

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board Tuesday, October 18, 2021

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

1. Call to Order:

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

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Darlene Forbes, Niki Lundquist, Linda Stone, Scott Templeton, Christine Thatcher, Student Trustees James Kay, De-Mario Knowles, Kayla Malcolm

Regrets: Trustee Chris Braney

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

Recording Secretary: Kathy Fitzpatrick

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence/Acknowledgement

Chair Carolyn Morton 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. It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we teach, learn and live.

4. O Canada

5. Adoption of Agenda

2021:RB90

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Scott Templeton

THAT THE AGENDA BE AMENDED TO ADD TRUSTEE DETERMINATION AND DISTRIBUTION REGULATION TO THE AGENDA UNDER 16. (a) OTHER BUSINESS.

2021:RB91

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Niki Lundquist

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED

CARRIED

6. Minutes

2021:RB92

MOVED by Trustee Scott Templeton

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

(a) REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2021

(b) SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2021

(c) SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

(d) REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

CARRIED

7. Community Presentations

There were no community presentations at this time.

8. Ministry Memorandums-Information Update

Director Norah Marsh provided trustees with an update on the following items:

Elementary Progress Reports: The Durham District School Board will be distributing elementary progress reports from November 9-11, 2021. Staff

continue to make sure that they engage students in all subject areas during the instructional day, as they recognize that there have been limited opportunities in subjects such as the arts, technology and physical education during the pandemic.

Cyber Awareness Month: October is cyber awareness month in the education sector. Staff continue to work with the Ministry of Education in our cyber protection efforts in support of safety and security. The District will continue with these strategies throughout the year.

International Assessments: The Ministry of Education has asked EQAO, to once again coordinate International Assessments in Ontario. Staff will not be administering assessments this year given the shortage of staff, additional layers of responsibility related to pandemic management, and our focus on supporting students who are required to write the OSSLT in-person, even when they are learning virtually.

Changes to the Education Act: The government introduced Bill 13, Supporting People and Business Act, 2021 (Bill 13) for first reading on October 7, 2021. As part of this Bill, the term of a new board during a municipal election would begin on November 15 instead of December 1 beginning in the fall of 2022.

Rapid Tests: The Ministry is committed to providing rapid tests for schools through Public Health Units when students are asymptomatic. Staff are still working through what it may look like for Durham. One challenge that the Durham Regional Health Department has shared is that the kits are not assembled, and they do not have the staff available to do that function. The Ministry of Education suggested that school staff could assemble the kits. Given the additional burdens on school staff with pandemic management and daily reporting to the Ministry, that is not a feasible solution. Staff will continue to problem solve with the desire to make this available for interested students.

Menstrual Products: The Ministry of Education has partnered with Shoppers Drug Mart to provide an allocation of menstrual products for the next three years to address some of the inequities associated with menstruation. The allocation is based on students aged 13 to 18.

Last year this Board responded to a student presentation outlining period poverty and supported the provision of menstrual products for all elementary and secondary schools. While the Ministry's announcement is welcomed in terms of students aged 13 and older, it does not assist us with the provision to students under the age of 13.

Trustee questions were answered.

9. Public Question Period

Dylan R., a student of DDSB presented a question virtually and staff responded.

Akuah Frempong, a community member presented a question virtually and staff responded.

10. DDSB Presentations

There were no DDSB presentations at this time

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 meeting and confirmed that the following matters were discussed: The disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the Board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian and employee relations issues.

2021:RB93

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

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

CARRIED

12. Good News from the System

Michael and Sara, students from Brooklin High School shared good news from across the system on behalf of DDSB students.

The Town of Ajax Anti-Black Racism Task Force's Diversity Xchange Speaker Series welcomed DDSB Principal Eleanor McIntosh and Superintendent Margaret Lazarus to speak about helping community members navigate the school system. The event provided a positive space to facilitate thought-provoking discussions to help address and understand anti-Black, systemic and institutionalized racism.

On September 9, 2021, Dunbarton High School unveiled two new murals in the school library from community artists and DDSB alumni. These murals are aimed at students seeing themselves reflected on the walls of their school. Jon Colwell's Indigenous mural and Jeffery Laine's Black history mural is one way that Dunbarton High School is reinforcing its values of equity for all and their commitment to allyship for their entire student community.

As we recognized Orange Shirt Day and the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, students and staff across the DDSB wore orange shirts, social media accounts posted important messaging, and flags were lowered to commemorate and recognize Residential School Survivors. Schools engaged in

learning about the residential school system and the ongoing impacts of colonization. The Indigenous Education Department continues to support Indigenous students, caregivers, and staff.

Student finalists for the annual DRPS Police Chief for a Day.

The finalists are as follows:

- Sofia, Walter E. Harris Public School
- Connor, William Dunbar Public School
- Anuva, Alexander Graham Bell Public School
- Izzy, DDSB@Home Virtual School
- Hayley, David Bouchard Public School

Bryson from S.A. Cawker Public school won the Junior Fire Chief contest in the Township of Scugog for his great work about fire alarms.

National Custodial Workers' Day was October 2, 2021. Students and staff from across the DDSB expressed gratitude for the amazing custodial teams. Thank you for keeping our schools clean and safe each and every day!

On October 5, 2021, administrators and students showed their appreciation for teachers on World Teachers' Day. Messages of gratitude were shared with educators for their ongoing support, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you to our excellent teachers, for all that you do!

To support Franco-Ontarian Day, staff provided resources and information to school administrators. Every school received a Franco-Ontarian desk flag to proudly display within their building. A range of resources were provided, including a school copy of the book *Les visages de la Francophonie: Region de Durham*, written by Durham Region resident Suzanne Kemenang. This book shines a spotlight on the Francophone community in Durham, which is over 10,000 people strong.

Here are some of the ways that DDSB students and staff support our community!

Keaton from Ormiston Public School organized a Fall Food Drive for his school community, along with friends Bobby and Alan! More than 2,000 non-perishable donations were collected in support of Feed the Need in Durham.

Uxbridge Secondary School is lending a helping hand to community members by launching a Refugee Clothing Drive.

Staff and students at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Public School recently launched their 'Socktober' campaign to collect and donate new pairs of socks to Oshawa community shelters including Denise House, The Refuge, Cornerstone, and LIFE.

Schools across DDSB organized their own Terry Fox inspired events to raise money for cancer research and support Terry's message of hope. Students from coast to coast in Canada had the opportunity to virtually meet Fred Fox – Terry's brother, as he helped kick off events for the Terry Fox Foundation.

We would also like to take this time to congratulate Grade 7 student Andrea from Gandatsetiagon Public School. Andrea is twelve and recently teamed up with a partner to place first at the under twelve Canadian National Tennis Championship. Way to go Andrea!

Dates of Significance:

Oct. 18	Birth of the Bab (Bahai)
Oct. 18	Eid-Milad-un-Nabi (Islam)
Oct. 21	Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting
Oct. 22	Early Childhood Educators' Appreciation Day
Oct. 27	Ontario Dress Purple Day
Oct. 31	Samhain (Wicca)
Oct. 31	Halloween
November	Albanian Heritage Month
	Hindu Heritage Month
Nov. 1	All Saints Day (Christianity)
Nov. 2-6	Treaties Recognition Week
Nov. 3	Take Our Kids to Work Day
Nov. 3-5	English as a Second Language Week
Nov. 4	Diwali (Hindu)
Nov. 6	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh (Bahá'í)
Nov. 8	Indigenous Veterans Day
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Nov. 16	Louis Riel Day
Nov. 17	EA Appreciation Day
Nov. 19	Guru Nanak Jayanti (Sikhism)
Nov. 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance
Nov. 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
Nov. 26	Holodomor Memorial Day
Nov. 28	First day of Advent (Christianity)
Nov. 30	Giving Tuesday
Nov 29-Dec 6	Hanukkah (Jewish)

Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2021

The following motions were carried, and the resolutions were adopted at the Standing Committee meeting during closed session on October 4, 2021. It was noted that the motions contained within the Standing Committee meeting minutes of October 4, 2021 are approved as part of the minutes.

2021:RB94

MOVED by Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

IT IS RECOMMENDED BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXTEND THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES ON THE AUDIT COMMITTEE TO A TWO-YEAR TERM TO PROVIDE CONSISTENCY TO THE COMMITTEE, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2022.

IT IS RECOMMENDED BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXTEND THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES CURRENTLY ON THE AUDIT COMMITTEE BY ONE ADDITIONAL YEAR TO PROVIDE CONSISTENCY TO THE COMMITTEE AND ALIGN TO PROVINCIAL ELECTED TERMS.

That the Board receive the minutes and approve the actions of the October 4, 2021 Standing Committee, including during closed session, and adopt the resolutions that were passed.

CARRIED

13. Information Items

(a) Audit Committee Summary, September 2021

Trustee Michael Barrett provided trustees with an overview of the Audit Committee public minutes for the meeting held on September 29, 2021.

(b) Annual Audit Committee Report to the Ministry of Education

Associate Director David Wright shared with trustees an overview of the Annual Audit Committee Report to the Ministry of Education, for the year ended August 31, 2021.

(c) Annual Audit Committee Report to the Board of Trustees

Associate Director David Wright shared with trustees the duties performed by the Durham District School Board's Audit Committee for the year ended August 31, 2021.

(d) Bell Time Review

Associate Director David Wright introduced Chief Administrative Officer of Durham Student Transportation, Kelly Mechoulam who provided trustees with information on the Regional Bell Time Review. Trustee questions were answered.

(e) Discussion of Vaccination Policy

Chair Carolyn Morton introduced the agenda item that was in response to the direction of trustees requesting that a public discussion take place on whether to or not to mandate COVID 19 vaccinations. A trustee discussion took place.

(f) Report: SEAC Meeting of June 17, 2021

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the SEAC meeting minutes of June 17, 2021.

OPSBA Report

Trustee Patrice Barnes provided a brief update on the upcoming OPSBA meetings.

Donna Edwards provided more information with regards to the 2022 Trustee Elections.

15. Correspondence

(a) Other:

- i. Avon Maitland District School Board
- ii. Halton District School Board (2 Letters)
- iii. Keewatin Patricia District School Board
- iv. Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
- v. Thames Valley District School Board (2 Letters)
- vi. Waterloo Region District School Board

The above correspondence was presented to trustees for information.

16. Other Business

(a) Trustee Determination and Distribution Regulation

Trustee Donna Edwards provided an overview of the Trustee Determination and Distribution Regulation and noted that trustee elections are in October of 2022.

2021:RB95

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Linda Stone

TO WRITE A LETTER TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THE MOST RECENT REGISTER OF VOTERS IS USED BY MPAC TO CALCULATE THE MOST RECENT TRUSTEE DETERMINATION NUMBERS FOR THE DDSB AND THAT WE ARE PROVIDED THE TRUSTEE DETERMINATION NUMBERS AND A CALCULATION NO LATER THAN THE FEBRUARY 15, 2022 DEADLINE.

CARRIED

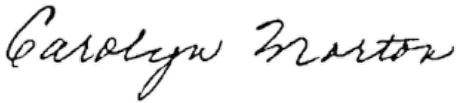
17. Adjournment

2021:RB96

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.



Chair



Secretary