

# APPROVED

## MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Durham District School Board was held this date in the Board Room, Education Centre, 400 Taunton Road East, Whitby.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney, Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Darlene Forbes, Carolyn Morton, Ashley Noble, Scott Templeton, Christine Thatcher, Student Trustees Sally Meseret, Tyler West

Regrets: Trustee Niki Lundquist, Student Trustee Arlene Wang

Officials Present: Associate Director Norah Marsh, Interim Associate Director Carla Kisko, Superintendents Georgette Davis, Margaret Lazarus, Jamila Maliha, Jim Markovski, Andrea McAuley, Heather Mundy, Stephen Nevills, General Legal Counsel Patrick Cotter, Human Rights Equity Adviser Devika Mathur, Communications Manager, Peter Blake, Communications Officer Charles Senior

Regrets: Director Lisa Millar, Superintendents Mohamed Hamid, Silvia Peterson

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Chair Chris Braney advised that 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 (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.

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4. O Canada

5. Sinclair S.S.

Trustee Scott Templeton welcomed the Sinclair S.S. Guitar Ensemble. The group performed three selections entitled "YMCA," "Skyfall," and "Locked Out of Heaven." Trustee Scott Templeton congratulated the group, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

2020:44

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

The agenda was amended by removing Item 13. (f).

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED

2020:45

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2019; AND

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 2, 2019.

CARRIED

7. Community Presentations

There were no community presentations at this time.

8. Ministry Memorandums – Information

Acting Director Norah Marsh advised trustees that the Ministry of Health is conducting consultations on modernizing public health and emergency health services through a discussion paper and questionnaire. The district will be participating as the relationship with public health is very important.

9. Public Question Period

- (i) Natalie Dixon, Oshawa asked what efforts are being made to recruit more minority teachers. Especially those from the Black community.

Acting Director Norah Marsh indicated that hiring practices are dictated through collective bargaining agreements and provincial legislation.

Superintendent Jim Markovski advised that the district seeks a variety of opportunities to diversify employee groups. The Human Resources Department includes an optional form allowing external candidates the opportunity to self identify. An evening is provided for external indigenous and racialized leaders, and members of the community are also engaged, to provide information about the board and assistance in preparing for opportunities. There is a variety of racialized and indigenous activities. The district is bound by a hiring process regulation. The new teacher induction programs and professional learning sessions demonstrate that new hires come from a diversity of backgrounds. He noted that it is important that students see a variety of identities in their learning spaces.

10. Presentations

- (i) Anti-Black Racism Strategy

Superintendent Margaret Lazarus highlighted for trustees, the implementation of Durham District School Board's Anti-Black Racism Strategy. She introduced Merrill Mathews, Equity & Diversity Officer, Lauren Bliss, Principal, Jeanne Sauvé P.S., Stephanie Spencer, Principal, Gordon B. Attersley P.S. and Alyson van Beinum, Vice Principal, Pine Ridge S.S. who provided trustees with a PowerPoint overview highlighting how their schools deal with contemporary issues and engage in unique anti-black racism opportunities. They described the impact of the various strategies used in their schools and classrooms. Students from Jeanne Sauvé P.S. shared an initiative from their school. They also answered questions of trustees.

- (ii) Contextualizing the Skilled Trades for DDSB Students Through Experiential Learning

Superintendent Stephen Nevills introduced Kim Stuart, Student Success Officer who provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting current Student Success curricular and extra-curricular experiential learning opportunities for DDSB students, teachers and families to support pathway planning for the skilled trades and apprenticeships. Trustees watched a video of inspiring moments of students, staff and families engaged in pathways to Specialist High Skills Major, OYAP and Skills Canada competitions. She also answered questions of trustees.

11. Report from the Committee of the Whole in Camera

Trustee Christine Thatcher reported on the actions of the Committee of the Whole in Camera. Trustees dealt with personnel issues and property matters.

2020:46

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

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

CARRIED

12. Good News from the System

Acting Director Norah Marsh introduced Carla Kisko, Interim Associate Director, Corporate and Devika Mathur, Human Rights Advisor and welcomed them both to the District.

Students Alexander Gallimore and Bianca Fiore, Grade 12 students from Sinclair S.S. narrated the following Good News from the System on behalf of the students and staff of the DDSB:

- A cold winter day warmed up quickly as Special Olympic students from various Ajax elementary schools entered Bolton C. Falby Public School to welcoming cheers. Over 30 staff, and 18 student volunteers helped to facilitate Special Olympic activities for student athletes. Some of the activities included block bowling, soccer, and an obstacle course.
- On the Monday before Bell Let's Talk Day, students and staff proudly raised the Bell Let's Talk flag at Clara Hughes Public School in Oshawa. The flag was gifted to the school from Canadian Olympian Clara Hughes and Bell Canada, along with toques for all students and staff at the school.
- The Safe Schools department also hosted a lunch and learn entitled "*Let's Start a Conversation About Mental Health*". Steffanie Pelleboer, the DDSB's Mental Health Leader, shared insightful advice for creating and maintaining mentally healthy communities.
- The Paint the Town Red contest began this past November, and led up to the Rogers Hometown Hockey event which took place on December 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at Iroquois Park in Whitby. The Town of Whitby encouraged community members to decorate their school, home, or work environments with a red Hometown Hockey theme. Dr. Robert Thornton Public School staff and students were congratulated on winning first place in the school category. E.A. Fairman Public School who took second place honours, and Captain Michael VandenBos Public School who came in third were also congratulated.

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12. Good News from the System (Continued)

- Allison Kivi, a Grade 10 student at Ajax High School, will have her original logo design worn by hundreds of students in Europe this spring. Allison won a contest through the educational tour company Explorica, whereby she was tasked with creating a logo for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands. Her design portrays Canada and the Netherlands standing proudly together. Students participating in this year's European trip will receive sweatshirts adorned with Allison's logo.
- Eastdale CVI student Mamanar Diasse, a Grade 12 student, is in pursuit of a scholarship worth up to \$100,000 to support her post-secondary studies. Mamanar was one of 88 students chosen in the national selections finals for the Loran Scholars Foundation Awards. The award includes tuition waivers from a partner university, mentorship, summer-internship funding, and more. Mamanar has already received admission to the University of Ottawa to study International Studies in Modern Languages. Her ultimate goal is to work for the United Nations in human rights and international development.
- Robert Felix was thanked on behalf of all DDSB schools in the community of Port Perry. Mr. Felix has been a crossing guard at schools in the Port Perry community and most recently at Prince Albert Public School. After working for 34 years as a machine operator, Mr. Felix jumped into a new career, escorting students across the street for the last 25 years. After helping students for more than two decades Mr. Felix will once again be retiring.
- Teacher Jada Temple and students at J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate recently started their own Well-Read Black Girl Book Club. The first book on the docket was *Frying Plantain* by Zolika Reid-Benta, an award-winning Toronto-based author. The book club was ecstatic to have Zolika join them and share her experiences growing up as a Canadian with Jamaican heritage. The original Well-Read Black Girl Book Club was started in 2015. The goal is to provide a space for Black women and girls to connect through reading and writing.

Dates of Significance:

Feb. 18-21	Random Acts of Kindness Week
Feb. 18	Board Meeting
Feb. 20	Special Education Advisory Committee Mtg
Feb. 25	Regional SCC Meeting
Feb. 26	Ash Wednesday
Feb. 26	Pink Shirt Day
March	Bangladeshi Heritage Month
March	Social Work Month
March 2	Standing Committee Meeting
March 2	Frist Day of Lent (Orthodox)
March 8	International Women's Day
March 9	Holi

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12. Good News from the System (Continued)

March 9	Concours d'art oratoire
March 13-20	March Break
March 17	Irish Heritage Day
March 20-21	Now Ruz
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day
March 23	Board Meeting
March 26	SEAC Meeting
March 26	International Epilepsy Awareness Day
March 31	Ontario Secondary Schools Literacy Test

13. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2020

Trustee Christine Thatcher presented the Standing Committee Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2020.

2020:47

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2020  
BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(b) Report: SEAC Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2019

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the SEAC Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2019.

2020:48

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Michael Barrett

THAT THE SEAC MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2019 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(c) School Year Calendar 2020-2021

Superintendent Jim Markovski introduced Paul Brown, Operations Officer who provided trustees with an overview of the 2020-2021 School Year Calendars.

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(a) School Year Calendar 2020-2021 (Continued)

2020:49

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Scott Templeton

THAT THE FOLLOWING CALENDARS BE APPROVED:

- (a) THE PROPOSED REGULAR SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS;
- (b) THE PROPOSED REGULAR SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS;
- (c) THE PROPOSED MODIFIED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR C.E. BROUGHTON P.S., AND WINCHESTER P.S.;
- (d) THE PROPOSED MODIFIED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR BROCK H.S., HENRY STREET H.S, AND MAXWELL HEIGHTS S.S.; AND
- (e) THAT THIS INFORMATION BE FORWARDED TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION BY MARCH 1, 2020 FOR ALL FOUR SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS SUCH THAT THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD IS COMPLIANT WITH THE RESPECTIVE DEADLINES AS OUTLINED IN REGULATION 304.

CARRIED

(b) Purchasing Regulation #3310 Update

Interim Associate Director Carla Kisko provided trustees with information regarding the proposed revisions of the DDSB Purchasing Regulation #3310.

2020:50

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE REVISIONS TO DDSB PURCHASING REGULATION BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

(c) Notice of Motion: Service Animals in Schools Policy

Superintendent Andrea McAuley provided trustees with an overview of the Service Animals in Schools Policy and presented the following Notice of Motion:

THAT THE USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS POLICY BE APPROVED.

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(f) Notice of motion: Dress Code Policy Update

This item was removed from the agenda earlier in the meeting.

14. Information Items

(a) Trustee Expenses

Interim Associate Director Carla Kisko provided trustees with information regarding the annual reporting of Trustees Expenses, in accordance with Board Policy and Regulation #4135: Trustee Expenses. She also answered questions of trustees.

(b) Incident Ad Hoc Committee Data Update

Trustee Donna Edwards provided trustees with an update of the work completed by the Incident Ad Hoc Committee from June 2019 to February 2020. She also answered questions of trustees and a discussion ensued.

2020:51

MOVED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

SECONDED by Trustee Ashley Noble

THAT TRUSTEES ASK FOR A REPORT ON THE EFFICACY OF THE CURRENT MEASURES ADOPTED TO ADDRESS VIOLENT INCIDENTS IN ORDER TO DETERMINE IF THOSE MEASURES ARE MEETING THE OBJECTIVES OF BOARD POLICIES INCLUDING PROVIDING A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF WORKING IN DDSB SCHOOLS.

MOTION DEFEATED ON A TIE VOTE

15. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested

There was no correspondence at this time.

(b) Other

(i) Minister of health and Long-Term Care

The correspondence was listed for the information of trustees.

16. Other Business

There was no Other Business at this time.



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18. Adjournment

2020:52

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:11 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary