



APPROVED Minutes – Special Governance and Policy Committee Meeting Monday, February 5, 2024 8:00 p.m., Hybrid

1. Call to Order

Trustee Kelly Miller, Committee Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:07 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Michelle Arseneault, Tracy Brown, Emma Cunningham, Donna Edwards, Stephen Linton, Carolyn Morton, Deb Oldfield, Shailene Panylo, Christine Thatcher, Student Trustees Ben Cameron, Kayla Hoare, Neha Kasoju

Regrets: Trustee Jill Thompson

Not in Attendance: Trustee Linda Stone

Staff Present: Director of Education Camille Williams-Taylor, Associate Director's Jim Markovski and David Wright, General Counsel Patrick Cotter, Executive Lead Robert Cerjanec, Policy Analyst Ahmad Khawaja (virtual)

Recording Secretary: Gillian Venning

2. Land Acknowledgment

Trustee Kelly Miller gave the Land Acknowledgement: 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. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Trustee Shailene Panylo

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Minutes – December 13, 2023

MOVED by Trustee Shailene Panylo

THAT THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2023 GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING BE APPROVED.

An error was noted in the December 13, 2023 draft minutes related to discussion of the proposed rescission of the Accessible Customer Service Policy at the Special Education Advisory Committee prior to its presentation to the Governance and Policy Committee. The draft minutes are to be revised and presented for approval at the next meeting of the Governance and Policy Committee meeting.

6. Recommended Actions

(a) Draft Policy: Board Self-Assessment

Board Chair Christine Thatcher introduced the report and draft policy, noting that its purpose is to establish a process through which the Board of Trustees can evaluate its own performance and set a proactive framework to support the Board's commitments to ethical leadership and continual growth to increase performance and foster public confidence. It was noted that the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) professional development program for trustees, specifically Module 21 which is appended to the report, confirms that undertaking an annual self assessment is a well researched best practice for an effective board. Under the proposed terms of the draft policy, the existing Terms of Reference of the Director's Performance Review Committee are to be expanded to include the Board's self assessment and the process will result in an annual Self-Assessment Report.

General Counsel Patrick Cotter highlighted provisions of the draft policy.

Trustee questions were answered.

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Tracy Brown

THAT THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES THAT THE BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT POLICY BE ADOPTED AND THAT THE MATTER PROCEED TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR CONSIDERATION.

The above foregoing motion was not voted on as the following motion was moved and took precedence.

MOVED by Trustee Tracy Brown

SECONDED by Trustee Stephen Linton

THAT CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT POLICY BE DEFERRED TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE.

CARRIED

7. Adjournment

MOVED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.