

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board Monday, December 4, 2023

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

1. Call to Order:

Chair Christine Thatcher called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Michelle Arseneault, Tracy Brown, Donna Edwards, Stephen Linton, Kelly Miller, Carolyn Morton, Deb Oldfield, Student Trustees Ben Cameron, Kayla Hoare (virtual), Neha Kasoju (virtual)

Regrets: Trustees Emma Cunningham, Shailene Panylo, Jill Thompson

Not in Attendance: Trustee Linda Stone

Officials Present: Director of Education and Secretary to the Board Camille Williams-Taylor, Associate Directors Jim Markovski and David Wright, Superintendents Gary Crossdale, Georgette Davis, Erin Elmhurst, Mohamed Hamid, Margaret Lazarus, Andrea McAuley, Heather Mundy, Stephen Nevills, Kandis Thompson, Executive Lead Robert Cerjanec, General Counsel Patrick Cotter

Recording Secretary: Kathy Fitzpatrick

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Christine Thatcher gave the Land Acknowledgment: 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.

3. O Canada

Trustee Stephen Linton introduced the video recording of O Canada performed by the Dunbarton High School students which included singers Grace and Avantika and pianist Allison.

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Trustee Tracy Brown welcomed and introduced teachers Lisa Beveridge and Denica MacDonald and the Grade 7 and 8 Stomp Group from Robert Munsch Public School, who shared an exciting rhythmic performance for trustees and staff.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

5. Adoption of Agenda

2023:RB112

MOVED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

SECONDED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

6. Minutes

2023:RB113

MOVED by Trustee Tracy Brown

SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

(a) THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

AND THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

(b) THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2023

(c) THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2023.

(d) THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2023.

(e) THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2023
ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING.

CARRIED

7. Ministry Memorandums-Information Update

Director Camille Williams-Taylor provided trustees with the following update:

Good evening and welcome to the final regular board meeting of the 2023 calendar year. As 2023 comes to a close in just a few short weeks, it's an ideal time to reflect on the first few months of the school year.

It has been my great pleasure this fall to be in schools visiting students and staff engaged in teaching and learning, and to have participated in events, observances and celebrations alongside families and our community.

As we navigate many topics in our school communities, our focus is on supporting the well-being of students and staff – working collaboratively to be proactive and responsive to the diverse needs of our community.

Last week the Ministry of Education announced the introduction of mandatory learning through Grade 10 Canadian History about the 1932-1933 Holodomor famine, or the Great Ukrainian Famine and its impact on the Ukrainian community in Canada. The new curriculum will be introduced in schools in September 2025.

I hope this holiday season, everyone in our community finds an opportunity, however big or small, to spend time with friends and loved ones, celebrating the things that are important and special to them.

8. Public Question Period

Dylan Reynolds joined the meeting virtually and asked a question regarding DDSB@Home. Staff responded to the question.

Devon McDonald submitted a question regarding public access to illness absence data, that was read into the record by staff. Staff responded to the question.

Camille Alli submitted a question regarding Dates of Significance, that was read into the record by staff. Staff responded to the question.

9. Report from the Committee of the Whole In Camera

Trustee Deb Oldfield reported that the Committee of the Whole met in closed session on December 4, 2023, and discussed matters involving;

Decisions in respect of negotiations with employees of the Board.

2023:RB114

MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE ACTIONS AND ADOPT ANY RESOLUTIONS OF THE DECEMBER 4, 2023, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION MEETING.

CARRIED

10. Good News from the System

Jayden and Ella from Dunbarton High School shared good news from across the system on behalf of DDSB students.

11. Recommended Actions

(a) Report and Adoption of Any Resolutions: Standing Committee Meeting
Minutes of November 6, 2023

Trustee Deb Oldfield brought forward two motions.

2023:RB115

MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

I MOVE THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE OCTOBER 16, AND NOVEMBER 20, 2023, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CLOSED SESSION MEETING.

CARRIED

Trustee Deb Oldfield shared with trustees the minutes of the November 6, 2023 meeting, the motion that was carried, and the resolution that was adopted at the Standing Committee meeting on November 6, 2023;

THE CREATION BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF AN ANTI-BLACK RACISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE. UNDER THE DDSB BYLAWS, AN ADDITIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CAN BE INITIATED BY A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. ADVISORY COMMITTEES PROVIDE PUBLIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD ON MATTERS OF POLICY AND CAN INCLUDE TRUSTEE AND/OR STAFF AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION/ STUDENT VOICE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE. SUCH A COMMITTEE MAY INVOLVE A SIGNIFICANT TIME COMMITMENT OF ANY DESIGNATED TRUSTEE(S).

2023:RB116

MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

SECONDED by Trustee Stephen Linton

I MOVE THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2023 AND ADOPT THE ABOVE RESOLUTION.

CARRIED

(b) Election of Ignite Durham Learning Foundation (IDLF), Trustee Representative

Chair Christine Thatcher called for nominations for the position of IDLF Trustee Representative.

2023:RB117

TRUSTEE DEB OLDFIELD NOMINATED TRUSTEE MICHELLE ARSENEAULT FOR THE POSITION OF IDLF TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE. TRUSTEE MICHELLE ARSENEAULT ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION.

2023:RB118

TRUSTEE DONNA EDWARDS SELF-NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF IDLF TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE.

Subsequent to three calls for additional nominations by Chair Christine Thatcher and there being none, nominations for the position of IDLF Trustee Representative were closed.

Trustee Michelle Arseneault was elected to the position of IDLF Trustee Representative.

13. Information Items

(a) Capital Priorities Program, 2023-2024 Submission

Associate Director David Wright introduced Head of Facilities Services Lisa Bianca who provided trustees with information on the project submissions for the Ministry of Education's 2023-2024 request for capital projects, including child care, submitted to the Ministry on October 20, 2023.

Trustee questions were answered.

(b) Unnamed North Oshawa PS-Boundary Review

Associate Director David Wright introduced Head of Facilities Services Lisa Bianca who provided trustees with information on the Public Consultation Process to establish boundaries for Unnamed North Oshawa Public School, located at Windfields Farm Drive West and Wintergrace Avenue. The boundary review is scheduled to commence December 2023 and is in accordance with the DDSB's School Boundaries Regulation. The Unnamed North Oshawa PS is currently under construction and is scheduled to open for the 2024–2025 school year.

Trustee questions were answered.

(c) Vincent Massey PS-Boundary Review

Associate Director David Wright introduced Head of Facilities Services Lisa Bianca who provided trustees with information on the public consultation and boundary review process for Vincent Massey Public School in accordance with the Durham District School Board's School Boundaries Regulation. A boundary revision at Vincent Massey PS is required due to ongoing accommodation pressures at the school.

The boundary review process is scheduled to begin December 5, 2023. The new Vincent Massey PS boundary would be effective for the 2024-2025 school year pending approval by the Board of Trustees at the conclusion of the boundary review process.

Trustee questions were answered.

- (d) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC Report, June 22, 2023, October 19, 2023)

Trustee Kelly Miller presented the SEAC meeting minutes to trustees for information.

Trustee questions were answered.

- (e) OPSBA Report

Trustee Donna Edwards, Kelly Miller and Student Trustee Ben Cameron provided trustees with an overview of the OPSBA meetings that took place November 25-27, 2023.

The Public Education Symposium registration is open for Trustees. The symposium is taking place on January 25-26, 2024.

14. Memos

The memos were shared with trustees for information.

15. Correspondence

The correspondence was shared with trustees for information.

16. Days of Significance

The dates of significance were shared with trustees for information.

17. Adjournment

2023:RB119
MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher
SECONDED by

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:31 p.m.



Chair



Secretary