

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board Monday May 17, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Durham District School Board was held on this date, virtually.

1. Call to Order:

Chair Carolyn Morton called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney, Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Niki Lundquist, Linda Stone, Scott Templeton, Christine Thatcher, Student Trustees Aaliyah Jaleel, Logan Keeler, Arpita Savaliya

Regrets: Trustee Darlene Forbes

Officials Present: Director Norah Marsh, Associate Directors Jim Markovski, David Wright, Superintendents Gary Crossdale, Georgette Davis, Erin Elmhurst, Mohamed Hamid, Margaret Lazarus, Andrea McAuley, Heather Mundy, Stephen Nevills, Jack Nigro, Executive Officer Communications Robert Cerjanec, General Legal Counsel Patrick Cotter

Recording Secretary: Kathy Fitzpatrick

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence/Acknowledgement

Chair Carolyn Morton advised that the Durham District School Board acknowledges that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island (North America). We acknowledge that the Durham Region forms a part of the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, the Mississauga Peoples and the treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we teach, learn and live.

4. O Canada

Following the singing of O Canada, Chair Carolyn Morton acknowledged the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia and that the Pride Flag has been raised today until the end of June 2021.

5. Adoption of Agenda

2021:RB51

MOVED by Trustee Scott Templeton

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

2021:RB52

MOVED by Trustee Niki Lundquist

SECONDED by Trustee Scott Templeton

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2021

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2021

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AMENDED MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2021

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2021

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2021

CARRIED

6. Community Presentations

There were no community presentations at this time.

7. Ministry Memorandums-Information Update

Director Norah Marsh provided trustees with an update of the recent Ministry Memorandums:

Director Marsh shared that at this time the Ministry of Education does not have any new information regarding the return to school. The Ministry is consulting with

health officials and continue to review the number of COVID cases provincially. As updated information is received it will be shared.

The Ministry announced that roll out of the first vaccination for children, ages 12 to 17 will occur in June. All 12 to 17 year old children will have the opportunity to have the second vaccination prior to the return to school in September. Staff have connected with the Durham Region Health Department to provide support where needed. Additional information will be shared with families when received from the Durham Region Health Department.

The Ministry of Education announced that they will be providing \$6.7 million to be allocated to COVID-19 funding for next year.

The Ministry has provided information regarding September planning for secondary schools. They are looking at potential quadesters with a maximum of two courses, for all school Boards. DSTS staff are reviewing the continuation of the 10:00 am – 4:00 pm school day for secondary schools, due to bus driver shortages. Our commitment to families, is that in August, once further direction is received from the Ministry of Education, specific information will be provided around what school will look like in the fall.

Director Norah Marsh shared that the Ministry of Education released a memo on the math proficiency test. Students who are attending the Faculty of Education need to pass the proficiency test to graduate as a teacher. The DDSB currently has 57 certified teachers. Director Marsh acknowledged the work of these teachers who have started their carrier during the pandemic. Staff have connected with the Ontario College of Teachers to ensure that we offer support to these teachers and that they will be able to proceed as employees of the DDSB.

Funding confirmation has been received from the Ministry, DDSB can proceed with summer learning programs. Staff will start planning and focus on a camp like experience with a focus on joy as well as learning. Trustee questions were answered.

8. Public Question Period

Dylan R. a student of DDSB presented 2 questions virtually and staff responded.

John Higo presented 2 questions virtually and staff responded.

9. DDSB Presentations

(a) SAL Program Update and Student Presentation

Superintendent Stephen Nevills introduced Facilitator Nicole Rands who shared with trustees the Supervised Alternative Learning presentation and provided an overview of the SAL Program. Trustee questions were answered.

10. Report from the Committee of the Whole in Camera

Trustee Christine Thatcher reported on the actions of the Committee of the Whole in Camera meeting and confirmed that the following matters were discussed: decisions in respect of negotiations with employees, litigation update and administrative transfers and placements.

2021:RB53

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher
SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

11. Good News from the System

Tatiana and Caelan, shared good news from across the system on behalf of the DDSB students.

Schools across the District are hosting pop-up vaccine clinics to help hot spot communities roll up their sleeves. Pine Ridge, Dunbarton, and Valley Farm in Pickering, Bolton C. Falby in Ajax and Maxwell Heights in Oshawa have all helped community members get their shot.

We would like to congratulate two former Pickering high school graduates who are lending a helping hand. Zain Manji and Ashish Yelekar developed a tool where residents can text their postal code to a number and receive a response with the three closest vaccine clinics.

May is Speech, Language and Hearing Month, Inclusive Student Services is running a social media campaign to promote awareness, focusing on the professionals that parents and educators can use for support.

Two new DDSB schools are scheduled to open this September. Administrative staff at the new Unnamed North Whitby and new Unnamed North Ajax elementary schools are working hard to get the buildings ready to welcome students in the fall.

Children's Mental Health Week, May 3-7, 2021: Shaun Boothe, an award-winning hip-hop artist presented "Hope in Challenging Times". He invited everyone to find their greatness by opening their hearts to others, showing up for each other, and being "here for a cause, not applause".

The DDSB Mental Health and Well-Being team shared helpful resources with schools. Educators took part in a week of mental health activities focused on themes: Mindful Monday, Talk About It Tuesday, Wellness Wednesday, Thankful Thursday and Fitness Friday.

On May 6, 2021, schools participated in Shine Green for Mental Health by wearing green, a simple way to remember that student well-being and mental health is a priority.

The Durham Pride Prom took place virtually on May 7th. Each year the event provides an end-of-year celebration and graduation party for 2SLGBTQI students and their allies with the goal of promoting diversity and inclusiveness, while providing a safe space.

On April 28, 2021 J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate students, in the Musical Theatre program attended a national Town Hall with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland to highlight and advocate for the arts and culture. Grade 12 student Jasmine J. asked Prime Minister Trudeau a question on educational arts programs post-pandemic. Thank you to teacher Jeffrey White for organizing this opportunity.

Over 300 students in Grades 7 to 12 joined award-winning entrepreneur and trade industry ambassador Mandy Rennehan to explore the benefits of skilled trade jobs. Students learned from the DDSB Student Achievement and Curriculum Team, career pathways through the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, elementary and secondary Skills Ontario competitions, and achieving dual credits with the School-College-Work initiative.

The Positive School Climates department in partnership with local school Districts hosted "Questions About Drugs? Parents Ask the Experts"- a virtual panel discussion on substance use. Expert panelists emphasized the building of healthy relationships with parents, frequent and clear communication, and the role modelling of responsible and healthy substance use.

Brock High School recently hosted a digital wellness program with the help of the Pinewood Centre and Lakeridge Health, which provided remote learning support for 130 families.

The Early Years Team with childcare and EarlyON partners, hosted a virtual parent session for 230 incoming Junior Kindergarten families. Families asked questions and presenters shared learning opportunities for our youngest learners in preparation for September.

Dates of Significance: May and June

May	Asian Heritage Month
May	South Asian Heritage Month
May	Jewish Heritage Month
May	Dutch Heritage Month
May 18	French Immersion Information Night
May 19	Education Finance Committee Meeting
May 20	SEAC Meeting
May 23	Pentecost (Christianity)

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May 24	Victoria Day
May 26	Wesak (Buddhist)
May 28	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í)
June	National Indigenous History Month
June	Italian Heritage Month
June	Portuguese History and Heritage Month
June	Pride Month
June 2	Education Finance Committee Meeting
June 4	PA Day: all elementary schools only
June 7	Pentecost (Eastern Orthodox)
June 7	Standing Committee Meeting
June 16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev
June 17	SEAC Meeting
June 20	Litha (Wicca)
June 20	Father's Day
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 21	Board Meeting
June 22	Gahambar Madyoshem (Zoroastrianism)
June 24	St. Jean-Baptiste Day (Quebec)
June 27	Multiculturalism Day
June 28	Stonewall Rebellion Day

12. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2021

Trustee Christine Thatcher presented the Standing Committee meeting minutes of May 3, 2021.

The following resolution was passed at the Standing Committee on May 3, 2021.

THAT THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR BE APPROVED.

2021:RB54

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Scott Templeton

THAT THE BOARD NOW RECEIVE THE MINUTES AND APPROVE THE ACTIONS OF THE MAY 3, 2021 STANDING COMMITTEE AND ADOPT THE RESOLUTIONS THAT WERE PASSED.

CARRIED

(b) Motion: To Engage the Naming of Schools Policy and Strike a School Naming Committee

Trustee Niki Lundquist shared with trustees that pursuant to the recently amended DDSB Naming of Schools Policy and Procedure, the name of a school must promote a safe, equitable, welcoming, respectful and inclusive environment for teaching and learning. Concerns have been raised by staff, parents and students

about DDSB schools named after Sir John A. MacDonald and Julie Payette. The Policy and Procedure also require the Board to engage with communities, solicit input, and place value on community contributions in school naming.

2021:RB55

MOVED by Trustee Niki Lundquist
SECONDED by Chris Braney

THAT ONE OR MORE OF THE RENAMING CRITERIA SET OUT IN SECTION 5.4 OF THE POLICY ARE ENGAGED WITH RESPECT TO EACH OF JULIE PAYETTE PS AND SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD PS AND, THEREFORE, THAT A SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE BE ESTABLISHED FOR EACH SCHOOL TO CONSIDER POTENTIAL RENAMING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 5.1 AND 5.2 AND 5.3 OF THE POLICY AND THE TERMS OF THE NAMING OF SCHOOLS PROCEDURE.

CARRIED

2021:RB56

MOVED by Trustee Linda Stone
SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE MOTION BE AMENDED TO DIVIDE THE FOREGOING MOTION (2021: RB55) INTO TWO MOTIONS.

CARRIED

2021:RB57

MOVED by Trustee Niki Lundquist
SECONDED by Trustee Chris Braney

THAT ONE OR MORE OF THE RENAMING CRITERIA SET OUT IN SECTION 5.4 OF THE POLICY ARE ENGAGED WITH RESPECT TO JULIE PAYETTE PS, AND THEREFORE, A SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE BE ESTABLISHED TO CONSIDER POTENTIAL RENAMING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 5.1 AND 5.2 AND 5.3 OF THE POLICY AND THE TERMS OF THE NAMING OF SCHOOLS PROCEDURE.

CARRIED

2021:RB58

MOVED by Trustee Niki Lundquist
SECONDED by Trustee Chris Braney

THAT ONE OR MORE OF THE RENAMING CRITERIA SET OUT IN SECTION 5.4 OF THE POLICY ARE ENGAGED WITH RESPECT TO SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD PS, AND THEREFORE, A SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE BE ESTABLISHED TO CONSIDER POTENTIAL RENAMING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 5.1 AND 5.2 AND 5.3 OF THE POLICY AND THE TERMS OF THE NAMING OF SCHOOLS PROCEDURE.

CARRIED

(c) Trustee Expense Policy

Associate Director David Wright provided an overview of the updated draft policy that was presented and discussed at the April 6, 2021, Standing Committee meeting. Feedback was incorporated into the draft and presented to the Board of Trustees as a Notice of Motion for consideration at the April 19, 2021, Board meeting. It was noted that no feedback or input was received from stakeholders.

2021:RB59

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Scott Templeton

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE TRUSTEE EXPENSE POLICY.

CARRIED

(d) Community Use of Schools

Associate Director David Wright provided an overview of the revisions to the Community Use of Schools Policy that was presented to the Board of Trustees as a Notice of Motion for consideration at the April 19, 2021, Board Meeting. It was noted that no feedback or input was received from stakeholders.

2021:RB60

MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOLS POLICY.

CARRIED

(e) Former Ritson PS Circulation of Surplus Site Regulation

Associate Director David Wright introduced Chief Facilities Officer Christine Nancekivell who provided trustees with an update on the disposition of the Ritson PS site for information. The process for the circulation of the property commenced on April 20, 2021.

2021:RB61

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE FORMER RITSON PS CIRCULATION OF SURPLUS SITE REGULATION 444/98 REPORT THAT WAS PROVIDED TO TRUSTEES FOR INFORMATION BE RECEIVED.

RECEIVED

(f) Capital Priorities Program Report

Associate Director David Wright introduced Chief Facilities Officer Christine Nancekivell who provided an overview of the report for information of the Ministry of Education's recent request for capital projects, including childcare.

2021:RB62

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE CAPITAL PRIORITIES PROGRAM REPORT THAT WAS PROVIDED TO TRUSTEES FOR INFORMATION BE RECEIVED.

RECEIVED

13. Information Items

(a) Report: SEAC Meeting of March 18, 2021

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the SEAC meeting minutes of March 18, 2021.

OPSBA Report

Trustee Patrice Barnes provided trustees with an OPSBA update on the meeting that took place on May 20, 2021. Student Trustee Scholarship applications are now open. The application closing date is May 24, 2021.

Trustee Patrice Barnes shared the following motions and asked trustees for their feedback.

Be it resolved, that OPSBA advocate for the Ministry to provide school boards, with dedicated funding for an array of much needed supports best configured to meet each board's needs, including but not limited to:

- a. Additional teaching staff to provide immediate evaluation of learning gaps, using tools such as PM Benchmarks;
- b. Additional teaching staff to provide immediate remediation of identified learning gaps;
- c. Additional mental health staff to provide immediate mental health supports; and
- d. Additional funding for professional development for education staff to focus on gap closing and mental health supports.

15. Correspondence

- i. York Region District School Board
- ii. Thames Valley District School Board

The above correspondence was presented to trustees for the information.

16. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

17. Adjournment

2021:RB63

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Chair

Secretary