



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2011

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, June 7, 2011, 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 Charbonneau.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee MacNeil.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chairperson Charbonneau noted that Trustee Fera asked to be excused from the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓		
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Frank Fera			✓
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Ted O'Leary	✓		
Dino Sicoli	✓		
Student Trustees			
Shelby Levesque	✓		
Patrick Fowler	✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; **Marcel Jacques**, Administrator – Student Achievement K-12, Special Education; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

Director Crocco welcomed newly elected Student Trustees Ryan Creelman and Patrick Morris of Denis Morris Catholic High School.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 7, 2011, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

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

5. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 10, 2011

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 10, 2011, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair 2011

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Dino Petruzzi, Chair: Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair, who presented the report on the Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair 2011. Mr. Petruzzi stated that the Niagara Catholic District School Board was well represented in the Fair with over 40% of the projects submitted by Niagara Catholic schools and students.

Jennifer Csele, student of Notre Dame College School, provided a brief description of her award winning project “Determining Heavy Metal Contamination in Soil Using Spectroscopy”.

2. Policy Committee

2.1 Unapproved Minutes Policy Committee Meeting – May 24, 2011

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of May 24, 2011, as presented.

CARRIED

2.2 Approval of Policies

2.2.1 Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Policy (800.1) (Interim)

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Policy (800.1) (Interim), as presented.

CARRIED

2.2.2 Voluntary and Confidential Self-Identification Policy for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students (301.9)

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Voluntary and Confidential Self-Identification Policy for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students (301.9), as presented.

CARRIED

2.2.3 Student Fees Policy (800.3) (Interim)

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the Student Fees Policy and explained that it is an interim policy in order to meet the Ministry of Education timeline.

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Student Fees Policy (800.3) (Interim), as presented.

CARRIED

2.3 Policy Development Update

Director Crocco presented the Policy Development Update.

Policy Committee Chairperson Nieuwesteeg thanked Senior Staff for all the work they put into preparing and/or revising the policies and administrative timelines.

3. **Annual Niagara Catholic Graduation Celebration 2011**

Director Crocco presented the report on the 10th Annual Niagara Catholic Graduation Celebration 2011. He stated that this event, which was enjoyed by 2000 graduating students from Niagara Catholic's eight (8) high schools was held at the new ScotiaBank Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, and celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Gerard Bergie.

4. **Improving Student Success Through Technological Enhancements**

Superintendent Baldasaro introduced David Pihach, Administrator: Student Success, who presented the report on Improving Student Success through Technological Enhancements, and provided a summary of the three technological initiatives supported by Student Success staff and school personnel.

5. **Research Projects in the Niagara Catholic District School Board 2010-2011 School Year**

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Robert Di Persio, Administrator-Research, Assessment and Evaluation, who presented the report on Research Projects in the Niagara Catholic District School Board 2010-2011 School Year. Trustees were informed of the Research Projects which were conducted in elementary and secondary schools during the 2010-2011 school year.

6. **Student Support Leadership Initiative (SSLI)**

Superintendent Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Marcel Jacques, Administrator of Special Education, who introduced the report on the Student Support Leadership Initiative along with Angela Lynch, Co-coordinator of SSLI. Ms. Lynch presented information on the provincial tri-ministry initiative, which focuses on building and enhancing partnerships that will meet the mental health needs of students and their families.

7. **Special Education Plan**

Superintendent Baldasaro and Administrator Jacques presented the Special Education Plan for Trustee information.

8. **Larkin Estate Awards 2011**

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the report on the Larkin Estate Awards 2011 which is available to graduates of a Niagara Catholic high school who are enrolled in St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, or a school of nursing, social service work or a college or university offering such course.

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of \$11,000.00 for Larkin Estate Admission Awards as presented.

CARRIED

9. **Staff Development Update 2010-2011**

Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, presented the Staff Development Update 2011-2012, which summarized all the Staff Development from September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011.

10. Report on the Annual Budget 2011-2012

Director Crocco and Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, presented the report on the Annual Budget 2011-2012. He stated that Senior Administrative Council is submitting a balanced budget which continues to allocate the necessary funding to implement and deliver the excellence in distinctive programs and services to our students and staff as approved in the Board approved Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and the System Priorities for 2011-2012.

Senior Staff presented highlights on specific areas of program and responsibilities.

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the report on the Annual Budget 2011-2012, as presented.

CARRIED

11. Monthly Updates

11.1 Capital Projects Progress Report

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

11.2 Student Trustees' Update

Shelby Levesque and Patrick Fowler, Student Trustees, thanked the Board for the opportunity of serving as Student Trustees on the Board, and spoke of how the many experiences over the past year have shaped them as people and will be treasured throughout their adulthood. They also offered words of support and encouragement to the new Student Trustees.

11.3 Senior Staff Good News Update

Senior Staff highlights included:

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells

- *Lakeshore Catholic, Saint Michael and Saint Paul Catholic High Schools*
On May 27th, 2011 Lakeshore Catholic, Saint Michael and Saint Paul Catholic secondary schools gathered to celebrate cancer survivors, to remember loved ones lost to cancer, and to fight back in hope of finding a cure with Relay for Life fundraisers. Collectively the three Catholic secondary schools raised over \$75,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society.
- *St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School*
On May 24, 2011, Walter Gretzky father of Wayne Gretzky visited St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School to promote "Shades of Fun Day" sponsored by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. On Thursday, May 26, 2011 everyone at St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School wore their shades to protect their eyes.
- *Saint Paul Catholic High School*
The first edition of "The Muse" a creative writing and photography magazine created by Saint Paul Catholic High School students and staff was provided to all Board members. This edition comprises student poetry, stories, editorials and photography on a variety of topics, illustrating the creativity of students and staff.

- *Our Lady of Victory*

The first edition of “Victory Voice” created by students and staff of Our Lady of Victory Catholic Elementary School contains articles about the current construction underway at the school, creating one facility for students and staff, an interview with the Director of Education, John Crocco about Vision 2020, and for the second straight year Gold medal standing as an Ontario ECO school. Copies of Victory Voice were provided to all Board members.

Superintendent Baldasaro

- *Technology & Skills Competition*

Nasir Dowlatkahi and Craig Vandenberg, students from Saint Michael Catholic High School, Niagara Falls, earned Gold in the area of Web Design and Silver in the area of Electronics at the Skills Canada National Competition held in Quebec City, Quebec.

- *Athletic Awards*

Secondary students from across Niagara Catholic qualified in several different athletic events to represent the Board at the provincial level in OFSAA 2011 competitions during the Spring season. Students achieved Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in the areas of Track and Field, Badminton, Girls’ Soccer and Girls’ Lacrosse.

Individual and teams of Secondary students from Niagara Catholic won Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in different rowing categories at the 66th Annual Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Association Regatta held at the Henley Course in St. Catharines.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – May 24, 2011

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – May 24, 2011 issue for Trustees’ information.

1.2 Calendar of Events – June 2011

Director Crocco presented information on the Calendar of Events – June 2011.

1.3 Events

- Director Crocco extended an invitation to Trustees to attend the Administrative Leadership Symposium being held on Thursday, June 16 at 11:00 a.m. at Club Italia in Niagara Falls. Trustees were asked to notify Sherry Morena if they will be in attendance.
- Trustees were reminded of the Retirement & Service Recognition Celebration being held on Saturday, June 25. Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

1.1 Pupil Accommodation Report 2009 Recommendations and Attendance Area Review Process

Director Crocco informed Trustees that in preparation of Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee Meetings scheduled to begin in September 2011 the decisions the Board is required to make, binders were prepared with all documentation for Trustee information and review.

The three (3) Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committees will present recommendations to the Committee of the Whole in January 2012 in preparation for February 2012 registration.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

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 9:50 p.m. and reconvened at 11:25 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 7, 2011.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section A: Student Trustees Present held on May 10 2011, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section B: Student Trustees Excluded held on May 10, 2011, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

The following motion was passed at 10:55 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting be extended 15 minutes.

CARRIED

The following motion was passed at 11:10 p.m.

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting be extended 15 minutes.

CARRIED

The following motion was passed at 11:20 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting be extended 15 minutes.

CARRIED

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the June 7, 2011 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **June 7, 2011.**

Approved on the **13th** day of **September 2011.**

Maurice Charbonneau
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer