

# APPROVED

## MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Monday, September 19, 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 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney, Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Elinor Hansen, Larry Jacula, Carolyn Morton, Linda Stone, Christine Winters, Kimberly Zeppieri, Student Trustees Avery Jackman, Kofi Richter, and Kevin Zheng

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 Officer Charles Senior

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Chair Michael Barrett advised that the moment of silence can be used to reflect on the first Board meeting of the year. He asked trustees to remember the teachers that have recently passed and their families.

Chair Michael Barrett introduced new superintendents Martine Robinson and Mark Fisher, Director Lisa Millar, new student trustees Avery Jackman and Kofi Richter, and returning student trustee Kevin Zheng.

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

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4. O Canada

5. Dr. Robert Thornton P.S.

Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri welcomed the Thornton Pop Rocks Choir. The group, directed by Andrew Watson, played two selections entitled, "Hello", and "I Can't Feel My Face". Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri congratulated the group, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

2016:78

MOVED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

The agenda was amended to include item 13. (a) Bus Passes.

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED

2016:79

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula

SECONDED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MAY 16, 2016; AND

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2016; AND

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2016.

CARRIED

7. Presentation

(a) Bruce Mather Award 2015-2016

Director Lisa Millar advised trustees that Bruce Mather served as Director of Education during the period 1984 to 1989. When he retired, the Durham Board of Education established the "Bruce Mather Award" to recognize his service to education.

(b) Bruce Mather Award 2015-2016 (Continued)

The prize is awarded annually to a staff member (or staff team) having made an exceptional contribution to the growth of others. The gift of money accompanying the award can be used to enhance the project or area being recognized.

A Committee consisting of the Chair of the Board, Michael Barrett, Vice-Chairperson, Carolyn Morton, and the Director of Education, Lisa Millar, reviewed nominations and have selected Nyla John, Teacher, Pickering H.S. as the recipient for the 2015/2016 school year.

As a teacher formerly at Ajax H.S. and currently at Pickering H.S., Nyla John has worked tirelessly to activate staff awareness of culturally responsive practices, while igniting opportunities to activate student voices. In her role as staff advisor at Ajax H.S., Nyla John provided space and resources to support student leaders in bringing their agenda forward, ultimately impacting the whole school. An additional chapter of Breaking Barriers was introduced at Pickering H.S. The group has designed workshops that have been delivered to students in Grades 7 and 8 at both Lincoln Alexander P.S. and Eagle Ridge P.S.

Within the Ajax area, Nyla John was the lead teacher in coordinating Ajax's first girl mentorship pilot, "Sister to Sister". This project supports students in Grades 7 – 10 around navigating issues specific to black females. The project is designed to address social and emotional needs while fostering valuable connections during the transition from elementary to secondary school.

Nyla John has been an active member of the Durham Black Educators' Network, first as a volunteer, then moving into several executive roles. She has served on the "And Still We Rise" conference organizing committee for 2015-2016 and mentorship programming. She has contributed to professional development at a system level through her involvement at the annual Equity Institute as a workshop presenter.

In 2013, Nyla John was nominated for a year-long Anti-Oppression training in collaboration with delegates from the York Region District School Board. As a newly trained team member fulfilling a five-year commitment, Nyla John engages in training educators, administrators, and employee groups as part of a system commitment to interrupt anti-oppressive practices at various levels of the organization.

As an individual whose knowledge and delivery has been described as "mind shifting" and as a teacher leader who has demonstrated her pledge to growing students and colleagues as leaders, she is a deserving recipient of the Bruce Mather Award.

(c) Personalizing the Learning for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literate Graduates (Uxbridge S.S.)

Jim Markovski, Superintendent, Family of Schools/Poverty introduced Michelle Crawford-Eade, Principal, Uxbridge S.S. who introduced Melissa Lee, Michelle Smale, Stephanie Hale, and Daniel Amenta, teachers, Uxbridge S.S. The group provided trustees with a PowerPoint overview of the work undertaken by Uxbridge S.S. to enhance teachers'

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(c) Personalizing the Learning for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literate Graduates (Uxbridge S.S.)  
(Continued)

professional learning and practice in order to increase student achievement. They also answered questions of trustees.

