> Clock ticks on WLMH renaming issue, poll says 74% oppose/Pgs 3&5

> Spaghetti dinner to support Scouts' trip Pg 4 > WL men's hockey league celebrates 40 years Pg 118 > Readers have their say Pgs 17, 19 & 23



West Niagara Secondary officially opens its doors Grand opening a showcase for state-of-the-art facility

By Joanne McDonald For NewsNow

The District School Board of Niagara has marked a historic milestone with the grand opening of the Niagara West Secondary School - home of the Wolfpack.

Accolades poured in Thursday during a presentation in the school's 750-seat theatre and tour through the state-of-the art building.

"This journey to this day has taken time. From the initial vision to the meticulous planning and finally to the culmination of hard work and dedication we stand here in awe of what has been achieved," said Alex Bradnam, DSBN vice chair of the board of trustees. "This remarkable school stands as a testament to the power of the decisions made with students' best interests at heart."

"It is a jewel among DSBN secondary schools. You should be very proud of this building," Bradnam said.

While students were officially enrolled as the Niagara Wolfpack in September 2022, delays in construction meant the new building wasn't ready and students continued the school year at Grimsby Secondary



Celebrating the grand opening of West Niagara Secondary School (L-R) WNSS principal Mat Miller; Niagara West MPP Sam Oosterhoff; Warren Hoshizaki former director of education; and Alex Bradnam, DSBN board vice-chair. McDonald - Photo

School and Beamsville District Secondary School. The school was open for September 2023 with 1500 students walking through the doors for the first time.

"It's no secret that the road to today's grand opening was tumultuous and even a bit rocky at times, no secret that it was a challenge for all three school communities to come together," said Niagara West MPP Sam Oosterhoff.

"But, now, we know here at the Wolfpack we have an incredible opportunity," Oosterhoff added.

"Our students have taken

the opportunities provided here and ran with them," said WNSS Principal Mat Miller.

"We are thriving together as the Wolfpack."

"We know that the work you do to mentor and inspire this generation of leaders in our community would be completely impossible without you," Oosterhoff told the principal, teachers and support staff.

WNSS has more than 80 clubs, teams and other extracurricular activities on the go. It also offers 11 See OPENING, Page 6