

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board Monday, December 2, 2024

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

1. Call to Order:

Chair Tracy Brown called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Michelle Arseneault, Emma Cunningham, Donna Edwards, Mark Jacula, Stephen Linton, Kelly Miller, Carolyn Morton, Deb Oldfield, Shailene Panylo, Christine Thatcher, Student Trustees Kayla Hoare, Nitishan Poopalasundaram

Regrets: Student Trustee Shampavi Vijayakumar

Officials Present: Director of Education Camille Williams-Taylor, Associate Director David Wright, Superintendents Michael Bowman, Georgette Davis, Erin Elmhurst, Mohamed Hamid, Margaret Lazarus, Stephen Nevills, Andrea McAuley, Heather Mundy, Martine Robinson, Kandis Thompson, General Counsel Patrick Cotter, Senior Manager Dervla Kelly, Head of Facilities Lisa Bianca

Recording Secretary: Gillian Venning

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Tracy Brown gave the Land Acknowledgment: the Durham District School Board acknowledges that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with the territories upon which our school board and schools are located. Today, this area is home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. 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

Trustees Christine Thatcher and Michelle Arseneault welcomed and thanked Captain Michael VandenBos Public School students and staff for their performance of O Canada.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

5. Adoption of Agenda

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MOVED by Trustee Shailene Panylo

SECONDED by Trustee Stephen Linton

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

6. Proposed Consent Items

As there were no objections, the following proposed consent items were approved and adopted:

- (a) Approval of meeting minutes:
 - i. DRAFT Minutes of the October 21, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
 - ii. DRAFT Minutes of the November 18, 2024 Special Board Meeting
 - iii. DRAFT Minutes of the November 18, 2024 Organizational Meeting
- (b) Adoption of the following Resolution of the October 30, 2024 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, which the Committee Recommended to the Board:
 - i. Resolution #1: That the Board Adopt the Revised Director of Education Performance Appraisal Policy
- (c) Adoption of Any Resolutions from the In Camera, Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 2, 2024.

7. Public Question Period

Dylan Reynolds joined the meeting virtually and asked a question regarding bell times. Staff responded to the question.

Karthik Tandri joined the meeting in person and asked a question about Transgender Awareness Week. Staff responded to the question.

Jessica Street joined the meeting in person and asked a question about the role of Superintendents of Equitable Education. Staff responded to the question.

Linda Stone joined the meeting in person and asked a question about school block budgets and the Ignite Durham Learning Foundation. Staff responded to the question.

Jessica Wilkins joined the meeting in person and asked a question about learning resource materials. Staff responded to the question.

Staff read and responded to a question submitted by Kellie Lynn Pirie regarding gender identities.

Staff read and responded to a question submitted by Janice Strasbourg regarding reading opportunities for public engagement in DDSB processes.

8. Ministry Memorandums/Information Update

Director Camille Williams-Taylor shared the following Multi-Year Strategic Plan update:

Meaningful Learning

November saw the launch of our 30 Credits My Way campaign and website. The campaign highlights existing best practices from across the system to support students and families with planning for future success. 30 Credits My Way puts students and families in the driver's seat, empowering them to navigate their high school pathway with confidence. We know that for some, the journey isn't just linear. It's about discovering the many options available to suit individual learning styles and aspirations. These are opportunities that have been a part of the available suite of options for many years, and many of our staff have been using this flexible programming approach for students for a long time. 30 Credits My Way is an effort to ensure that this becomes a system wide approach to familiarize all of our secondary students, staff and families with the many possibilities for building their path through secondary school. Stay tuned for more information shared through social media, on school webpages and at family events throughout the system.

Connected Communities

Updates to the DDSB Parent/Guardian Guide to IPRC in Spring 2024 were made to amplify the importance of student voice and parent/guardian consultation throughout program planning and decision making. To increase accessibility to the Guide, an accompanying presentation with voiceover was created, with consultation with SEAC, and will be shared for use by school teams and families in Winter 2025 as the cycle of annual IPRCs begins.

Well-Being

Throughout the consultation process and development of the Anti-Oppression Strategy and its supporting documents such as the Compendium of Action for Black Student Success 2.0 and the Compendium of Action to Support 2SLGBTQIA+ Students, Staff and Families several of the priorities directly link to igniting well-being. Major elements of these documents that reflect this are:

- Support mental health and well-being for all identities
- Cultivating safe working and learning environments
- Creating accessible learning opportunities

Each of these documents provides the system with intentional goals, actions and considerations that can be implemented. As a department, our approach will be to continue to work with the interdepartmental teams (facilitators and coaches) to ensure that these practices are known, shared and implemented when supporting educators in schools. Tonight, you will hear about the work to develop the Compendium of action for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, students and staff. While this work definitely represents our commitment to anti-oppression, this impact of this work is to galvanize a sense of

well-being by affirming identity and being deliberate in cultivating environments for learning and work where 2SLGBTQIA+ children, youth and community feel safe, and truly know that they matter to their classroom communities, teams, friends and co-workers each and every day.

9. Good News from the System

Emaan and Yasmine from Brock High School shared good news from across the system on behalf of DDSB students.

10. Recommended Actions

(a) SEAC Membership Motion: Member at Large

Trustee Kelly Miller introduced the recommendation of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

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MOVED by Trustee Kelly Miller

SECONDED by Trustee Michelle Arseneault

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE SEAC RECOMMENDATION THAT CANDIDATE JESSICA WELLS BE APPROVED AS REPRESENTATIVE FOR MEMBER AT LARGE.

CARRIED

(b) Items Removed from the List of Consent Items

There were no items removed from the List of Consent Items.

11. Information Items

(a) Redesignation of Growth Update

Associate Director David Wright introduced Head of Facilities Lisa Bianca who provided an overview of the ongoing growth across Durham Region and the annual review undertaken to identify partner schools and establish or relocate growth boundaries to accommodate growth from future developments in the north Pickering Seaton and north Oshawa areas.

Trustee questions were answered.

(b) Audit Committee Meeting Summary

Associate Director David Wright provided an overview of the actions of the November 18, 2024 meeting of the Audit Committee.

There were no Trustee questions.

(c) Audit Committee External Member – Term of Appointment

Associate Director David Wright provided an overview of the report, which outlines the process and timeline to fill an upcoming External Member vacancy on the Audit Committee.

There were no Trustee questions.

(d) 2SLGBTQIA+ Compendium of Action

Superintendent Margaret Lazarus provided an overview of the report and introduced DDSB staff Craig Bonikowsky, Stephanie Jerva, James Klodnicki, Chris Mackey and Tara Sarre who presented the 2SLGBTQIA+ Compendium of Action. The Compendium provides actions and considerations for staff to use in classroom, school and system practices in support of students, staff and families who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+ as part of DDSB's ongoing commitment to identifying, addressing and dismantling oppression within the District.

Trustee questions were answered.

(e) Report: Approved September 25, 2024 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Trustee Kelly Miller shared the minutes and provided an overview of discussion that took place at the September 25, 2024 Governance and Policy Committee meeting.

There were no trustee questions.

(f) Report: Approved October 3, 2024 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Trustee Kelly Miller shared the minutes provided an overview of discussion that took place at the October 3, 2024 SEAC meeting.

There were no Trustee questions.

(g) OPSBA Report

Trustee Donna Edwards shared highlights of the November 29 and 30 OPSBA Board of Directors meeting and upcoming OPSBA-organized events and meetings.

There were no Trustee questions.

12. Memos

(a) 2425:56, Dates of Significance

The memo was shared for information. There were no Trustee questions.

13. Dates of Significance

The dates of significance were shared for information.

Regular Meeting of the Board Minutes

December 2, 2024

14. Adjournment

2024:RB70

MOVED by Trustee Emma Cunningham

SECONDED by Trustee Deb Oldfield

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:34 p.m.



Chair



Secretary