

# REVISED APPROVED

## MINUTES

### The Regular Meeting of the Board

Monday, January 22, 2024

**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 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Michelle Arseneault, Tracy Brown, Emma Cunningham (virtual), Donna Edwards, Stephen Linton, Kelly Miller, Carolyn Morton, Deb Oldfield, Shailene Panylo (virtual, left 9:53 p.m.), Linda Stone (virtual, joined 7:11 p.m., left 10:13 p.m.), Student Trustee Ben Cameron

Regrets: Trustee Jill Thompson, Student Trustees Kayla Hoare, Neha Kasoju

Not in Attendance:

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

Recording Secretary: Gillian Venning

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 Carolyn Morton welcomed and introduced R H Cornish Principal Rachel Kennedy, teachers Leigh-Anne Harrington, Robin McKay and Michele Murphy,

community volunteers, cellist Wendy Reville and violinists Suzanne Garriock and Paul Grybas, along with the R H Cornish Junior/Intermediate Choir who performed their version of O Canada along with Winter Song in Three Parts.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

5. Adoption of Agenda

2024:RB01

MOVED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

6. Minutes

2024:RB02

MOVED by Trustee Stephen Linton

SECONDED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

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

(b) THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2023

(c) THE ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2023

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

AND THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

(e) THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 4, 2023

7. Ministry Memorandums-Information Update

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

Earlier this month Kindergarten registration for the 2024-2025 school year opened and remains ongoing. We encourage families with children turning 4 this year to visit our website to find out more about registration and the important information available to support families through the process.

Tomorrow evening the Refining My Pathway Planning for Grade 10 Virtual Information Session is taking place. The session will help students currently in Grade 9 and their families to be aware of all pathways and course options so they can intentionally plan for the remaining years of high school and beyond. For more information and to register for this session, please visit our website or social media posts.

The French Department is hosting a French Immersion Information Night on Thursday, February 1. The French Immersion program begins in Grade 1 and sets up students to become proficient and fluent in French. Sessions will take place in elementary schools around the District. Interested families can register with their child's current school.

At tonight's Board Meeting, we have a number of items on the agenda that highlight many different areas across the DDSB. In particular, the new Multi-Year Strategic Plan before the Board represents the collective work of trustees, staff, students and families in working together to develop a strategic direction for the DDSB in promoting Meaningful Learning, Connected Communities and Well-Being, with these strategic directions being guided through recognizing and upholding distinct Indigenous rights, affirming and upholding human rights and caring about and striving to know each other. The Ignite Learning Multi-Year Strategic Plan sets the direction for the work of the DDSB and guides our collective actions for ongoing student-centered improvement and success.

We are also sharing the Director's Annual Report this evening. It is in a new digital, web-based format to promote more engagement with the communities we serve in sharing the fantastic work that is taking place across the DDSB. We hope that trustees and members of the public find it refreshing and informative.

8. Public Question Period

Dylan Reynolds joined the meeting virtually and asked a question regarding school year calendars. Staff responded to the question.

Executive Lead Robert Cerjanec read a question from Mark Cowtan into the record regarding flags. 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 January 22, 2024, and discussed matters involving;

Decisions in respect of the acquisition or disposal of a school site.

2024:RB03

MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE ACTIONS AND ADOPT ANY RESOLUTIONS OF THE JANUARY 22, 2024, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION MEETING.

CARRIED

10. Good News from the System

Madison and Cameron from Uxbridge Secondary 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 January 8, 2024

Trustee Deb Oldfield brought forward two motions.

2024:RB04

MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

SECONDED by Trustee Stephen Linton

I MOVE THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE JANUARY 8, 2024 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CLOSED SESSION MEETING.

CARRIED

Trustee Deb Oldfield shared with trustees the minutes of the January 8, 2024 Standing Committee meeting and that the following motions were carried and resolutions adopted at the Standing Committee meeting on January 8, 2024;

THAT THE DDSB BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECOGNIZE IGNITE DURHAM LEARNING FOUNDATION (IDLF) AS THE CHARITY OF CHOICE FOR DDSB. THE DDSB WILL PROMOTE THE IDLF AS THE CHARITY OF CHOICE TO STAFF, STUDENTS AND ITS COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

And,

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ASK STAFF TO DEVELOP A PUBLIC MEMO ABOUT THE CREEKWOOD SCHOOL RELOCATION TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- WHAT CONCERNS DID THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT RAISE ON THE MOST RECENT REPORT?
- WHY CAN'T WE WAIT FOR THE NEXT SET OF RESULTS BEFORE COMMITTING TO THE RELOCATION?
- HOW THIS WILL REDUCE CROWDING AT NEIGHBOURING SCHOOLS?
- PROJECTED TIMELINES

2024:RB05

MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

SECONDED by Trustee Kelly Miller

I MOVE THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2024 AND ADOPT THE ABOVE RESOLUTIONS.

