

**Report of the Durham District School Board
Standing Committee Public Session
January 9, 2023**

The hybrid regular meeting of the Standing Committee of the Durham District School Board was held on this date.

1. Call to Order:

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

Roll Call: Chair Christine Thatcher

Members Present: Trustees Michelle Arseneault, Tracy Brown, Emma Cunningham, Donna Edwards, Stephen Linton, Kelly Miller, Carolyn Morton, Deb Oldfield, Shailene Panylo, Linda Stone

Officials Present: Director of Education and Secretary to the Board Camille Williams-Taylor, Associate Director David Wright, Superintendents Gary Crossdale, Erin Elmhurst, Mohamed Hamid, Margaret Lazarus, Andrea McAuley, Heather Mundy, Stephen Nevills, Kandis Thompson, Executive Lead Robert Cerjanec, General Counsel Patrick Cotter

Recording Secretary: Kathy Fitzpatrick

2. Land Acknowledgement

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. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

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4. Motion to Approve the Agenda

2023:SC01

MOVED by Trustee Emma Cunningham

SECONDED by Stephen Linton

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

5. Welcome to Director of Education

Chair Donna Edwards welcomed Camille Williams-Taylor to the DDSB as the new Director of Education and Secretary to the Board.

Director Williams-Taylor expressed that it is an honour to return to the Durham District School Board that she looks forward to working with the Board of Trustees, staff, students, parents/guardians, and community partners over the coming years as Director of Education.

6. DDSB Presentations

Superintendent Margaret Lazarus introduced Principal Nazneen Dindar and Willows Walk staff who shared the *Willow Walk Public School Community Celebration* Video with trustees.

Trustee questions were answered.

7. Recommended Actions

There were no recommended actions at this time.

8. Information Items

(a) Student Trustee Report

Student Trustees Ben Cameron, Gwen Kuyt and Lauren Edwards provided the following update:

On December 19, 2022, the third Student Senate meeting took place. Guest speakers included Mental Health Lead Steffanie Pelleboer, Superintendent Mohamed Hamid and Human Rights and Equity Advisor Devika Mathur. Senators received insights into DDSB's Human Rights Policy, the upcoming Student Census and the Mental Health Symposium which will be held in May 2023.

The Student Senate passed a resolution, condemning comments made and shared by a Trustee about transgender people on social media and also standing in solidarity with the transgender community. It is important that those in positions

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of power are held accountable for their actions, including what they say, share, and promote online. Words can do real harm and the Student Senate would like to continue to promote a message of collaboration and healing across the system and in the community.

Student trustees shared that they are looking to amend the Student Trustee election process to ensure representation of all secondary students in Durham. The Student Senate has been consulted during the process and the final draft has been completed.

Trustee questions were answered.

(b) OPSBA Report

Trustee Emma Cunningham provided a brief update for trustees.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this time.

10. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

10. Adjournment

2023:SC02

MOVED by Chair Christine Thatcher

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 p.m.



Chair



Secretary