



## **DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

#### **EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION**

**Tuesday, June 3, 2025**

Chair: Carolyn Morton

Vice-Chair: Donna Edwards

Recording Secretary: Kristin Talbot

**DATE:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Board Room with Virtual/Hybrid Option

**ATTACHMENTS:** Agenda

**Copies to:**

All Trustees

Director of Education

All Superintendents



**Durham District School Board**  
**Education Finance Committee Meeting**  
**PUBLIC AGENDA**

Tuesday, June 3, 2025  
6:30 p.m.  
Board Room with Virtual/Hybrid Option

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|  | <u>Presented By</u> | <u>Page</u>  |
|--|---------------------|--------------|
| 1. Call to Order   | Chair Morton        | Verbal       |
| 2. Land Acknowledgement  | Chair Morton        | Verbal       |
| 3. Declarations of Interest  | Chair Morton        | Verbal       |
| 4. Motion to Approve the Agenda  | Chair Morton        | Verbal       |
| 5. Motion to Approve the April 15, 2025 Education Finance Committee Public Meeting Minutes | Chair Morton        | 1 - 2        |
| 6. Public Deputation   |                     |              |
| a. Kristine Brown, representing CUPE 218   |                     | 3            |
| 7. Summary of Changes to the 2025-2026 Funding Model and the Impact to Revenue             | D. Wright           | Presentation |
| 8. Written Submission  |                     |              |
| a. Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee  |                     | 4 - 5        |
| 9. Other Business  | Chair Morton        | Verbal       |
| 10. Adjournment  | Chair Morton        |              |



## Durham District School Board

### Education Finance Committee Meeting

### DRAFT MINUTES

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A public meeting of the Education Finance Committee was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Morton called the meeting to order at approximately 6:31 p.m.

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Committee Members Present:</b>     | Trustees - Michelle Arseneault, Tracy Brown, Donna Edwards, Kelly Miller, Carolyn Morton, Christine Thatcher (virtual)   |
| <b>Committee Members Regrets:</b>     | Trustee Emma Cunningham  |
| <b>Non-Committee Members Present:</b> | Trustees – Mark Jacula (virtual), Stephen Linton (virtual), Deb Oldfield   |
| <b>Officials Present:</b>             | Director of Education Camille Williams-Taylor; Associate Director Jim Markovski, Associate Director David Wright; Superintendents Lauren Bliss, Michael Bowman, Erin Elmhurst, Mohamed Hamid, Margaret Lazarus, Andrea McAuley, Heather Mundy, Stephen Nevills, Martine Robinson, Head of Facilities Services Lisa Bianca, Senior Manager Melissa Durward, Senior Manager Dervla Kelly, Senior Manager Jennifer Machin |
| <b>Recording Secretary:</b>           | Kristin Talbot   |

#### 2. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Morton gave the 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 (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.

#### 3. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

#### 4. Motion to Approve the Agenda

Chair Morton advised that Jessica Wells was not present for the SEAC public deputation, and that Eva Kyriakides would be joining Tara Culley.

**MOVED** by Kelly Miller

That the agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**5. Motion to Approve the June 5, 2024 Education Finance Committee PUBLIC Meeting Minutes**

**MOVED** by Donna Edwards

That the minutes be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6. Public Deputations**

Public deputations were made to the Committee by the following:

- a. Carrie Boisvert and Kristine Brown, representing of Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 218
- b. Tara Culley and Eva Kyriakides, representing Special Education Advisory Committee

**7. Written Submissions**

A written deputation was submitted to the Committee by the following:

- a. Shane Stagg and Kristen Bennett, representing Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation, D13

**8. Draft Budget Process**

Associate Director Wright provided a presentation to outline the process to get to the approval of the 2025-2026 budget, highlighting the process and the roles and responsibilities for all those involved.

It was noted that the Core Education Funding announcements have not yet been provided by the Ministry of Education, and the Education Finance Committee meeting dates may need to be adjusted accordingly.

A discussion ensued and questions were responded to.

**9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**10. Next Public Meeting Date**

May 13, 2025

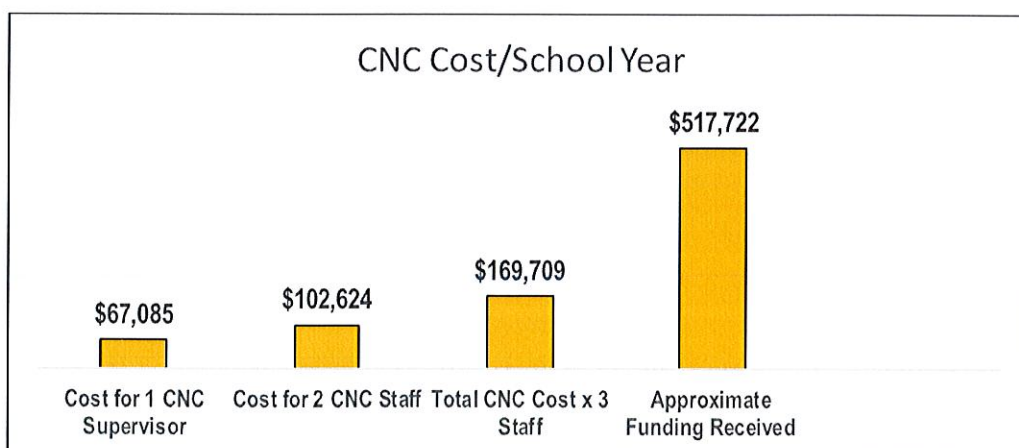
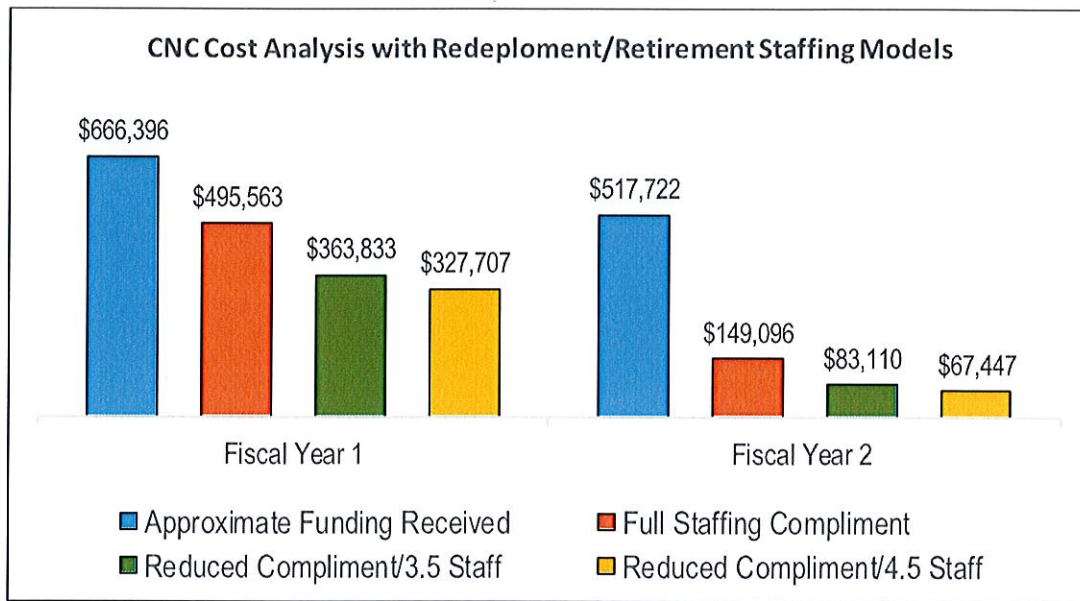
**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:14 p.m.