CARRIED

(b) Report and Adoption of Any Resolutions: Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, December 13, 2023

Trustee Emma Cunningham shared with trustees the resolutions that were adopted at the Governance and Policy Committee meeting on December 13, 2023 along with

proposed revisions to the applicable Board policies and Bylaws to support each resolution. At the request of the Chair, each motion coming forward from the Governance and Policy Committee was dealt with separately.

Rescission of Advocacy Policy

2024:RB06  
MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield  
SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESCIND THE ADVOCACY POLICY.

CARRIED

Revised Public Concerns Policy and Rescission of Regulation

General Counsel Patrick Cotter provided background on the proposed amendments to this policy.

Trustee questions were answered.

2024:RB07  
MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield  
SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AMEND THE PUBLIC CONCERNS POLICY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE REPORT PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE ON DECEMBER 13, 2023 AND THAT THE REGULATION BE RESCINDED.

CARRIED

Revised Consolidated Bylaws – Advisory Committees

2024:RB08  
MOVED by Trustee Tracy Brown  
SECONDED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AMEND SECTIONS 4.5.1 AND 4.5.2 OF THE CONSOLIDATED BYLAWS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE REPORT PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE ON DECEMBER 13, 2023.

CARRIED

Revised Consolidated Bylaws – Agenda Planning

2024:RB09  
MOVED by Trustee Tracy Brown  
SECONDED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AMEND SECTION 5.5.4 OF THE CONSOLIDATED BYLAWS TO INCLUDE THAT THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD HAS THE DISCRETION TO INVITE CHAIRS OF ANY COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD TO ATTEND ALL OR PART OF AN AGENDA PLANNING MEETING.

CARRIED

(c) Ignite Learning Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2024-2028

Director of Education Camille Williams-Taylor introduced Executive Lead Robert Cerjanec and external consultants Josh and Katie who have helped to guide trustees and staff over the past year on the path to development of the new Multi-Year Strategic Plan that included an extensive consultation process with all members of the DDSB community. Together they provided a presentation sharing information on the process through which the DDSB's new MYSP has been developed, culminating in the final draft report being presented for approval that is reflective of trustee, student, staff, family and community feedback and input. The final MYSP presentation includes a designed brochure outlining the new guiding principles, strategic priorities and strategic objectives that make up the MYSP.

Trustee questions were answered.

2024:RB10

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Shailene Panylo

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADOPT THE DDSB'S NEW IGNITE LEARNING MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE PERIOD OF 2024-2028.

The motion was carried on a recorded vote:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Michelle Arseneault		Jill Thompson	Linda Stone
Tracy Brown			
Emma Cunningham			
Donna Edwards			
Stephen Linton			
Kelly Miller			
Carolyn Morton			
Deb Oldfield			
Shailene Panylo			
Christine Thatcher			
<u>Student Trustees</u>			
Ben Cameron		Kayla Hoare	
		Neha Kasoju	

(d) Potential Renaming of Lord Elgin Public School

Superintendent Stephen Nevills shared that a School Naming Committee was

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established in response to community member questions around the appropriateness of maintaining the use of Lord Elgin's name given that there are historical connections to Lord Elgin's support of the creation of the residential school system. The School Naming Committee engaged in a community consultation process leading to the recommendation to rename Lord Elgin Public School to Ontario Street Public School, the top choice of three proposed names that were put forward for consideration by the School Naming Committee.

Trustee questions were answered.

2024:RB11

MOVED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

SECONDED by Trustee Emma Cunningham

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHANGE THE NAME OF LORD ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOL AND SELECT THE FIRST CHOICE OF THE SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE, ONTARIO STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL AS THE NEW NAME OF THE SCHOOL.

Student Trustee Ben Cameron suggested that the above motion be divided into two parts, first to address that the name be changed, and second to confirm the new name.

2024:RB12

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHANGE THE NAME OF LORD ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The motion was carried on a recorded vote:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Michelle Arseneault	Linda Stone	Jill Thompson	
Tracy Brown			
Emma Cunningham			
Donna Edwards			
Stephen Linton			
Kelly Miller			
Carolyn Morton			
Deb Oldfield			
Shailene Panylo			
Christine Thatcher			

Student Trustees

Ben Cameron

Kayla Hoare  
Neha Kasoju

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2024:RB13

MOVED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

SECONDED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SELECT THE FIRST CHOICE OF THE SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE, ONTARIO STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL AS THE NEW NAME OF THE SCHOOL.

The above foregoing motion was voted on after the following motion was dealt with as it took precedence.

2024:RB14

MOVED by Trustee Shailene Panylo

SECONDED by Trustee Emma Cunningham

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REFER CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL PROPOSED NAME OPTIONS BACK TO THE SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE.

Student Trustee Cameron called a point of order, noting that the above motion does not align with the Naming of Schools Policy.

General Counsel Patrick Cotter advised the Board that in accordance with the Naming of Schools Policy, the Board does not need to approve the first choice recommendation of the School Naming Committee, but that the Board is tasked with selecting one of the names on the list of three recommendations from the Committee given that the Board has decided to change the name of the school.

The motion was ruled Out of Order by the Chair.

The Chair called a recess at 8:59 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:10 p.m.

2024:RB13

MOVED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

SECONDED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SELECT THE FIRST CHOICE OF THE SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE, ONTARIO STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL AS THE NEW NAME OF THE SCHOOL.

The motion was carried on a recorded vote:

Yes

Tracy Brown  
Emma Cunningham  
Donna Edwards  
Kelly Miller  
Carolyn Morton  
Deb Oldfield

No

Michelle Arseneault  
Linda Stone  
Stephen Linton

Absent

Jill Thomson

Abstain

Shailene Panylo



Student Trustees

Ben Cameron

Kayla Hoare

Neha Kasoju

2024:RB15

MOVED by Trustee Shailene Panylo

SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REFER THE SCHOOL NAMING POLICY TO THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER PROVIDING MORE FLEXIBILITY TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WHEN A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE COMES FORWARD.

CARRIED

(e) School Year Calendar: April 2024 PA Day

Associate Director Jim Markovski shared that there is a solar eclipse taking place on April 8, 2024 and staff are recommending that the April 19 PA Day be moved to April 8. This recommendation is a proactive measure to support the safety and well-being of students, staff and families as dismissal time across DDSB schools coincides with the period of the eclipse, including the peak period of darkness which is expected to occur at approximately 3:20 p.m. It was noted that this solar event represents a learning opportunity and the Health and Safety department will provide educational resources to schools to support learning connected to the curriculum and that will outline safety tips related to the event.

Trustee questions were answered.

2024:RB16

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE MOVING THE SCHEDULED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY FROM APRIL 19, 2024 TO APRIL 8, 2024.

CARRIED

13. Information Items

(a) Director's Annual Report - 2023

Director of Education Camille Williams-Taylor shared that in accordance with the Education Act, school boards are required to annually present a report to the Board sharing highlights of events and activities of the preceding 12 months which is then submitted to the Minister of Education. This year, the DDSB has moved the Director's

Annual Report to a digital, web-based version and the full report is available at <https://www.ddsbannualreport.ca/>.

Trustee questions were answered.

(b) Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS) Annual Report

Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS) Chief Administrative Officer Kelly Mechoulan joined the meeting and shared a presentation providing background on the partnership of DSTS that is made up of DDSB and DCDSB and summarizing the 2022-2023 year and providing highlights, including the implementation of bell time changes, key statistics and the pilot implementation of the MTransport application.

Trustee questions were answered.

2024:RB17

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Stephen Linton

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE EXTENDING THE MEETING TO 10:30 P.M.

CARRIED

(c) Quarterly Construction and Major Projects Progress Report

Associate Director David Wright introduced Head of Facilities Services Lisa Bianca who provided trustees with an update on the status of construction and major projects as of December 31, 2023. Updates to this report are provided to trustees on a quarterly basis (January, March, June and September), and will be posted on the Board's website. As part of this report, a detailed appendix was included outlining school development history in Pickering, particularly the Tillings Road and Dersan Street school site and the recent decision of the District to move the Unnamed Pickering "Creekwood" school to the nearby Coughlan site.

Trustee questions were answered.

(d) 2023-2024 Interim Financial Report – Q1

Associate Director David Wright introduced Senior Manager of Finance Jennifer Machin who provided trustees with an update on enrolment information and budget changes as part of the 2023-2024 Revised Estimates as well as operating expenditures at November 30, 2023 (Quarter 1).

(e) 2023-2024 Supplementary Funds Summary

Associate Director David Wright introduced Senior Manager of Finance Jennifer Machin who provided trustees with an update on the Supplementary Funding that has been announced or received to date for 2023-2024 through Priorities and Partnerships Fund grants, most of which are provided to school boards through the Ministry of Education.

(f) Governance and Policy Committee Report, September 27, 2023

Trustee Emma Cunningham shared the approved minutes of the Governance and Policy Committee meeting of September 27, 2023.

(g) Trustee Attendance Records

Chair Christine Thatcher shared the annual trustee attendance records for the period of November 6, 2022 to November 20, 2023 in accordance with the Board's Bylaws.

A correction was made to the attendance record of the November 6, 2023 Committee of the Whole In Camera meeting pertaining to Trustee Kelly Miller.

(h) Trustee Expenses 2022-2023

Associate Director David Wright provided the annual report of trustee expenses for the period of November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2023 in accordance with the Trustee Expenses Policy and Procedure.

(i) Director's Performance Appraisal Report

Trustee Carolyn Morton shared appreciation on behalf of the Director's Performance Review Committee and noted that the Director of Education performance review is now complete and the most recent version of the Director's contract has been posted to the DDSB website. The next task of this committee is to develop an updated job profile for the Director of Education.

(j) OPSBA Report

Trustee Donna Edwards shared that the OPSBA Public Education Symposium is taking place on January 25-26.

Trustee questions were answered.

14. Memos

The memo was 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

2024:RB18  
MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

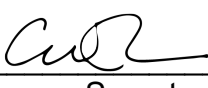
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THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:25 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary