

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Monday, November 16, 2020

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

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney (attended at 7:10 p.m. and left at 8:35 p.m.) Paul Crawford (virtual), Donna Edwards, Darlene Forbes, Niki Lundquist, Carolyn Morton, Scott Templeton, Christine Thatcher, Student Trustees Aaliyah Jaleel, Logan Keeler, Arpita Savaliya

Officials Present: 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, Legal Counsel Patrick Cotter, Communications Officer Robert Cerjenec

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence/Acknowledgement

Acting Chair Niki Lundquist advised that 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.

4. O Canada

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5. Adoption of Agenda

2020:145
MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes
SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

2020:146
MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes
SECONDED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2020;

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2020;

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2020; AND

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2, 2020.

CARRIED

6. Community Presentations

There were no community presentations at this time.

7. Ministry Memorandums – Information

Director Norah Marsh provided trustees with an overview of recent Ministry Memoranda. She noted the memorandum released on November 4, 2020 regarding the draft PPM on Teacher Hiring Practices. Superintendent Heather Mundy will present a full report on the analysis of staff that has been completed. Amendments to O. Reg. 463/97 (Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance) to address Board member physical attendance requirements and public electronic access were released on November 6, 2020. The changes are effective immediately and extended to November 30, 2021.

8. Public Question Period

Director Norah Marsh advised that two public questions were received.

Dylan Reynolds asked if there is a possibility of an extended winter break and if there will be extracurricular activities in school.

Director Norah Marsh advised that there has been some conversation at the ministry in terms of a potential extended winter break. It is the Ministry of Education's decision in terms of school calendar. The conversations have been very preliminary along with the notion of doing a compulsory week of virtual learning following the winter break. It has been identified to the Ministry of Education that compulsory virtual learning would present challenges given the shortage of technology distribution provincially and worldwide. If schools are not open, we recognize that staff with young children or children with developmental needs that require supervision presents a challenge in doing 220 minutes of synchronous learning. There is no additional information currently, but the Minister of Education is considering that potential.

Acting Associate Director Jim Markovski advised that information regarding extracurricular activities is located within our reopening of schools academic guiding principles, Section 12. Our stance currently, which has been informed with consultation with the medical officer of health, is that no extracurricular or inter-school activities will be running until we have stronger confidence that they will not pose a risk to students. When a decision is made to relax guidelines and extracurricular activities can proceed, communication will go out to all staff outlining guidelines for physical distancing and other requirements at that time.

9. Presentations

(a) Volunteer of Distinction

Superintendent Heather Mundy provided trustees with information on the Volunteer of Distinction 2020. Trustees viewed a video that recognized the Volunteers of Distinction virtually by celebrating school volunteers who work collaboratively to support success for all students and recognized the value of volunteers in schools. The Parent Involvement Committee will provide each school with a certificate and gift for their Volunteer of Distinction

(b) Treaties Recognition Week

Acting Superintendent Erin Elmhurst shared with trustees highlights of Treaties Recognition Week, November 2 – 6, 2020 and the current work being done to support treaty education as we continue to respond to Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) Calls to Action and deepen our system commitment to reconciliation. She introduced Denise Nickerson, Education Officer, Michelle Evans, Indigenous Facilitator and Jennifer Henderson, Indigenous Coach who provided trustees with a PowerPoint overview of the deepening of our systemic commitment to reconciliation and decolonization through a commitment to the land

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(b) Treaties Recognition Week (Continued)

acknowledgement procedure, professional development and Treaties Recognition Week, and videos and resources to support treaty education across the system. Trustees viewed a short video depicting student voice from DDSB@Home on what it means to have a treaty. Acting Superintendent Erin Elmhurst also answered questions of trustees.

10. 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 administrative transfers and placements, personnel issues, and employee relations issues.

2020:147

MOVED by Trustee Christine thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

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

CARRIED

11. Good News from the System

Zaid and Samantha, Grade 12 students from Eastdale CVI, on behalf of the students and staff at the DDSB, shared the good news from across the system via video.

Over the past few months, secondary schools have been hosting virtual and drive-through commencement ceremonies for the 2020 graduates. With health and safety in mind, staff and administration at secondary schools made sure each student received the full graduation experience.

50 Second World War model planes were recently donated to Brock High School to help teach us about history. The model planes are exact replicas of ones flown during the war. They were donated by local community member and parent Peter Dauncey to help students recognize the enormous sacrifices made by Canadians and veterans from the Township of Brock.

Parents and Guardians enjoyed a webinar focused on School Community Councils, communication and collaboration, and helpful tips for managing stress. The Parent Involvement Committee plans to host more webinars like this throughout the school year.

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11. Good News from the System (Continued)

The Indigenous Education and Equity departments helped schools and students understand Treaties Recognition Week from November 2nd to 6th. Louis Riel Day was acknowledged on November 16th with the raising of the Métis flag. The events are helping to introduce and honour the importance of Treaties, Treaty rights and relationships.

The Pickering High School community banded together to host a spooky Hungry for Halloween Food Drive. Donations went to the Salvation Army House of Hope Food Bank in Ajax. The community showed up, and the drive collected 4,500 food items, \$2,700 in cash and \$540 in gift cards.

Emmanuel Rogerson, a student at Sinclair Secondary School was inspired to research the Canadian Hearing Society after meeting a customer who was deaf at his workplace. Emmanuel was awarded a \$1,250 Youth Philanthropy Initiative grant that will go to the Canadian Hearing Society.

On November 11th, DDSB schools and staff at the Education Centre took time to acknowledge and remember those who served, and are serving, our country.

Students from Sinclair Secondary School's History, Civics, and Law classes received a special visit from the Ontario Regimental Museum. Students were excited to see two historical light armored military vehicles from their collection for the school's Remembrance Week activities.

Dunbarton High School has won the School Spirit Award for the Ontario Student Leadership Conference. Dunbarton's awesome students participated in the virtual Canada-wide student leadership conference and came out on top. Fellow students and teachers Christina and Jonathan Demaray were congratulated for organizing this amazing opportunity.

The Province of Ontario has announced that DDSB will receive \$14.3 million to build a brand-new school in North Oshawa! This new school will be a welcome addition to the expanding North Oshawa neighbourhoods. The school will have 536 new elementary students, 73 newly licensed child care spaces and four child care rooms.

Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week runs from November 15th to 21st. The Safe Schools Department has developed a guide for schools to run their own engaging and inclusive forums. The forums will focus on difficult issues related to bullying and speaking up for yourself and your peers through discussion, games and activities.

In preparation for Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week, Grade 8 students at Westcreek Public School designed impressive and meaningful "graffiti" artwork outside on the school wall. The artwork illustrates their knowledge of anti-Black racism and bullying awareness that students have been learning about.

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11. Good News from the System (Continued)

Dates of Significance:

Nov. 18	Educational Assistants' Appreciation Day
Nov. 19	SEAC Meeting
Nov. 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance
Nov. 24	Parent Involvement Committee Meeting
Nov. 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
Nov. 28	Holodomor Memorial Day
Nov. 29	First Day of Advent
Nov. 30	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji
Dec. 1	World Aids Day
Dec. 2	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
Dec. 3	International Day for Disabled Persons
Dec. 7	Standing Committee Meeting/Board Elections
Dec. 8	Bodhi Day
Dec.10	Human Rights Day
Dec. 11-18	Hanukkah
Dec. 17	SEAC Committee
Dec. 18	Last day of classes
Dec. 21- Jan 3	Holiday Break
Dec. 21	Board Meeting
Dec. 21	Winter Solstice
Dec. 21	Yule
Dec. 21	Tohji-Tasai
Dec. 25	Christmas
Dec. 26	Boxing Day
Dec. 26-31	Kwanzaa
Jan. 1	New Years

12. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting Minutes of November 2, 2020

Trustee Christine Thatcher presented the Standing Committee meeting minutes of November 2, 2020.

2020:148

MOVED by Trustee Chris Braney

SECONDED by Trustee Michael Barrett

THAT STAFF PURSUE THE AVENUE OF TERMINATION THROUGH A REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE TERMINATION OF AN EDUCATOR THROUGH SECTION 263 OF THE EDUCATION ACT.

CARRIED

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(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting Minutes of November 2, 2020 (Continued)

2020:149

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

THAT THE BOARD ESTABLISH AN APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE WITH THE AUTHORITY VESTED UNDER BY-LAW 8 TO MAKE A DECISION.

CARRIED

2020:150

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Scott Templeton

THAT THE BOARD EXTEND THE IGNITE LEARNING STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE PERIOD OF TWO YEARS UNTIL JUNE 2023.

CARRIED

2020:151

MOVED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE BOARD DIRECT STAFF TO WRITE A LETTER TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REQUESTING THAT THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD BE ALLOCATED A PROPORTIONAL ALLOTMENT OF FUNDING THAT AROSE FROM THE \$50M OF THE FEDERAL FUNDS TO ADEQUATELY BACKSTOP COVID RELATED EXPENSES.

CARRIED

2020:152

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Michael Barrett

THAT THE OPSBA NON-VOTING DIRECTOR BECOME THE VOTING DIRECTOR IN THE ABSENCE OF THE VOTING DIRECTOR; AND

THAT THE ALTERNATE OPSBA DIRECTORS ARE ELECTED AT LARGE AND ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY ELECTED AS VOTING DIRECTOR ALTERNATE AND NON-VOTING DIRECTOR ALTERNATE.

CARRIED

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- (a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting Minutes of November 2, 2020 (Continued)

2020:153

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

THAT THE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2, 2020 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

- (b) Report: SEAC Meeting of September 17, 2020

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the SEAC meeting minutes of September 17, 2020.

2020:154

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE SEAC MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

- (c) Clara Hughes P.S. Enrolment Update

Associate Director David Wright introduced Christine Nancekivell, Chief Facilities Officer who provided trustees with information to commence a boundary review for Clara Hughes P.S. as outlined in the Accommodation Plan 2020-2024: Trends, Issues and Future Opportunities document.

2020:155

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

THAT TRUSTEES DELAY AN ACCOMMODATION SOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE ENROLMENT PRESSURES AT CLARA HUGHES P.S.; AND

THAT STAFF PROVIDE AN UPDATED ACCOMMODATION SOLUTION TO TRUSTEES IN SPRING 2021.

CARRIED

- (d) Eagle Ridge P.S., Towne Manors Development, Town of Ajax

Associate Director David Wright welcomed Christine Naneckivell who provided trustees with information to commence a boundary adjustment for Eagle Ridge P.S., Ajax, as

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(d) Eagle Ridge P.S., Towne Manors Development, Town of Ajax (Continued)

outlined in the Accommodation Plan 2020-2024: Trends, Issues and Future Opportunities document.

2020:156

MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE FAMILIES, EAST OF CHURCH STREET, INCLUDING THE TOWNE MANORS DEVELOPMENT, WHO PURCHASED A HOME PRIOR TO JUNE 1, 2019 CONTINUE TO ATTEND EAGLE RIDGE P.S., AND THAT THERE BE NO BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT TO EAGLE RIDGE P.S.

CARRIED

(e) Treasurer of the Board

General Counsel Patrick Cotter provided trustees with an overview of the Education Act requirements regarding the role of Treasurer of the Board. He also answered questions of trustees.

2020:157

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Scott Templeton

THAT THE BOARD APPOINT DAVID WRIGHT, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AS TREASURER OF THE BOARD, EFFECTIVE AS OF NOVEMBER 16, 2020.

CARRIED

(f) Financial Process and the 2019/2020 Financial Report

Associate Director David Wright introduced Melissa Durward, Senior Manager, Business who provided trustees with information to approve the 2019-2020 Financial Report.

2020:158

MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE 2019-2020 FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD, INCLUDING TRANSFERS TO AND FROM INTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS, BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

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(g) Trustee Appointment Ad Hoc Committee

Acting Chair Niki Lundquist noted that the Board passed a motion establishing an Appointment Ad Hoc Committee with the authority vested under By-law #8 to make a decision. Trustees confirmed that they are available Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. to determine the process it intends to adopt.

(h) Director Performance Review Ad Hoc Committee Report

Trustee Christine Thatcher advised trustees that the Committee has completed its mandate. In particular, the committee prepared a draft policy governing the Director's Performance review which it recommended that the Board adopt. The Board accepted the Committee's recommendation and adopted the *Director Performance Review Policy* at the Board meeting held on July 8, 2020. That Policy is publicly available on the Board's website.

In addition, the committee prepared a template Employment Contract for the Director of Education. That template was recommended to and used by the Board as the basis for the contract that the Board entered into with the Director of Education. Under the *Director Performance Review Policy*, that contract will be publicly available on the Board's website.

The committee also prepared a draft of the Director's position profile and reviewed potential service providers to perform the external consultant functions as stipulated in the Director Performance Review Policy. Under the Director Performance Review Policy, a committee is to be established to, amongst other things, oversee the selection of the external consultant and to work with the consultant and the Director of Education to prepare the Director of Education Position Profile and Objectives document.

All trustees are eligible to sit on the review committee and trustees confirmed that they do wish to form part of the committee.

2020:159

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

THAT A COMMITTEE BE ESTABLISHED TO, AMONGST OTHER THINGS, OVERSEE THE SELECTION OF THE EXTERNAL CONSULTANT AND TO WORK WITH THE CONSULTANT AND THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION TO PREPARE THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION POSITION PROFILE AND OBJECTIVES DOCUMENT; AND

THAT THE BOARD DIRECT THE COMMITTEE TO DELIVER ANY INFORMATION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR ITS CONSIDERATION.

CARRIED

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(i) Notice of Motion: Trustee Accommodation Policy

General Counsel Patrick Cotter provided trustees with information regarding a Notice of Motion and recommendation on trustee accommodation. He also answered questions of trustees.

2020:160

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

SECONDED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

THAT THE TRUSTEE ACCOMMODATION POLICY BE ADOPTED AS OUTLINED
IN APPENDIX 'A'.

CARRIED

(j) Governance Report

Trustee Carolyn Morton advised that the Committee met on October 26, 2020. The Committee continued its work on an updated Trustee Code of Conduct and on a Consolidated By-Law.

The Committee also considered the issue of Trustee distribution under by-law #9 which was first referred to the committee by the Board on November 18, 2019.

At the meeting of October 26th, the committee affirmed that the requirement for amending by-laws is previous notice and a 2/3 vote. The committee also considered whether the board breached by-law #9 by determining the distribution of trustees in March 2018 on a majority vote rather than a 2/3 basis. The committee concluded that there was no breach.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the committee that the Board affirm that the requirement for amending by-laws is previous notice and a 2/3 vote.

The Committee's next meeting is November 23, 2020, where it will continue work on an updated Trustee Code of Conduct and on a consolidated By-Law.

2020:161

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

THAT THE BOARD AFFIRM THAT THE REQUIREMENT FOR AMENDING BY-LAWS
IS PREVIOUS NOTICE AND A 2/3 VOTE.

CARRIED

Trustee Paul Crawford requested that the second motion considered at the Governance Ad Hoc Committee meeting of October 26, 2020 also be considered this evening.

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(j) Governance Report (Continued)

Acting Chair Niki Lundquist confirmed that the Governance Ad Hoc Committee affirmed the content of the by-law and that trustees did not find there to be a breach. It was confirmed that the Governance Ad Hoc Committee meeting minutes of October 26, 2020 will be presented to Board for receipt.

2020:162

MOVED by Trustee Darlene Forbes

SECONDED by Trustee Michael Barrett

THAT THE BOARD RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE AD HOC COMMITTEE AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

(k) Trustee Distribution

This item was discussed as part of the foregoing item.

13. Information Items

(a) PPM – Teacher Hiring Practices

Superintendent Heather Mundy introduced Lisa Coppins, Senior Manager, Human Resources Services and they provided trustees with an update on the development and implementation plan of the new PPM on Teacher Hiring Practices. Director Norah Marsh, Superintendent Heather Munday and Lisa Coppins answered questions of trustees

(b) Transportation – DSTS Annual Report

Kelly Mechoulan, Chief Administrative Officer, DSTS provided trustees with the 2019-2020 Durham Student Transportation Services annual report. She also answered questions of trustees.

(c) COVID Testing – School Protocols

Acting Associate Director Jim Markovski provided trustees with an overview of COVID testing and school protocols. He noted the guidance and direction provided to public health units by the Ministry of Health in terms of legislative and policy oversight. He highlighted the key responsibilities of the public health units and school boards/school administrators and provided detailed information relating to Public Health: Case and Contact Management/Outbreak Management and Surveillance and School Boards: Assisting Public Health Units in Case Investigation. He advised that the district has a positive working relationship with Durham Region Public Health and joint efforts have been both collaborative and constructive. He also answered questions of trustees.

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(c) COVID Testing – School Protocols (Continued)

2020:163

MOVED by Trustee Niki Lundquist

SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE BOARD REQUEST THE DIRECTOR TO CONSULT WITH THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH REGARDING THE INCREASED NUMBER OF CASES IN DURHAM AND THE CHANGING TRAJECTORY OF COVID CASES IN THE PROVINCE AS IT RELATES TO ADOPTING FURTHER STEPS TO ADDRESS SAFETY FOR STUDENTS.

CARRIED

14. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested

(b) Other

(i) Township of Scugog

The correspondence was listed for the information of trustees.

15. Other Business

There was no Other Business at this time.

16. Adjournment

2020:164

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:08 p.m.

Chair

Secretary