Carolyn Morton  
Chair of the Committee

## Cost Analysis Summary: Care for Newcomer Children (CNC) Program

- **Federal Funding Availability:** Current federal funding is sufficient to sustain the CNC program under both existing and redeployment/retirement staffing models.
- **Long-standing Demand:** The CNC program has supported newcomer families for over 30 years, demonstrating sustained demand and a vital role in settlement services.
- **Support for Language Acquisition:** Reliable childcare allows newcomer parents to fully participate in English language instruction - an essential component of integration, employability and long-term success in Canada.
- **Parental Engagement:** Onsite childcare alleviates anxiety by keeping children nearby, enabling parents to concentrate on learning and personal development.
- **Empowerment and Stability:** By providing dependable support during the settlement period, CNC services help families build stable, independent lives while promoting social inclusion and resilience.
- **Early Childhood Development:** The program delivers foundational early learning experiences that ease the transition into the Canadian school system and support long-term educational achievement for newcomer children.



**From:** MARGARET LAZARUS <[margaret.lazarus@ddsb.ca](mailto:margaret.lazarus@ddsb.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2023 3:19 PM

**To:** DL-Trustees <[DL-Trustees@ddsb.ca](mailto:DL-Trustees@ddsb.ca)>

**Cc:** DAVID WRIGHT <[david.wright@ddsb.ca](mailto:david.wright@ddsb.ca)>; JACQUELINE WILLIAMS-LEACOCK <[jacqueline.williamsleacock@ddsb.ca](mailto:jacqueline.williamsleacock@ddsb.ca)>

**Subject:** Graduation Coaches for Black Students - Request for Funding - Resending the email with the Names of Committee Members Listed

**Anti-Black Racism Advisor Committee Members:**

Stefan Thomas, Co-Chair, Community Member, Denisa Langevine, Co-

– Trustee, Tracey Brown – Trustee, Floyd Heath – Community Member

Jacqui Spencer – Community Member, Margaret Lazarus, Superintendent of Education, Quincy James – System

Lead, Devika Mathur – Human Rights and Equity Advisor

**Dear Members of the Board of Trustees,**

On behalf of the Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee co-chairs, Stefan Thomas and Denisa Langevine, I respectfully request the continued support and funding of the *Graduation Coach for Black Students* initiative. program, implemented by the Durham District School Board (DDSB) over the past four years, is a key equity strategy designed to address systemic barriers and support the academic success and well-being of Black students. Aligned with DDSB's Anti-Oppression Strategy and Human Rights, Anti-Discrimination, and Anti-Racism Policy, the program has yielded demonstrable success in several critical areas:

1. **Academic Achievement:**

Graduation Coaches provided individualized mentorship and academic planning, ensuring students remain on track for graduation and post-secondary pathways.

2. **Student Well-being:**

Through consistent one-on-one support, students experienced improved mental health and a stronger sense of value and belonging.

3. **Postsecondary Access:**

Coaches guided students through applications, scholarships, and campus visits, increasing access to higher education and skilled career opportunities.

4. **Community and Cultural Engagement:**

The initiative fostered connections between students, families, and communities through events such as the Black Student Alliance Conferences, promoting leadership and cultural pride.

5. **Advocacy and Systemic Change:**

Coaches worked collaboratively with staff to challenge systemic inequities and advance anti-Black racism initiatives within schools.

The impact of the program is evident. Over four years, three Graduation Coaches have supported 610 students across six schools, established six Black Student Associations, and hosted 25 family engagement events involving and connecting with 56 family members. Additionally, the DDSB Graduation Coach team developed an [Orientation Guide](#) to support the onboarding of new Coaches. This guide was presented to all Ontario school boards at a Ministry of Education meeting on November 30, 2023, as a model of effective practice. The Graduation Coach for Black Students program is a transformative initiative that not only fosters academic success but also affirms the identities and potential of Black students. We urge the Board to continue investing in this vital work.

Kind regards,

*Margaret*

Margaret Lazarus

Superintendent of Equitable Education

Anti-Oppression/French, International and Classical Languages/Family of Schools

Anderson C.V.I., Henry Street H.S., Sinclair S.S.

Durham District School Board

400 Taunton Road East

Whitby, L1R 2K6

Phone: (905) 666-6124

[Margaret.lazarus@ddsb.ca](mailto:Margaret.lazarus@ddsb.ca)

“All children need something to be proud of and  
someone to be proud of them.”

*Please note: My working hours and your working hours may differ.*

*Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your regular working hours.*

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