



Board HIGHLIGHTS

On Tuesday, February 19, 2013, the Durham District School Board held its regular Board Meeting.

The Durham Elementary Jazz Band Entertains!

The Durham Elementary Jazz Band is now in its fourth season. Under the direction of Nicole Henning of Romeo Dallaire PS, the group is composed of 16 auditioned Grade 7 and 8 students from throughout the District and represent 10 different schools this year. The Band has enjoyed much success with gold level performances at the Southern Ontario Jazz Band Festival, Musicfest Canada in both Vancouver and Ottawa, Rocky Mountain Music Festival in Banff and looks forward to performing this week at the Next Generation Jazz Festival at Humber College and attending the Atlantic Festival of Music in Halifax in May. These highly dedicated students started the meeting off on a high note by playing Strollin' with Sammy by Paul Baker, Finding Peace by Neil Yorke-Slader and Count Bubba's Revenge by Ralph Ford.

Thanks to the musicians for sharing their talent and to their fans and families for attending the much appreciated performance.

Black History Month at the DDSB

During the month of February, black history is officially recognized and celebrated.

To commemorate the month and to demonstrate how black history is observed throughout the year DDSB students Khevryl McPherson and Zoe Williams from Ajax HS, Ruby Sealy from Pickering HS, Christopher Williams from J. Clarke Richardson CI and Fifunmi Adesuyi and Kadine Kelly from R. S. McLaughlin CVI provided a thought-provoking presentation for the audience.

Short Lists Approved

The following were recommended to Elementary Principal Short List:

Jennifer Brusselers, Queen Elizabeth PS
Joe Cook, Whitby Shores PS
Lindsay Gibson, Winchester PS
Grayson Hefford, West Lynde PS
David Hogg, Carruthers Creek PS
Mhairi Johnston, Colonel J.E. Farewell PS
Jayne Krattiger, Captain Michael VandenBos PS

Greg Marlow, William Dunbar PS
Candace Ramdial, A.G. Bell PS
Sherri Savard, R.H. Cornish PS

The following candidates were recommended to the Secondary Principal Short List:

Kim Field, Sinclair SS
Andrea Pemberton, Donald A. Wilson SS
Kandis Thompson, Dunbarton HS

Transfers Announced

The following Transfer was approved:

Trina Lewis, Principal, E.B. Phin PS, to Principal, Meadowcrest F.I. PS

Director's Good News

The Director congratulated William Dunbar Public School Principal Tony Rizzuto on receiving well-deserved recognition from national education organization The Learning Partnership.

Tony was named one of Canada's most outstanding principals in the group's annual program. It was a member of the community, supported by others, who put Tony's name forward for the honour.

As part of the honour, Tony will be among the 51 principals recognized by the program to take part in an executive leadership training program at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. He'll also join The Learning Partnership's National Academy of Outstanding Principals, which will avail him of ongoing networking, mentoring and professional development opportunities.

The Director congratulated Tony on this well-deserved recognition! We look forward to recognizing Tony more formally here at the Board at an upcoming meeting.

From the world of sports, Director Beckett congratulated two Durham District School Board students who just returned – with a pair of medals each – from the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Pyeong Chong, Republic of Korea.

Speed skater William LeBlanc of Port Perry High School and figure skater Jonathan Edwards of Pickering High School – whose Mom, Donna, you may recognize – were among the 3,000 athletes from 112 countries who took part in the Games, which ran from January 29 to February 5.

Both boys garnered bronze medals, while William added a silver and Jonathan hit the top of the podium with a gold medal.

You can read more about these outstanding athletes in a feature story now on our website.

Congratulations William and Jonathan!

The Director also congratulated Lord Elgin Public School in Ajax, as one of the winners in the Recycling Council of Ontario's Waste-Free Lunch Challenge.

From October 15 to the 19th 2012, schools from more than 50 Ontario school boards took part in the challenge, and between them, managed to keep nearly 11,300 kilograms of lunch materials – the equivalent of 500 blue boxes full – out of landfill.

More than 400 schools took part, and Lord Elgin finished among the top 10 schools in Ontario to be recognized by the Recycling Council of Ontario.

The District extended an invitation to parents who self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer (LGBTQ) and have children attending school in the District to join in an evening of dialogue.

A "Diversity in the Community" event is set for Thursday, February 21, 2013 at the Education Centre.

Discussion will include the work that has been done to make DDSB schools more welcoming and inclusive for parents who self-identify as LGBTQ and their children.

The February 21 session will include discussion of targeted ways of increasing LGBTQ parent involvement in schools. The event is open to LGBTQ parents and allies, to ensure a safe space in which people can share their stories. This is the second year the DDSB has hosted this event.

Pre-registration is a pre-requisite of admission and details can be found at www.durham.edu.on.ca.

Motions:

- That a report be prepared outlining Grade 9 mandatory and optional courses for all Durham secondary schools; and that the report include recommendations for a standardized policy.
- That the Board of Trustees authorizes staff to close Cartwright High School effective June 2013, and that the Board of Trustees authorizes staff to

consolidate the Port Perry High School and the Cartwright High School attendance area, effective September 2013.

- That the Durham District School Board approve the name David Bouchard Public School as the official name of the Gertrude Colpus/T.R. McEwen Consolidated School.
- That the proposed School Year Calendars for elementary and secondary schools be approved; that the Modified School Year Calendar for C.E. Broughton PS and Winchester PS be approved; that the proposed Modified School Year Calendar for Brock HS, Henry Street HS, and Maxwell Heights HS be approved; and that the information be forwarded to the Ministry of Education by March 1, 2013 so that the Durham District School Board will be compliant with the March 1st deadline as outlined in Regulation 304.

Please note, the calendars will be circulated to schools and posted on the DDSB's website when Ministry approval is received.

Regular Board and Committee Meetings

Student Senate Meeting

Monday, March 4, 2013 - 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Education Centre, Room 2028

Standing Committee

Monday, March 4, 2013 – 7 p.m.
Public Session

Board Meeting

Monday, March 18, 2013 – 7 p.m.
Public Session



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
HLT2013_02_19