

# APPROVED

## MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Monday, December 5, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Durham District School Board was held this date in the Board Room, Education Centre, 400 Taunton Road East, Whitby.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney, Donna Edwards, Elinor Hansen, Larry Jacula, Carolyn Morton, Linda Stone, Christine Winters, Kimberly Zeppieri, Student Trustees Avery Jackman, Kofi Richter and Kevin Zheng (left at 8:12 p.m.)

Regrets: Trustee Paul Crawford

Officials Present: Director Lisa Millar, Superintendents Luigia Ayotte, John Bowyer, Mark Fisher, Richard Kennelly, Anne Marie Laginski, John Legere, Jim Markovski, Silvia Peterson, Martine Robinson, Camille Taylor, David Visser, Communications Manager Terry Simzer

Regrets: Superintendent Richard Kennelly

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Chair Michael Barrett acknowledged that the Board is on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation which is under the Williams Treaties.

Chair Michael Barrett advised that the moment of silence can be used to reflect on anyone experiencing a difficult time.

4. O Canada

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5. O'Neill C.V.I.

Trustee Larry Jacula welcomed the O'Neill C.V.I. Chamber Choir. The group, directed by Erin Collins, played three selections entitled, "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy", "Loch Lomond" and "Holly Jolly Christmas". Trustee Larry Jacula congratulated the group, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

2016:103  
MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes  
SECONDED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

2016:104  
MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula  
SECONDED by Trustee Linda Stone

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2016; AND

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 21, 2016.

CARRIED

7. Presentation

There were no presentations at this time.

8. Report from the Committee of the Whole in Camera

Trustee Carolyn Morton reported on the actions of the Committee of the Whole in Camera. Trustees dealt with retirements, administrative transfers and placements, personnel issues, property matters and employee relations issues.

Mark Fisher, Superintendent, Operations advised that the list of transfers and promotions will be communicated to the system electronically.

9. (a) Public Question Period

There were no public questions at this time.

(b) Director's News from the System

Director Lisa Millar provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the following Director's News from the system:

- “In this season of giving it is heart-warming to mention some of the outstanding and generous works of some of our schools and students. Pickering High School student clubs recently organized the annual We Scare Hunger Food Drive on November 7<sup>th</sup> collecting canned foods to donate to the community. Students had a goal of 10,000 items, but in the end were so successful they collected over 13,000 items.
- Blair Ridge Public School students, with the help of the Optimist Club of Brooklin, also organized a drive to support Feed the Need Durham with non-perishable food items and online donations.
- DDSB elementary students are combatting drinking and driving this holiday season with the help of the Durham Region Police Services Elementary Holiday Bag Program. The Elementary Holiday Bag Program distributes blank brown paper bags to schools who then had their students decorate the bags to warn of the dangers of impaired driving. More than 4,750 students from 16 schools decorated a bag, which the LCBO will distribute for use at local outlets this holiday season. Customers will see their purchases wrapped in these powerful messages created by our students and think twice about getting behind the wheel of a vehicle after drinking. The program was launched November 22<sup>nd</sup> at C.E. Broughton Public School.
- On November 25<sup>th</sup> students attended our second annual Geo Day conference engaging young minds in the discovery and adventure of geography. Geo Day is organized by our Durham Geography Teachers' Association and included presentations and discussion on sustainability, management, geospatial technologies, energy production, local food production and waste.
- On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Programs K-12 hosted a return visit from Dr. Marian Small, a prominent national and international mathematics educator and sought after literacy numeracy instructor as she shared with teachers her latest collection of 1000+ open-ended questions for unleashing student math success. Dr. Small presented to 170 teachers who attended the workshop and over 115 who logged in to attend via Adobe Connect. Dr. Small is a former professor and Dean of Education at the University of New Brunswick who has authored or co-authored more than 85 math books and resources. At the conclusion of Dr. Small's workshop, she gave schools in attendance two copies of her presentation resources.

(b) Director's News from the System (Continued)

- As of last week, we have completed our Community Voice Reflection Session overseen by Justice Donald McLeod. The Community Voice Sessions enabled us to receive feedback from students, parents, staff and community members of the African, Caribbean and black diaspora by giving community members an opportunity to share their voice for sustainable change. The goal of these sessions was to ensure the Durham District School Board is aware of, and responsive to the needs of the students, families and community in which we serve. Justice Donald McLeod shared his findings and will be providing us with a report that will come back to trustees.
- The Director recently attended Durham Connect where community leaders met to sign the official agreement. Durham Connect exists to improve individual lives and find system efficiencies by applying a risk mitigation lens to human service delivery in our community. The purpose of Durham Connect is to provide strategic and expert direction regarding opportunities to mobilize community resources providing health, social services, education, and justice related services in Durham region.
- At Ajax H.S., the Love Music Initiative was recently introduced to engage students in an after-school program involving arts, leadership, and connections. The Love Music Initiative is a multi-disciplinary and alternative education program using Hip Hop, contemporary music and popular culture as a backdrop for learning about civic engagement, history and advocacy that aims to build cultural competency and empower youth with self-awareness, self-esteem, positive self-identity, values and literacy.
- Students at Ajax High School are using an inclusivity lens, to continue to support Transgender Awareness. Students showed their support as allies by signing their name on a display in the main foyer of the school. The initiative was led by the school's Gay Straight Alliance club.

Upcoming Events

- A reminder that schools are closed for December/January break
- The upcoming following holidays Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Christmas were recognized.
- In January, the Board will take part in the Durham Multi-Faith World Religion Day and Tamil Heritage Month celebrations.
- The Board is getting ready for the upcoming EQAO Grade 9 Assessments and Kindergarten Pre-registration both beginning in January

(b) Director's News from the System (Continued)

In closing, in a few weeks the DDSB will have a two week winter break. During this holiday season, our diverse community celebrates many rich traditions steeped in the diversity of cultures and communities that comprise our region and school district. While there are many cultures and traditions that represent the DDSB, we all have the opportunity to celebrate a common element and that is our traditions of celebrating and spending time with family. So, as the holiday season approaches, take time to remember those families in the DDSB that are experiencing hardships such as poverty and remember to reach out and support them as the holidays and celebrations bring additional hardships for them. Take a moment to remember the families and students who are experiencing mental health issues while this season brings the beauty of lights, colours, decorations, music, food and festive activities – this time of year can be extremely stressful for those who experience mental health or emotional challenges. Also take a moment to remember our students, staff and families who are experiencing health issues and especially those who face critical health challenges at this time. This holiday takes on a new and significant meaning for these families.

As 2016 comes to a close, it is time to reflect on the past year and assess, as leaders, the impact and influence on the system, our programs, and the impact we made to improve the DDSB. It is also a time to plan, prepare and dream about the possibilities of 2017. Let 2017 be a year where we unite and work in unison to evolve and create an incredible DDSB that is a national if not world leader in education.

On behalf of the senior team, we would like to thank and recognize Chair Barrett and Vice Chair Morton for their leadership and support. We as a senior team are blessed to work with a dedicated group of trustees who work tirelessly for DDSB students, staff and families.

In closing, Chair Barrett, on behalf of the senior team, at the last Board meeting of 2016, we would like to wish students, staff, families and the community a happy healthy holiday season.”

10. Recommended Actions

There were no recommended actions at this time.

11. Information Items

(a) Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Avery Jackman provided trustees with an overview of the Student Senate meeting held earlier in the evening. Students emphasized the importance of leaving a legacy and encouraged the senators to come up with five distinguishing points that represent the Student Senate to ignite student leadership. The group brainstormed key

(b) Student Trustee Report (Continued)

ideas of what student senate represents and the values it wants to portray. The group is working on the development of a Student Senate logo. Presentations were received from Ajax H.S. and Maxwell Heights S.S. that highlighted their best practices. Discussions included a commitment to work with students to improve well-being and mental health within the DDSB and focused on the four domains of the well-being strategy. A goal is to create a resource that students can reference electronically or physically. The document will be shared with trustees in the New Year.

(b) DDSB Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Practices

Director Lisa Millar provided trustees with an update on the focus and commitment to evolving and improving Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Practices. She highlighted the current equity and diversity programs, training, initiatives and projects.

(c) School Results of the School Climate Surveys

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Family of Schools/Safe Schools introduced Ken MacNaughton, Safe Schools Officer and Chris Conley, Research Analyst who provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the Board-wide elementary and secondary Students/Parents/Guardian(s) and Staff results of the 2015-2016 School Climate Surveys. They also answered questions of trustees.

(c) Suspension and Expulsion Trends

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Family of Schools/Safe Schools introduced Ken MacNaughton, Safe Schools Officer and Chris Conley, Research Analyst who provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation informing trustees about suspension and expulsion trends in the Durham District School Board. They also answered questions of trustees.

(e) OPSBA Report

Trustee Linda Stone reported on the recent Board of Director's meeting held on December 2, 2016. She noted that meetings were held by the Indigenous Trustee council to discuss the progress of the Ministries Truth and Reconciliation Curriculum Steering Committee. There are concerns regarding the curriculum being referred to as 'enhanced' which does not capture the importance of the changes that are needed to accurately reflect indigenous history. The ITC would prefer a stand-alone credit in secondary school that is mandatory for graduation.

The French as a Second Language Provincial Working Group was established by the Ministry of Education to be advisory in nature and is primarily focused on curriculum, resources and FSL supports to maximize student engagement and to build staff capacity. The group is working on issues such as increasing the overall percentage of students in grades 9 to 12 enrolled in core French and French Immersion and to increase the number

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(e) OPSBA Report (Continued)

of students with special education needs enrolled in the grade 9 core French. They will also be taking a look at the core French curriculum and look at core French starting in grade one.

The group discussed the Grants for Student Needs and the funding pressures felt by boards in key areas such as a Local Priority Grant, Labour Relations, the Special Education Grant, Transportation and Community hubs.

The Ministry of Education hosted a two-day provincial education event on November 9 and 10. The event, called 'Partners in Dialogue', brought together education leaders and key stakeholders to engage in dialogues on a number of key priorities including staff and student well-being, education funding for 2017-2018, collaborative professionalism and the transformation of our early years and child care system.

Also in discussion at the BOD meeting was FNMI Education funding, community hubs and community hub partners, student well-being and what that looks like, Bill 37 Protecting Students Act which is now awaiting Royal Assent, Bill 45 Election Statute Law Amendment Act, 2016 which would change the dates of Provincial Elections to June 7 in 2018. And Bill 68, Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act which would change the term start date for trustees to November 15.

Trustee Linda Stone reminded trustees that the Public Education Symposium is coming up in January from the 19-21 at the Sheraton Centre, and the Labour Relations Symposium will be held April 6 and 7, 2017.

(f) Committee Membership Overview - 2017

Chair Michael Barrett provided trustees with an overview of the Committee Membership for 2017.

12. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested

(i) Toronto DSB

Trustees agreed that the correspondence from the Toronto District School Board be referred to staff for input and response.

(b) Other

There was no correspondence at this time.

13. Chair's Annual Report

Chair Michael Barrett reflected on the activities of the Board, as a whole, during the past year and noted that if there is one word to describe the past year at the Durham District School Board, it is "change".

"Whether being viewed from a broader provincial perspective where there are constant changes in both direction and intent, whether illustrated in personnel, policy or process. Change has been constant within the education field in 2015 to 2016 and it too has its impact in each board, and indeed, within each school.

Tonight's report is less about the reflection of a single individual but a reflection of all of us, a board. Whether a trustee, a member of staff here at the Board office or within our schools, all of us take a similar goal oriented initiative to serve our students and our community. It is taking the actions of many and synthesizing it into our forward looking pathway.

Change is indeed the theme of the past year.

We have seen much change in our communities that we serve. As a board we need to continue to strive to reach out to all communities; to ensure that we listen and act on the needs.

As a board we serve many communities; we not only serve those that vote, but we also serve those who do not. We have many community members;

- Our students, both current and future
- Our parents, both current and future
- Our communities, both current and future
- Our staff, both current and future

We have experienced much change in 2016

- We have experienced a change in our Board's leadership – with the secondment of Martyn Beckett to the Ministry of Education, interim Director Luigia Ayotte and the appointment of Lisa Millar as our Director; there is impact, and change.
- We have also experienced change in our senior leadership team and the welcoming of many new faces into our Board and into positions of responsibility.
- We continue to have the Durham Board recognized as a leader in many initiatives; and we should be proud of the contributions of our broader community to educational leadership.

We must continue to advocate for change. It is only with a healthy desire to appreciate the status quo, but to recognize that change is necessary will we continue to build an educational system that serves all.

13. Chair's Annual Report (Continued)

We must continue to advocate;

- we need to advocate for an inclusive system where all feel welcome, valued and heard
- we need to advocate for our first nations communities so healing can overcome generations of ill prepared actions
- we need to speak for those who are most vulnerable; for those that come to school hungry, ill prepared, ill equipped and marginalized
- we need to press and push that equality of funding and equity of opportunity is available for all our students and families who experience greater need and support
- we need to advocate for change in transparency, engagement and involvement at all levels of government; that our provincial leaders recognize that needs are not satisfied by words; that cash savings result in greater community needs and that a heavy handed approach results in escalating unmet needs.
- We need to continue to advocate for engagement, partnership and inclusivity for all who work, contribute and gift of their talent, time and passion. No one contributor is greater than the lofty and important goal of an equitable education opportunity.

We also recognize and support those amongst us who face incredible personal challenges and struggles; although we are seen as a monolithic intrusive structure, we are made up of individuals who have families, dreams and aspirations; our hearts go to those who face some of the most difficult times.

I am proud to be able to be a Trustee for the Durham District School Board.

I am proud to work alongside my fellow Trustees; for your gifts, your passion and your advocacy.

I am proud that we continue to move forward, focussed on the needs of our students, and our communities.”

14. Election of Board Chair

Director Lisa Millar informed trustees of the process for election of the Board's Chair following the Board's By-Laws. Nominations were called for the position of Chair of the Durham District School Board.

2017:01

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula

THAT TRUSTEE MICHAEL BARRETT BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF  
CHAIR OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.

CARRIED

Trustee Michael Barrett accepted the nomination.

14. Election of Board Chair (Continued)

In written correspondence previously received, Trustee Paul Crawford requested to be considered for the position of Chair, in his absence.

Subsequent to three calls for additional nominations by Director Lisa Millar, and there being none, nominations for the position of Chair were closed.

Trustee Michael Barrett spoke to his nomination.

Trustee Michael Barrett was elected to the position of Chair of the Durham District School Board. Trustee Michael Barrett as the newly elected Chair assumed the chair and conducted the remainder of the meeting.

Chair Michael Barrett thanked trustees for electing him to the position of Chair of the Board.

15. Election of Vice Chair

Chair Michael Barrett explained that the process for electing the Vice Chair was the same under Board By-laws as it was for the position of Chair. Nominations were called for the position of Vice Chair of the Board.

2017:02

MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT TRUSTEE DONNA EDWARDS BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.

CARRIED

2017:03

MOVED by Trustee Linda Stone

THAT TRUSTEE CAROLYN MORTON BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.

CARRIED

2017:04

MOVED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT TRUSTEE CHRIS BRANEY BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.

CARRIED

Trustees Donna Edwards, Carolyn Morton and Chris Braney accepted the nomination.

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15. Election of Vice Chair (Continued)

Subsequent to three calls for additional nominations by Chair Michael Barrett, and there being none, nominations for the position of Vice Chair were closed.

Trustees Donna Edwards, Carolyn Morton and Chris Braney spoke to their nomination.

Trustees Chris Braney and Carolyn Morton participated in a second vote.

Trustee Chris Braney was elected to the position of Vice Chair of the Durham District School Board.

16. Election of Standing Committee Vice Chair

Chair Michael Barrett called for nominations to the position of Standing Committee Vice Chair.

2017:05

MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT TRUSTEE LARRY JACULA BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF  
STANDING COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL  
BOARD.

CARRIED

2017:06

MOVED by Trustee Linda Stone

THAT TRUSTEE DONNA EDWARDS BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF  
STANDING COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL  
BOARD.

CARRIED

Trustees Larry Jacula and Donna Edwards accepted the nomination.

Subsequent to three calls for additional nominations by Chair Michael Barrett, and there being none, nominations for the position of Standing Committee Vice Chair were closed.

Trustees Larry Jacula and Donna Edwards spoke to their nomination.

Trustee Donna Edwards was elected to the position of Standing Committee Vice Chairperson of the Durham District School Board.

17. Election of Chair of Education Finance Committee

Chair Michael Barrett called for nominations to the position of Chair of Education Finance Committee.

2017:07

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula

THAT TRUSTEE PATRICE BARNES BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIR OF EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.

CARRIED

2017:08

MOVED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT TRUSTEE KIMBERLY ZEPPIERI BE NOMINATED FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIR OF EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.

CARRIED

Trustees Patrice Barnes and Kimberly Zeppieri accepted the nomination.

Subsequent to three calls for additional nominations by Chair Michael Barrett, and there being none, nominations for the position of Chair of Education Finance Committee were closed.

Trustees Patrice Barnes and Kimberly Zeppieri spoke to the nomination.

Trustee Patrice Barnes was elected to the position of Chair of Education Finance Committee of the Durham District School Board.

18. Committee Elections

Chair Michael Barrett called for nominations and/or volunteers for the following committees, and the following appointments were confirmed:

In written correspondence previously received, Trustee Paul Crawford requested to be considered for the position of OPSBA representative and alternate, Parent Involvement Committee representative, and Supervised Alternative Learning representative and alternate, in his absence.

18. Committee Elections (Continued)

<p><b>Special Education Advisory Committee (S.E.A.C.)</b></p> <p>Donna Edwards Linda Stone</p> <p><b>Alternates</b></p> <p>Patrice Barnes Elinor Hansen</p>	<p><b>Supervised Alternative Learning (S.A.L.)</b></p> <p>Carolyn Morton Linda Stone</p> <p><b>Alternates</b></p> <p>Patrice Barnes Larry Jacula</p>
<p><b>Education Finance Committee</b></p> <p>All Trustees</p>	<p><b>Joint Services Committee</b></p> <p>All Trustees</p>
<p><b>Board Expulsion Committee</b></p> <p>All Trustees</p> <p><b>Board Suspension Appeal Committee</b></p> <p>All Trustees</p>	<p><b>Parent Involvement Committee</b></p> <p>Kimberly Zeppieri</p> <p><b>Alternates</b></p> <p>Christine Winters-Feret</p>
<p><b>Ontario Public School Boards' Association (O.P.S.B.A.)</b></p> <p>Patrice Barnes Linda Stone</p> <p><b>Alternates</b></p> <p>Chris Braney Carolyn Morton</p>	<p><b>Audit Committee</b></p> <p>Elinor Hansen Larry Jacula Linda Stone</p>
<p><b>Code of Conduct</b></p> <p>Donna Edwards Larry Jacula</p>	

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2017:09  
MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards  
SECONDED by Trustee Chris Braney

THAT THE BALLOTS BE DESTROYED.

CARRIED

19. Draft Board and Committee Meeting Dates 2017

Chair Michael Barrett stated that Board and Committee Meeting dates for 2017 were for the information of trustees.

2017:10  
MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton  
SECIBDED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT THE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR 2017 BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

20. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

21. Adjournment

2017:11  
MOVED by Trustee Linda Stone  
SECONDED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:50 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary