



## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2013**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, September 24, 2013, 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 Chairperson Burtnik.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Sicoli from attending the Board Meeting of September 24, 2013.

**CARRIED**

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

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of September 24, 2013, 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 Meetings**

**5.1 June 18, 2013**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 18, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5.2 August 27, 2013**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of August 27, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5.1 September 10, 2013**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 10, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

## COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

### 1. School Excellence Program – St. Gabriel Catholic Elementary School

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education, introduced Deborah Mercnik, Principal of St. Gabriel Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Mercnik, with the assistance of students and staff showcased St. Gabriel Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

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

### 2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 10, 2013

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 10, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED**

### 3. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 5, 2013 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 5, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED**

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 5, 2013:

#### 3.1 Change in Representation for the John Howard Society

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve change in representation for the John Howard Society to the Special Education Advisory Committee; Primary Representative: Jay Gemmell.

**CARRIED**

#### 3.2 Change in Representation for Autism Ontario – Niagara Region Chapter

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the change in representation for Autism Ontario – Niagara Region Chapter to the Special Education Advisory Committee; Primary Representative: Colleen Sword, Alternate Representative: Kathy Ryan.

**CARRIED**

Chairperson Burtnik asked that Senior Staff, on behalf of the Board, send a letter of appreciation to the departing SEAC members.

**4. Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) – Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics**

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, presented the report on the EQAO results of the 2012-2013 Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, noting that Niagara Catholic continues to celebrate student success on provincial assessments with improved student achievement in the areas of literacy and numeracy and closing the gaps in student achievement for all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

**5. Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions Priority Indicators 2012-2013 - Achievement Report**

Director Crocco presented the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions Priority Indicators 2012-2013 Achievement Report and highlighted the key areas for Trustees which outlined the Board's achievements during the last school year.

Director Crocco indicated that Senior Staff is very pleased with the overall achievement of students and staff and complimented them for the high level of achievement during the 2012-2013 school year.

Director Crocco confirmed that as part of the Board's continued open, transparent and accountable mandate, that copies of the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions Priority Indicators 2012-2013 - Achievement Report will be provided to Bishop Bergie, Principals, Vice-Principals, Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), Catholic School Council Chairs, Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) and posted on our Board website.

**6. Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange – 2013-2014**

Superintendent Lefebvre presented the Extended Overnight Field Trip/Excursion/Exchange Trip Information.

**7. Financial Reports**

**7.1 Monthly Banking Transactions**

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the months of June, July and August 2013, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**7.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures**

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at August 31, 2013, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

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

### **1. Correspondence**

#### **1.1 Minister of Education – Thank You for Invitation to Visit Niagara Catholic Schools**

Director Crocco presented the letter of appreciation from newly appointed Minister of Education, Liz Sandals regarding the Board's invitation to visit Niagara Catholic schools.

### **2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended**

Nil Report

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

- The St. Catharines Attendance Area Review Committee Meetings are proceeding as planned and will take place this week.
- The St. Christopher and St. Theresa Accommodations Review Committee have met and will be presenting a report to the Committee of the Whole requesting deferral of Board motions for the ARC report from January 2014 to April 2014, to ensure alignment with Ministry of Education regulations and Board Policy regarding timelines.
- Strategies for the replacement of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School in St. Catharines are currently being investigated with the exploration of property options for the school site, meeting with the Mayor, and colleagues from the Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud.
- The on-going debates and discussions continue between the Region, the City of St. Catharines and members of the community regarding the proposed 406 ramp by Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School may delay the Regional Public Meeting until mid-November when a new consultant report will be available.

### **4. Trustee Information**

#### **4.1 Calendar of Events – October 2013**

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events – October 2013 for Trustees' information

#### **4.2 City of Welland – Arts & Culture Advisory Committee – Culture Days**

Director Crocco presented information on the City of Welland – Arts & Culture Advisory Committee – Culture Days.

#### **4.3 Niagara Festival Grape Grande Parade – September 28, 2013**

Director Crocco presented information on the Niagara Festival Grape Grande Parade taking place September 28, 2013.

Trustees were invited to participate and were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Corporate Services & Communications.

**4.4 OCSTA Central Region Meeting, Oshawa – October 1, 2013**

Director Crocco presented Trustees with information on the OCSTA Central Region Meeting, Oshawa being held on October 1, 2013.

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

**4.5 Retirement Celebration for Larry Reich – Tuesday, October 8, 2013 – 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Father Kenneth Burns C.S.C. Board Room**

Director Crocco invited Trustees to attend the Retirement Celebration for Larry Reich on Tuesday, October 8, 2013 between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns C.S.C. Board Room.

**4.6 Director's Inspiration Award – Thursday, October 10, 2013**

Director Crocco presented information on the Director's Inspiration Award scheduled for Thursday, October 10, 2013.

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

**4.7 Director's Inspiration Award – Thursday, October 10, 2013**

Director Crocco informed Trustees that Kim Craitor has issued his resignation from his position as MPP for Niagara Falls. Trustees discussed Mr. Craitor's great support for Catholic Education over the years.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** Niagara Catholic District School Board send a letter to former Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor expressing Niagara Catholic's appreciation for his support and dedication to Catholic Education.

**CARRIED**

**5. Open Question Period**

None Submitted

**D. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**E. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**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 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of September 24, 2013.

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**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 June 18, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**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 September 10, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**

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

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**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 June 18, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4.1)**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of August 27, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4.2)**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of September 10, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4.3)**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**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 September 10, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting (In Camera) of June 28, 2013, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F6.1)**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F6.2 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F6.2)**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F8 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F8)**

## **G. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

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

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**THAT** the September 24, 2013 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

Approved on the **22<sup>nd</sup>** day of October **2013.**

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Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer