

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Special Meeting of the Board

November 2, 2020

A Special Meeting of the Durham District School Board was held on this date in the Boardroom.

1. Call to Order:

Roll Call: Trustee Chris Braney, Chair of the Board

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney, Paul Crawford (virtual), Donna Edwards, Darlene Forbes, Carolyn Morton, Scott Templeton (virtual), Christine Thatcher

Regrets: Trustee Niki Lundquist

Officials Present: Acting Director Norah Marsh, Associate Director David Wright, Acting Associate Director Jim Markovski, Superintendents Gary Crossdale, Georgette Davis, Erin Elmhurst, Mohamed Hamid, Margaret Lazarus, Andrea McAuley, Heather Mundy, Stephen Nevills, Jack Nigro, General Counsel Patrick Cotter, Communications Staff Robert Cerjanec

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2020:142

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Report from Committee of the Whole In-Camera

Trustee Christine Thatcher reported on the actions of the Committee of the Whole in Camera. Trustees dealt with appointments, personnel issues and employee relations issues.

2020:143

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

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

CARRIED

Chair Chris Braney made the following statement:

“I am pleased to share with the public that following a national search, the Board of Trustees have appointed Norah Marsh as the next Director of Education for the Durham District School Board. I know she is a familiar face to those of you who have watched these board meetings over the course of this year as the Acting Director of Education.

Norah has a long history as an advocate for public education and as an innovative change agent, relying upon her executive experience with two other Eastern Ontario school boards and as the CEO of a provincial Crown Agency. This experience has served us well since joining the DDSB a year ago. Norah has exemplified educational leadership and has skillfully led the district during this period of immense change in the middle of a global pandemic.

Staying true to her reputation, she has created an authentic, collaborative culture in partnership with the entire senior team – we are all looking forward to seeing what they will accomplish together. In addition, her unrelenting focus on equity, inclusion, student engagement, well-being, and achievement will serve the communities of the Durham District School Board well.

I know I speak on behalf of the Board of Trustees when I say that we look forward to continuing to work with you to advance our strategic priorities and support the diverse needs of all students. Congratulations Norah”.

Director Norah Marsh expressed extreme gratitude to the senior team as they have worked so well together in this time. She thanked trustees for their trust in her leadership and noted that she does not take it lightly. She highlighted the incredible staff in the district and is thrilled about what everyone will accomplish together. She expressed gratitude to the senior team and noted her affection for them considering what they have gone through together. She is grateful for the opportunity.

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5. Adjournment

2020:144

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Michael Barrett

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:32 p.m.

Chair

Secretary