

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

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 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Michael Barrett, Patrice Barnes, Chris Braney, Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Elinor Hansen, Larry Jacula, Carolyn Morton, Linda Stone, Kimberly Zeppieri, Christine Winters, Student Trustees James Hare, Naleesha Giga, Aidan Woodcock-Russell

Officials Present: Director Martyn Beckett, Superintendents Luigia Ayotte, John Bowyer, Janet Edwards, Ed Hodgins, Richard Kennelly, Anne Marie Laginski, Lisa Millar, Silvia Peterson, Camille Taylor, David Visser, Communications Manager Andrea Pidwerbecki

Regrets: Superintendent Doug Crichton

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Chair Michael Barrett suggested that the moment of silence could be used to reflect on the number of staff that has lost their battle with a difficult illness. Staff and family members were recognized for the great gaps left and they will be missed.

4. O Canada

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5. Forest View P.S.

Trustee Larry Jacula welcomed the Forest View P.S. Glee Club. The students, directed by Jennifer Skirving, Teacher, and Jennifer Dale, ECE performed two selections entitled "Waving Flag" and "Man in the Mirror". Trustee Larry Jacula congratulated the group, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

2015:22

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

2015:23

MOVED by Trustee Chris Braney

SECONDED by Trustee Larry Jacula

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2014;

INAUGURAL BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 2014.

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2015.

CARRIED

7. Presentations

(a) Award Presentation

Chair Michael Barrett invited Trustees Donna Edwards and Chris Braney, Director Martyn Beckett and Linda Jacula forward to join in recognizing the contribution that Trustee Larry Jacula has made in the position of Chair of the Board for 2009, 2010, and 2011. He was presented with an engraved gavel as a small token of appreciation.

Trustee Larry Jacula indicated that it was a pleasure to serve as Chair of the Board and he thanked all of the trustees that he worked with over the years.

(b) Kindergarten Outdoor Learning Environments

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Pickering/Early Years and Child Care provided trustees with an overview of the Kindergarten Outdoor Learning Environments. She introduced the William Dunbar Student Playground Committee, Stacey Lepine, Manager, Early Years and Child Care and Chris Thaler, Assistant Project Designer to share their work.

Stacey Lepine and Chris Thaler met with the William Dunbar Student Playground Committee over the past 18 months. They introduced students Chukwudike Azubike, Jordana Polera, Alexi Pariag, Ruth Huang, Aqil Syed, Avery Johnston, and Anjali Gangadin. The group provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation overview of the work that was completed for the location and design of the Kindergarten Outdoor Learning Environment. They also answered questions of trustees.

Stacey Lepine presented the William Dunbar Student Playground Committee with a sign to be placed in the outdoor learning environment.

(c) Black History Month in Ajax Schools

Camille Taylor, Superintendent, Ajax/School Councils/Parent Engagement provided trustees with an overview of the approaches that Ajax schools have taken to engage students and staff in recognizing Black History month through curricular and co-curricular programming.

Monique Muller-Law, Vice Principal, Ajax H.S., Julia Blizzard, Principal, Westney Heights P.S., Conor Jinkinson, Vice Principal, Westney Heights P.S., Leanne Osborne-Floyd, Vice Principal, Lakeside P.S., Liana Lafranier, Principal, Vimy Ridge P.S., and Amanda Paterson, Vice Principal, Vimy Ridge P.S. provided trustees with a video of students sharing the ways in which staff and students from many Ajax schools are working to explore and build upon positive representations of Black realities. Student Raiquon Welcome also shared a poem and answered questions of trustees.

(d) Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Naleesha Giga provided trustees with an overview of the Student Senate meeting held earlier in the evening. Due to the meeting date change, the group was slightly smaller. The students discussed the upcoming student trustee elections. An update was provided on the regional Olympics relating to what will happen and the different committees needed. The volunteer initiative will take place at St. Vincent's kitchen on February 23. Students discussed mental health based on the curriculum in Ontario and they noted that the Mental Health Symposium proposal is being developed for sign up later this year.

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(e) Ontario Library Association/Ontario School Library Association Annual Library Awards

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Program Services provided trustees with an overview of the 2014/2015 OLA Library Technician of the Year and OSLA Teacher Librarian of the Year Awards. This year, two Durham District School Board employees were recognized for their service and given awards. She introduced Judith Anderson, Department Head of Library, J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate Institute who received the OSLA Teacher Librarian of The Year Award. She was nominated by Rachel Kerr, Teacher Librarian - J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate Institute. The Durham District School Board has a rich and robust Library Learning Commons program. Our school libraries support teaching and learning, literacy and inquiry. A core goal of our school libraries is to support student achievement by fulfilling Ministry goals through the OSLA *Together for Learning* document. Judith Andersen exemplifies the criteria above. She has been a dedicated teacher, and teacher librarian for numerous years. Judith opened the J. Clarke Richardson library and as the Department Head where she has fostered a love of reading for all students as well as given the opportunity for students to be involved in The Forest of Reading program. Students are prepared for their future post-secondary careers through the library's strong research and inquiry based programming. Judith retired this year from J. Clarke Richardson as an extremely well respected and well regarded member and leader of school staff.

Chair Michael Barrett, Trustees Donna Edwards and Patrice Barnes and Director Martyn Beckett presented Judith Anderson with an award and certificate and participated in a photo opportunity.

She introduced Connie Mitchell, Media Library Technician, Professional Library/Media Centre, Program Services Department, Durham District School Board who received the OLA Technical Services Award. She was nominated by Richard Reid, Program Facilitator and Nancy Dalrymple, Teacher Librarian, Blair Ridge Public School. The Durham District School Board supports teachers, administrators and support staff with library and information services from our Central Professional Library and Media Centre. Through the DDSB Professional Library and Media Centre, teachers and staff have access to thousands of acquisitions related to teaching and learning. While using these services, teachers may borrow books, kits, professional journals, as well as resource material relevant to their classroom practice. We pride ourselves on having a collection that meets the needs of teachers in the 21st century. This collection has the ultimate goal of providing information for/to teachers that will aid in the quest for student success, and life-long learning. Connie Mitchell, our Media Library Technician works diligently each day fulfilling this mandate. Connie catalogues, maintains and provides acquisition support for all central materials. She ensures that these materials reach thousands of teachers at hundreds of schools each year. Connie also plays a key role in supporting the technological needs of the entire Programs Department during the many different Professional Development opportunities that support our teaching staff throughout the year. Connie brings a spirit of problem solving, collegiality and joy to her role each day. Staff at the Education Centre and at schools look for Connie when an audio visual, media or library question arises.

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(a) Ontario Library Association/Ontario School Library Association Annual Library Awards (Continued)

Chair Michael Barrett, Trustees Donna Edwards, Christine Winters, Kimberly Zeppieri, and Director Martyn Beckett presented Connie Mitchell with an award and certificate and participated in a photo opportunity.

(b) Healthy Workplace Award

Janet Edwards, Superintendent, Employee Relations provided trustees with information regarding the participation of the Durham District School Board in the Durham Region Health Department's Healthy Workplace Award program. The DDSB offers an extensive Wellness Program which is coordinated by Angela Evelyn, the Wellness Coordinator and the Wellness Steering Committee including a Mental Health Sub-Committee. These committees are comprised of representatives from all employee groups. The DDSB has been the recipient of the Healthy Workplace Award since its inception. The Board has been recognized by the Durham Region Health Department at the Gold Level in Healthy Eating in 2011, Physical Activity-Gold Level in 2012, Healthy Eating-Gold Level in 2013 and again for Physical Activity-Gold Level for the 2014 year. Durham Region Health Department, Public Health Nurse Christine Gianoutsos presented Angela Evelyn with the Healthy Workplace Award.

Chair Michael Barrett, Trustee Donna Edwards, Director Martyn Beckett, Angela Evelyn and Christine Gianoutsos participated in a photo opportunity.

8. Report from the Committee of the Whole in Camera

Trustee Donna Edwards reported on the actions of the Committee of the Whole in Camera. Trustees dealt with resignations, retirements, appointments, leaves of absence, personnel issues and property matters.

9. (a) Public Question Period

(i) Sandra Forsythe, Ajax asked last month for the minutes from the 2012 Ad Hoc Committee on acknowledgement of racism and the path to violence, aggression and mental health and was told that they could be found in the Standing committee minutes. As she could not locate the minutes, she asked if a copy could be provided to her.

Chair Michael Barrett confirmed that adhoc committee minutes are not placed on the website and are brought forward as a report to Board. Trustees agreed to provide a copy of the minutes to Sandra Forsythe.

(ii) Sandra Forsythe, Ajax asked what measures are in place to protect students from discrimination to avoid creating mental health issues.

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9. (a) Public Question Period (Continued)

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby/Safe Schools advised that schools embed equity initiatives like culturally responsive pedagogy into their school improvement plans. The presentation from Ajax schools earlier this evening is an example of positive mental health. One aspect of positive mental health is the Mental Health Strategic Plan. Part of the plan includes training for school staff on safe and accepting schools teams, mental health toolkit, mental health first aid, and self regulation through Dr. Shanker. The safe and accepting school teams include an equity representative and one mandate is to develop safety and bullying plans.

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs advised that the DDSB Equity Officer, Barry Bedford, started in his position today. He will be working very closely with community organizations and all schools and administrators. Barry Bedford is available to answer any questions and will ensure that we are addressing any marginalization with all groups.

(b) Director's News from the System

The Director took the opportunity to congratulate the Clara Hughes Public School Community on its official opening ceremony held on January 29, 2015. The celebration proudly reflected the school's motto of Ignite, Celebrate and Dream! The Director thanked multiple Olympic medalist and mental health advocate Clara Hughes for helping to officially open the Oshawa public school named in her honour. The event was a showcase of student talent in music, theatre and art. Ms. Hughes was also on hand to participate in an outdoor Olympic themed play day with students. The school community, which is made up of students from the former Duke of Edinburgh, Harmony Road and Ritson Public School communities opened its doors to students in September 2014. The two-storey school is approximately 60,000 square feet, with 23 classrooms and a childcare facility for preschoolers and toddlers. A video about the opening event can be found on the DDSB's Youtube channel.

Director Martyn Beckett highlighted the DDSB's goal of providing students and staff with opportunities to build their own personal leadership skills. Recently, Pine Ridge Secondary School hosted a concert to benefit its leadership camp. Student leaders organized the concert that included a headline performance by singer Shawn Mendes. If you're not familiar with Shawn Mendes, you will be soon. He is a grade 11 student at Pine Ridge S.S. who is making waves within the music industry. Sean spoke of the impact Pine Ridge's leadership camp had on his life: meeting new friends, and learning leadership skills, teamwork, empathy and resilience. The concert was able to raise over \$10,000 with the help of Shawn, other Pine Ridge alumni, students and staff. The Director thanked Shawn Mendes and all of the students involved for demonstrating leadership and congratulated all involved on hosting a highly successful event. You can see the event video on the DDSB's YouTube channel.

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

The Director congratulated Port Perry High School student, Will LeBlanc, on winning medals in the Special Olympic Ontario Winter Games recently held in North Bay. Will competed in Speed Skating in the 500 meter, 777 meter, 1000 meter and 1500 meter events. Will has been speed skating for nine years and won a bronze and a silver medal at the World Special Olympic Winter Games in South Korea in 2013. He now has his sights set on the World Special Olympic Winter Games in Austria in 2017! He congratulated Will and his coaches on their dedication and perseverance as well as their medals. The Director also wished Will good luck in his upcoming competitions.

Continuing the focus on positive mental health and student well-being, DDSB intermediate students and staff from 16 schools recently participated in the Talking About Mental Illness Summit – otherwise known as TAMI. The event was hosted by the Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences and supported by partners in the TAMI coalition. The Director noted that TAMI is made possible by a dedicated team of trained and supported speakers with mental illnesses who share their stories of resilience, hope and recovery. The members represent school boards in Durham Region, community mental health agencies and hospital based programs. Students and staff participate in workshops and take the information they have learned about mental health back to their schools. Students and staff work together to educate and stomp out stigma around mental health. Director Beckett thanked everyone who participated in the summit and for their commitment to student well-being.

One upcoming event:

Durham District School Board continues the 2014-2015 SciTech Talks series on February 26, 2015 at 7 p.m. The topic will be "From the Big Bang to Black Holes: Canada's Role in the Global Quest for the Stars." The lecture will be presented by Dr. Shohini Ghose an award-winning quantum physicist and popular speaker who will share the recent and astounding developments in the study of space. SciTech Talks are free informal public discussions on contemporary issues in science. These talks are meant for the general public, and no special scientific knowledge is required. All seating is free on a first-come, first-served basis.

More information on this upcoming event and others can be found on our website at www.ddsbc.ca.

10. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting of February 2, 2015

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the Report of the Standing Committee Meeting of February 2, 2015.

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(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting of February 2, 2015 (Continued)

2015:24

MOVED by Trustee Christine Winters

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 2, 2015 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(b) Report: SEAC Meeting of December 17, 2014

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the Report of the SEAC Meeting of December 17, 2014.

2015:25

MOVED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

SECONDED by Trustee Larry Jacula

THAT THE REPORT OF THE SEAC MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2014 BE
RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(c) Unnamed Stonecrest P.S. French Immersion Boundaries, City of Oshawa

Silvia Peterson, Superintendent, Oshawa introduced Carey Trombino, Senior Planner who provided trustees with information to seek approval for the French Immersion program relocation from Seneca Trail P.S. to the new Unnamed Stonecrest P.S., for September 2016.

2015:26

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula

SECONDED by Trustee Linda Stone

THAT THE RELOCATION OF THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM FROM
SENECA TRAIL P.S. TO THE NEW UNNAMED STONECREST P.S. BE
APPROVED EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2016.

CARRIED

(d) Official Naming of the Unnamed Brooklin Secondary School

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby/Safe Schools provided trustees with information to approve the official naming of the Unnamed Brooklin Secondary School.

(di) Official Naming of the Unnamed Brooklin Secondary School (Continued)

2015:27

MOVED by Trustee Christine Winters

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD APPROVE THE NAME BROOKLIN HIGH SCHOOL AS THE OFFICIAL NAME OF THE UNNAMED BROOKLIN SECONDARY SCHOOL.

CARRIED

(e) 2015/2016 School Year Calendar

Director Martyn Beckett, on behalf of Doug Crichton, Superintendent, Operations/Transportation introduced Mike St. John, Operations Officer who provided trustees with an overview of the 2015-2016 School Year Calendars. He also answered questions of trustees.

2015:28

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE FOLLOWING BE APPROVED:

- (a) THE PROPOSED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS;
- (b) THE PROPOSED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS;
- (c) THE PROPOSED MODIFIED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR C.E. BROUGHTON P.S. AND WINCHESTER P.S.;
- (d) THE PROPOSED MODIFIED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR BROCK H.S., HENRY STREET H.S. AND MAXWELL HEIGHTS S.S.; AND
- (e) THIS INFORMATION BE FORWARDED TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION BY MARCH 1, 2015 FOR THE MODIFIED CALENDARS AND MAY 1, 2015 FOR THE REGULAR CALENDARS, SO THAT THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD WILL BE COMPLIANT WITH THE RESPECTIVE DEADLINES AS OUTLINED IN REGULATION 304.

CARRIED

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(f) Appointment of External Members to the Audit Committee

Ed Hodgins, Superintendent, Business & Financial Services provided trustees with information to appoint two external members to the Board's Audit Committee.

2015:29

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT NIGEL ALLEN AND MATTHEW TAPSCOTT BE APPOINTED TO THE
AUDIT COMMITTEE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 17, 2015.

CARRIED

(g) Capital Borrowing By-law 14-2015

Ed Hodgins, Superintendent, Business & Financial Services provided trustees with information to approve By-Law 14-2015 authorizing the loan agreement in the amount of \$35,634,064 to fund construction of the schools and additions listed on Schedule A-1. He also answered questions of trustees.

2015:30

MOVED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE BOARD AUTHORIZE THE LOAN AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$35,634,064 WITH ONTARIO FINANCING AUTHORITY TO BE AMORTIZED
OVER 25 YEARS AND APPROVE THE ATTACHED CAPITAL BORROWING BY-
LAW 14-2015, WHICH PROVIDES THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS
LOAN AGREEMENT.

CARRIED

(d) Notice of Motion – Policy and Regulation #5550 – Student Dress Code

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby/Safe Schools presented the following notice of motion:

THAT THE REVISIONS TO POLICY AND REGULATION #5550 BE APPROVED.

11. Information Items

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12. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested:

(b) Other

(i) Ministry of Education

The correspondence was provided for the information of trustees.

Student Trustee James Hare asked where we go from here regarding transportation in the north. He noted that busses are not filled when they arrive at school and in order to maximize efficiency of bussing the bus ride time should be extended to one hour.

Chair Michael Barrett advised that trustees have discussed transportation costs and will decide if there will be any change in the policy. The Board must ensure equity across the region. Transportation changes will be discussed during budget discussions that will take place at the Education Finance Committee meetings. DSTS work towards efficiency on the bus lines and it is reflected in our efficiency ratings.

13. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

14. Adjournment

2015:31

MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

SECONDED by Trustee Chris Braney

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Chair

Secretary