peru ✦ Rwanda

**Kathy Burtnik**  
Chairperson

*Nurturing Souls and Building Minds*

**John Crocco**  
Director of Education

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION  
NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
DIRECTOR'S LETTER TO FAMILIES – VISION 2020  
DISCOVERY SESSIONS**

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*Office of the Director of Education*

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians;

As you are likely aware through the various communication mediums over the last year, Niagara Catholic is on a journey towards the design of a strategic plan called – *Vision 2020 – Our Focused Strategic Plan*.

We are extending an invitation to all parents / guardians of Niagara Catholic to participate in the design process of this exciting opportunity to shape the future of Catholic education in Niagara.

One of the central objectives of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan process is to provide opportunities for all of our partners within Catholic education in Niagara to participate in facilitated dialogue through Discovery Sessions beginning this month of November through to April 2010.

The Board has approved Maria Sanchez-Keane of the Centre for Organizational Effectiveness to facilitate the Strategic Plan Development phase of the design of Niagara Catholic's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

The discovery sessions will start with a visioning component on the big ideas of the future of Niagara Catholic then work specifically in all major aspects of our system.

To engage as many parents and guardians as possible, all Principals and Catholic School Council Chairs are planning school-community Discovery Sessions. These school-community discovery sessions will give parents/guardians the opportunity to participate in the process. The dates of school-community meetings will be posted on the Board website [www.niagaracatholic.ca](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca) – under the Vision 2020 tab. Please visit this website for information on our Vision 2020 process. Your school Principal will be publicizing the meeting date for your school which will take place between November and February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

We encourage you to attend the Discovery Session meeting in your area and be an active participant in the process in providing recommendations for the future of Niagara Catholic. Your voice is important in this most important process. We need your input in preserving and shaping the future of Catholic education in Niagara.

Thank you in advance for your participation and ideas as we design a new Vision 2020 Strategic Plan for Niagara Catholic.

Sincerely,

John Crocco  
Director of Education

427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario L3C 7C1  
Telephone 905-735-0240 Facsimile 905-734-8828 Email: [info@ncdsb.com](mailto:info@ncdsb.com)  
[www.niagaracatholic.ca](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca)

**John Crocco**, Director of Education / Secretary Treasurer



## Vision 2020 Strategic Plan – Discovery Sessions

Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Director's Meeting

- Principal, Vice-Principal and Manager Discovery Session

Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009

- 2.30 to 4.00 p.m. – Administrative Council (CEC)
- 4.00 to 5.00 p.m. – Niagara Catholic Education Alliance Committee Meeting (CEC)
- 5.30 to 6.30 p.m. – Student Senate – Student Council Discovery Planning Session (CEC)
- 7.00 to 8.30 p.m. – Principal and CSC Chair Facilitators Training Session (CEC)

November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- Elementary, Secondary and Continuing Education School Community Discovery Session
- Elementary, Secondary and Continuing Education School-based Academic and Support Staff Discovery Session

Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

- 6.00 p.m. – SEAC Discovery Session (CEC)

Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009

- 6.00 p.m. – Trustee Discovery Session (CEC)

Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- 1.00 to 3.00 p.m. – Bishop Wingle and Priest Discovery Session (CEC)
- 5.00 to 7.00 p.m. – Regional Catholic School Council / CPIC Discovery Session (CEC)

Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- 9.00 – 11.00 a.m. – CEC Staff, Presidents of OECTA / CUPE Discovery Session (CEC)
- 12.00 – 2.00 p.m. – Selected Catholic Community Representative Discovery Session (CEC)
- 4.00 – 6.00 p.m. – AIP / LIP Discovery Session (CEC)

Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- 9.00 – 12.00 p.m. – Elementary and Secondary Student Council Discovery Session

March 2010 – Data Analysis and Report Writing

Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Discovery Report Released

Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- 6.00 to 9.00 p.m. – Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Summit (Saint Michael Catholic High School)

Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Senior Staff Review of Recommendations

Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Vision 2020 Strategic Plan Report to the Committee of the Whole