(d) Well-Being Supports

John Bowyer, Superintendent of Family of Schools/Safety & Security introduced Ken MacNaughton, Safe Schools Officer, Alison Potts, Mental Health Lead, and John Hamilton, Principal, E.A. Fairman P.S. who provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation on evidence-informed strategies and resources provided to schools to support well-being, in alignment with the Ministry's priorities, Durham District School Board Mental Health and Addictions Strategic Plan and the DDSB Self-Regulation initiative. They also answered questions of trustees.

(e) A Focus on Coherence in the DDSB

Director Lisa Millar provided trustees with a PowerPoint overview of the Coherence Framework which will be used to provide direction and focus to DDSB staff in supporting the implementation of Ignite Learning and the operational goals to support student achievement and well-being.

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 resignations, retirements, appointments, leaves of absence, administrative transfers and placements, personnel issues, benefits, trustee expenses and employee relations issues.

Mark Fisher, Superintendent, Operations/Leadership advised that the following approved transfer is effective September 19, 2016:

Michelle Sigmann, SERT. Clara Hughes P.S. to Acting Vice Principal, Clara Hughes P.S.

9. (a) Public Question Period

There were no questions at this time.

(b) Director's News from the System

Director Lisa Millar welcomed everyone back from the summer break and also thanked everyone for all their hard work to make our schools and programs ready for students. While the majority of schools may have been out during the summer, the work certainly continued as Facilities Services were busy improving our schools for learning: repairing and replacing windows, flooring, roofing, play areas, heating, and ventilation and cooling

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

systems across the board. This September the Board opened two brand new elementary schools, Forest View Public School and Jeanne Sauvé Public School both located in Oshawa. The Director thanked all staff who worked tirelessly to make our new schools ready for students.

As students moved into their schools to begin new traditions, others continued to celebrate long-time observances. We continue to be fortunate as Canada's Snowbirds were once again able to perform several fly pasts over Captain Michael VandenBos Public School in Whitby. The school traditionally opens to a fly past by Canada's Snowbirds on the first day of school. The squadron of planes soared overhead in incredible coordinated formations – to the roar of the students, parents, guardians, trustees and community members on the ground. The school was named after a former Snowbirds pilot, Captain Michael VandenBos, who grew up in Whitby and was killed in a routine training mission near Moose Jaw in 1998. We were honoured to have Captain Michael VandenBos' family attend the fly past to continue to lend support and appreciation for this continued tradition from the school, students and Snowbirds. The Director thanked the Snowbirds and the entire VandenBos school community. It was an amazing event.

This summer, the DDSB has continued to be active in ongoing summer learning for our students and staff. Our First Nations, Metis and Inuit program hosted a Summer Literacy Program for students from across Durham at Lakewoods Public School in Oshawa. The FNMI program educated students in six different classes with the goal of closing literacy gaps, increasing student and parent engagement and infusing First Nation, Metis and Inuit content and resources in student learning. The program was attended by approximately 100 students. The tradition continued for summer learning and the DDSB hosted secondary summer school for high school students at J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate in Ajax, Sinclair Secondary School in Whitby and Maxwell Heights Secondary School in Oshawa. This summer, we again were fully enrolled with over 6000 students registering to either accelerate their learning or improve learning through credit recovery. This summer was the largest registration of students in the last three years. We also saw an uptake in the amount of elementary students engaging in the 'Getting Ready for High School' program for students entering high school. All secondary schools participated in the program this year welcoming the involvement of parents, staff and of course students in their early preparation to begin grade 9 at the high school level.

The Summer Learning Institutes were also in full bloom as the Programs Department ran 33 professional learning workshops for over 520 registered teacher participants. Summer Learning Institute courses ranged from 'Preparing for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) to SafeTALK, a program training participants to become a suicide-alert helper.

The Early Learning Department offered 10 programs entitled 'Schools Cool' for our youngest learners in kindergarten to help close the gap in literacy and numeracy. Early Years also ran mental health programs this summer as part of our Make A Difference initiative.

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

Last week principals, vice-principals and heads of math at both the elementary and secondary level have also been involved working on EQAO data analysis to focus on improving student achievement with training sessions on improving Data Literacy for the Renewed Math Strategy. Staff were honoured to have the aid of EQAO's staff in this learning opportunity.

This year the board piloted a restructuring model for our Family of Schools reorganizing how we support students, support our administrators and support our schools. This restructuring will organize school grouping centres and elementary schools around a secondary school and provide increased support to continue to focus on student achievement and well-being.

This fall there are a number of upcoming events of note:

- Next week the Board will mark annual 'Safety Week,' September 26-30. This year, 'Safety Week' events will highlight the Board's commitment to providing a safe and secure learning and working environment. During Safety Week, students and staff at schools will participate in classroom discussions, assemblies, drills, and a variety of other safety-themed activities and events aimed at generating greater awareness about everyone's role when it comes to safety. During Safety Week students at Glengrove Public School in Pickering will participate in a lunch hour lockdown drill in tandem with Durham Region Police Services preparing staff and students for a lockdown event. Later in the week DDSB students and teachers will train on how to use AED and CPR life-saving devices.
- On Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> the Equity and Inclusive Education department will be hosting 'Diversity in the Community' for LGBTQ Parents and Children in the DDSB. The workshop invites LGBTQ families who have children in the Durham District School Board to meet other families and share experiences and offer suggestions for continued growth within the DDSB as a system. More information can also be found on the DDSB's website.

The Board is also in the process of developing a number of new equity programs to support the diversity of our students and staff and we look forward to sharing these exciting initiatives with you in the future.

10. Recommended Actions

(a) Durham District School Board Annual Operational Goals

Director Lisa Millar presented the draft annual operating plan goals for the Durham District School Board for 2016/2017.

(a) Durham District School Board Annual Operational Goals (Continued)

2016:80

MOVED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

SECONDED by Trustee Linda Stone

THAT THE DRAFT OPERATIONAL GOALS BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

(b) Specialized Equipment Amount Reserve Fund

David Visser, Associate Director and Treasurer provided trustees with information surrounding the Special Education – Specialized Equipment Amount Reserve (SEA).

2016:81

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

THAT THE BOARD AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$580,415 FROM THE SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT AMOUNT TO A RESERVE ENTITLED SPECIAL EDUCATION.

CARRIED

(c) Draft Accommodation Plan 2016-2020 Trends, Issues and Future Opportunities

David Visser, Associate Director and Treasurer introduced Christine Nancekivell, Manager, Property and Planning Services who provided Trustees with information regarding short and long term accommodation, enrolment trends and school utilization information within the draft “Accommodation Plan 2016-2020 Trends, Issues and Future Opportunities” document. He also answered questions of trustees.

11. Information Items

(a) Quarterly Construction and Major Projects Progress Report

The Quarterly Construction and Major Projects Progress report was presented for the information of trustees.

(b) OPSBA Report

Trustee Linda Stone advised trustees that the next Board of Director’s meeting is scheduled to be held September 29-30, 2016. She noted that OPSBA has a new website. The Ministry of Education announced that demonstration schools will remain open. Consultations are ongoing regarding the cost of the schools. There will also be a pilot project to help school

(a) OPSBA Report (Continued)

boards provide students with severe learning disabilities with support in their local communities. They have also pledged to create a reference group to improve support for deaf students.

The Ontario government will be developing a board policy on how ministries collect, use, retain and display sex and gender information on public-facing government forms and products. This new policy could have an effect on how school boards collect similar information.

12. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested

(b) Other

- i) Peel DDSB
- ii) Waterloo Region DSB
- iii) Limestone DSB
- iv) Minister of Education

Correspondence was shared for the information of Trustees.

13. Other Business

(a) Bus Passes

Trustee Christine Winters advised that a public transit bus pass now costs \$93.50 and she also commented on the transit route changes. She noted that it has been several years since the Board met with Roger Anderson, Chair, Region of Durham and she suggested that a follow up meeting be arranged for the purpose of discussing the bus pass.

Trustees agreed that a meeting be arranged with the Region and that students and perhaps parents also be invited to attend the meeting. A strategic plan meeting, with trustees and students, will take place prior to the meeting with the Region of Durham in order to determine the approach.

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14. Adjournment

2016:81

MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary