

# APPROVED

## MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Monday, June 20, 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 7:00 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 Michelina Aguanno, and Kevin Zheng

Regrets: Trustee Larry Jacula, Student Trustee Melanie Manning

Officials Present: Interim Director Luigia Ayotte, Superintendents Janet Edwards, Richard Kennelly, Anne Marie Laginski, John Legere, Jim Markovski, Lisa Millar, Silvia Peterson, Camille Taylor, David Visser, Communications Manager Andrea Pidwerbecki

Recording Secretary: Karen Douglas

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Trustee Patrice Barnes advised that the moment of silence can be used to reflect on this past school year with its successes and on the lessons learned which can be carried forward to new beginnings.

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4. O Canada

5. Meadowcrest P.S.

Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri welcomed the Meadowcrest Voices Junior/Intermediate Choir. The group, directed by Christine Dayman, played two selections, "Penny Whistle", and "Music Matters". Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri congratulated the groups, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

The item "We Have Something To Say" was added as item 7. (f).

2016:63

MOVED by Trustee Christine Winters

SECONDED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED

2016:64

MOVED by Trustee Chris Braney

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2016; AND

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING of MAY 16, 2016.

CARRIED

7. Presentation

(a) Chairperson's Scholarship

Interim Director Luigia Ayotte advised that a Committee consisting of the Chairperson of the Board, Michael Barrett, Trustees Patrice Barnes, Chris Braney, Elinor Hansen and Kimberly Zeppieri reviewed the nominations for the Chairperson's Scholarship. The Committee decided to award the scholarship for the 2015-2016 academic year to Delaney Keenan, a student at Port Perry H.S. Delaney Keenan accepted the award and participated in a photo opportunity.

(b) Student Trustee Recognition

Chair Michael Barrett, on behalf of the Trustees, thanked Student Trustees Michelina Aguanno, Melanie Manning, and Kevin Zheng for their contribution and leadership on behalf of the students of the Board over the 2015/2016 academic year. He presented Student Trustee Michelina Aguanno and Kevin Zheng with a keepsake. (Student Trustee Melanine Manning was unable to attend the meeting.) He noted that Student Trustee Kevin Zheng has been re-elected and will be rejoining the Board for 2016-2017. Student Trustees Michelina Aguanno and Melanie Manning were wished all the best in their future studies.

(c) ECE National Award

Lisa Millar, Superintendent of Education/Operations/Leadership Development/Early Years introduced Laurie Higgins, recipient of the Prime Minister's Award, the highest national award for K-12 teachers and early childhood educators in Canada. The award honours the tremendous contribution outstanding educators have made to the children and students they teach, as well as their colleagues, their schools and communities. Laurie Higgins, Carruther's Creek P.S. has twenty years of experience as an early childhood educator. She honours the strengths, needs and differences of students and provides a stimulating and engaging learning environment. Laurie Higgins was presented with her award and thanked for her contributions to students

(d) Teaching English: From the Book to the Question – J. Clarke Richardson C.I.

Camille Taylor, Superintendent of Education/School Councils/Parent Engagement introduced Gillian Cowan, Head of English and Brent Woodward, Principal, J. Clarke Richardson C.I. who made a presentation relating to an initiative engaging critical student thinking in the English program at J. Clarke Richardson C.I. The program serves to explore ideas and resources to help students build their ideas and understanding rather than focusing on content knowledge. The progress of the project over the past three years was outlined and its positive impact on students.

Chair Michael Barrett thanked staff for their exploration on inquiry based learning and for their leadership in this area.

(e) Ignite Leadership: Next Steps

Lisa Millar, Superintendent of Education/Operations/Leadership Development/Early Years introduced Karla Torrente, Officer, Leadership Development and Arlene Walkes, Manager, Employee Relations who presented an overview of next steps in Ignite Leadership and supporting and building leadership capacity at the Board. The next phase of Ignite Leadership will be the development and launch of a Growth Track Series to support aspiring, new and experienced focus will be on the Management, Professionals and Administrative (MPA) and Vice-Principals and Principals employee groups. A lunch hour series for the MPA group has been very beneficial. Topics of interest for next year have

(e) Ignite Leadership: Next Steps (Continued)

been provided through feedback. A Leadership Steering Committee has been established which will help to plan for the leadership initiatives for the future.

Chair Michael Barrett thanked staff for the presentation and stressed the importance to the system of creating future leaders.

(f) We Have Something to Say – Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth

Trustee Donna Edwards and her daughter, Victoria Edwards, a graduate from the Durham District School Board, made a presentation relating to “We Have Something to Say – Young People and Their Families Speaking out About Special Needs and Change” from the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth.

The presentation explained the mandate of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth, and the supporting studies, strategies, initiatives and legislation. The greatest concern of the Provincial Advocate was the process as young people with special needs and their families were not at the table as a partner. It was therefore the time to bring child and youth voices into a conversation with the government and other decision makers. The Committee was established in 2013 and has more than thirty members ranging in ages from 8 -30 from across the province. Information was gathered from schools, service organizations, and hospitals through consultation and information sessions. The report listed four gap areas with eight to ten recommendations for each area. Some of the quotes from the report were listed for Trustees. Victoria Edwards also spoke to her own personal school experiences. The report recommended that all levels of government and service providers in Ontario recognize and respect the knowledge that family members have about their children and that child and youth generally know themselves best and are experts about their own life experiences. Trustee Donna Edwards stated that while most of the recommendations are made to the government, as a school board, we can review the recommendations and change policies and procedures to ensure the voices of youth with special needs are heard. Consideration could be given to ensuring that youth with special needs are included on student councils, student senate and on SEAC. Youth with special needs are people who have dreams and wishes for their lives and want to be valuable contributors and want providers, parents and government to stop seeing them in terms of limitations.

Chair Michael Barrett thanked Trustee Donna Edwards and Victoria Edwards for their presentation and asked that this item be re-examined in the Fall of 2016 to see what changes can be implemented by the Board in response to the report.

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, and property matters and employee relations.

8. Report from the Committee of the Whole in Camera (Continued)

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Operations/Leadership/Early Years advised that an approved transfer will be posted on the Board website.

9. (a) Public Question Period

- (i) Mike Ecklund, Oshawa, asked if it is now a requirement for school community councils to use the cash online system or equivalent and whether this could be clarified for schools and principals?

David Visser, Associate Director and Treasurer of the Board stated that the cash online system is very effective for the deposit and allocation of funds from parents and other stakeholders, but it is not the only means. He stated that he would be pleased to connect with the Area Superintendent and Principal of the school to clarify the system. He noted it is an optional system.

- (ii) Robbie Ichelson, Whitby asked why bussing is not allowed for students in junior kindergarten/senior kindergarten when their siblings are attending French Immersion schools when the children will eventually be attending the French Immersion program? The Durham Catholic District School Board permits bussing in these cases. Should this not be allowed to ensure inclusivity and respect for children's needs?

David Visser, Associate Director and Treasurer of the Board stated that siblings of students attending single track French Immersion schools can apply for out-of-area on a first-come, first-serve basis. Staff have been completing an analysis of school "bell-times" to find efficiencies, and changes will be implemented in September 2017.

Robbie Ichelson stated that he appreciates that a review is being undertaken, but that many parents are experiencing a financial strain as a result and that implementation in 2017 will be too late for many of these parents. Can individual situations be considered on a need basis?

Chair Michael Barrett stated that there was previously a process where parents could make application for empty seats on bussing (surplus seating). This was ended several years ago because the Board was receiving far more applications for seats than were available. The changes which will be made by the Board in 2017 will be a major improvement, but are not possible for the Fall of 2016. The Durham Catholic District School Board has been attempting to address declining enrolment. If you give special consideration in individual situations, you are likely to make one parent happy and ten others unhappy. Chair Michael Barrett stated that he can share a copy of the report eliminating surplus seating

9. (a) Public Question Period (Continued)

- (iii) Julia McCrea, Oshawa asked if Trustees will consider defying the rules of the Ministry of Education by not passing a balanced budget so that the Durham District School Board's Special Education Department will receive the funding necessary to address the increasing demands of students as identified in support of the Fund the Need campaign?

Chair Michael Barrett stated that the Board is not prepared to pass an unbalanced budget given that the ramifications would be takeover by the Province. Under the Education Act, the Board must pass a balanced budget; therefore, in order for Trustees to be a voice for public education, this would not be advisable. The collective voice would be silenced and stilled.

Julia McCrea asked about the Board's plan to further grow "The Fund the Need" campaign to ensure more special education funding?

Chair Michael Barrett stated that the Board's One in Four Campaign is being picked up by other Boards. The Ontario Public School Boards' Association has a continuing task force and will continue to apply pressure on the Ministry of Education. Other boards across the province are experiencing shortfalls as well which demonstrates a need to change the funding model.

- (iv) Rosalia Alfonso stated that she would like to extend a note of appreciation to the Board regarding the Board's decision to continue with bussing services for many children living on Harrongate Place in Whitby. This decision came as a great relief to her family and she hopes that any future decisions to cut services will be reconsidered.

Chair Michael Barrett stated that the Board appreciates the thanks. There will be more transportation changes in 2017, but the Board remains focused on spending wherever possible more on Special Education rather than transportation as it is a higher priority.

(b) Director's News from the System

Interim Director of Education, Luigia Ayotte, highlighted National Aboriginal History Month events and festivities happening at the DDSB. Each June, Canadians are invited to celebrate the contributions of Indigenous people in Canada by taking part in National Aboriginal History Month. Declared in 2009, National Aboriginal History Month is a time to acknowledge the role Indigenous peoples played, and continue to play, in the development of Canada, to honour Indigenous heritage and to celebrate Indigenous cultures. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the strength of present day First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities, and their hopes for the future. During this month, the DDSB is holding a number of events to mark the occasion. Today, the DDSB raised the Mississaugas of Scugog Island Flag for the first time to honour the traditional territory. Student work related to the study of First Nation, Métis and Inuit in the curriculum from elementary and secondary schools is on display during the week of June 20 in the atrium to honour the heritage, contribution, and cultures. Schools will share a number of resources with students including, Did You Know Facts for daily announcements,

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

link to "O Canada" sung in Anishinaabe, and a slide show of First Nation leaders locally and nationally.

This year a banner has been created, in consultation with Chief and Council from the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation to acknowledge the traditional territory. The banner will be displayed in all DDSB schools. In addition, the Aboriginal Education Department is visiting classrooms to share the local history, discuss Truth and Reconciliation, the Legacy of Residential schools and Social Justice activities.

Interim Director Ayotte congratulated three DDSB elementary schools on the occasion of their 25th Anniversaries:

- Applecroft Public School in Ajax
- Ormiston Public School in Whitby
- Stephen Saywell Public School in Oshawa

She also congratulated Eastdale CVI on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary.

Interim Director Ayotte thanked everyone who helped to organize these important milestones that bring community members, alumni, parents and students together to celebrate.

Congratulations are also extended to two DDSB schools that recently celebrated their official openings. Congratulations to Brooklin High School and Michaelle Jean Public School in Ajax on their official opening ceremonies.

There is much to celebrate this spring at the DDSB. More information and videos about these events can be viewed on our website.

Interim Director Ayotte also to extended best wishes to all DDSB employees who have or are about to retire this school year and extended her thanks for service in supporting student success and wished everyone a happy, healthy retirement.

Interim Director Ayotte also congratulated graduating students. First to our Kindergarten students who now graduate to grade one and to the "big yard" at school, to our Grade 8 students who have made some great memories as children and are now transitioning to secondary school, and to our secondary school students as they near completion of their secondary school careers. Interim Director Ayotte wished all of our graduates much future success as they embark on this next chapter in their lives.

In closing, as this is the final board meeting for the school year, Interim Director Ayotte thanked students, staff and trustees for all their hard work this school year and wished everyone a safe and relaxing summer

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10. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting of June 6 2016

Trustee Carolyn Morton presented the report of the Standing Committee meeting of June 6, 2016.

2016:65

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 6, 2016 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(b) Report: SEAC Meeting of April 21, 2016 and May 19, 2016

Trustee Patrice Barnes presented the report of the SEAC meeting of April 21, 2016 and May 19, 2016. She also answered questions of trustees.

2016:66

MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT SHARON BURGESS WILL BE THE NON-VOTING SEAC REPRESENTATIVE AND JULIE SIDLER WILL BE THE ATLERNATE NON-VOTING REPRESENTATIVE FOR COMMUNITY LIVING AJAX, PICKERING AND WHITBY.

CARRIED

2016:67

MOVED by Trustee Chris Braney

SECONDED by Trustee Linda Stone

THAT THE REPORT OF THE SEAC MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2016 and MAY 19, 2016 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

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(c) Learning Innovative School Design Committee Recommendations

David Visser, Associate Director provided Trustees with updated information relating to the learnings and recommendations of the Learning Innovative School Design Committee. Committee members were recognized and the timelines of the project were reviewed. Consideration will be given to upcoming projects to incorporating some of the recommendations made while still remaining within the funding provided by the Ministry of Education. David Visser responded to questions from Trustees.

(d) Report: Education Finance Committee Meetings of May 24, 2016, May 31, 2016 and June 7, 2016

Trustee Elinor Hansen presented the report of the Education Finance Committee meetings of May 24, 2016, May 31, 2016 and June 7, 2016.

2016:68

MOVED by Trustee Elinor Hansen  
SECONDED by Carolyn Morton

THAT THE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT RATE BE CONFIRMED AT \$0.45/KM  
EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2016.

CARRIED

2016:69

MOVED by Trustee Elinor Hansen  
SECONDED by Trustee Linda Stone

THAT THE 2016-2017 DRAFT BUDGET CONTAINING TOTAL REVENUES OF  
\$803,709,256 AND TOTAL EXPENSES OF \$790,643,728 PREPARED IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING BOARD (PSAB)  
STANDARDS BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

(e) 2016 – 2020 Draft Official Enrolment Projections

Christine Nancekivell, Manager of Property and Planning Services, provided information on the October 31, 2016 Official Enrolment Projections and noted the OEP summary tables in Appendix A for the information of Trustees.

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(f) Official Naming of the Unnamed Stonecrest P.S.

Silvia Peterson, Superintendent of Education/Schools presented a report relating to the official naming of the Unnamed Stonecrest P.S. The school is located at 950 Coldstream Drive in Oshawa and is scheduled to open in September 2016.

2016:70

MOVED by Trustee Linda Stone

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD APPROVE THE NAME  
JEANNE SAUVÉ PUBLIC SCHOOL AS THE OFFICIAL NAME OF THE UNNAMED  
STONECREST PUBLIC SCHOOL IN OSHAWA.

CARRIED

(g) Updates to 2016-2017 Draft Budget Materials

David Visser, Associate Director and Treasurer of the Board provided Trustees with the updated 2016-2017 Draft Budget Book as information for consideration. Trustee Elinor Hansen was thanked for her efforts in the preparation of the budget as was Glen Regier, Manager, Budget, Ministry Reports and Services. Chair Michael Barrett wished Glen Regier congratulations and best wishes on his promotion and his regrets that he would be leaving the Board for a new position.

(h) Request for Capital Project Funding Submissions

David Visser, Associate Director and Treasurer of the Board, and Christine Nancekivell, Manager of Property and Planning Services provided Trustees with information surrounding the May 26, 2016 request from the Ministry of Education regarding Capital Project Funding submissions for July 15, 2016.

11. Information Items

(a) OPSBA Report

Trustee Linda Stone reported on the OPSBA report. Trustees gathered the previous week in Ottawa for OPSBA's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. The DDSB had six trustees in attendance. A Board of Directors' meeting was held prior to the start of the Annual General Meeting. The Auditor General's special report was reviewed regarding Government payments to education sector unions. There were six recommendations along with Ministry responses. The audit was requested in relation to the decision of the Ontario Government to pay education bargaining costs to unions in the amount of \$80.5 million since the year 2000. This report can be found online.

(a) OPPSBA Report (Continued)

The Board of Directors was given an update regarding the court ruling concerning payment of post-retirement benefits to retirees over age 65. Two Ontario boards were involved in the ruling. They both had collective agreement provisions stating that the benefits will be paid and the court ruled, after the Ministry had ordered the boards to stop paying, that the boards have the authority to continue paying the benefits.

There was an update from the Ombudsman's office that there are not currently any investigations being conducted related to school boards.

The transportation procurement contract guide will come to boards over the summer. There will be five union trusts and one non-union trust for benefit trusts.

The copyright issue is unchanged, and boards are to continue with the fair dealings advice.

There was a discussion relating to the recent suicides in Woodstock, Ontario. A trustee from that region reported that there are help lines and social workers in schools to work with students, but these resources are not be accessed and instead students appear to be turning to each other for support. After a large student rally, there were 17 more suicide attempts.

The Board of Directors' received OPSBA's discussion paper on EQAO and Large Scale Testing in Ontario.

At the Annual General meeting, David Usher, a solo, awarding winning artist, was a keynote speaker around the topic of creativity. Over two days, there were fourteen ten minute information sessions on various topics including junior coding, advancing student engagement, Theatre Outreach on Stage, and SSNet.

Laurie French was elected as the new President of OPSBA. Jerry Chadwick will be first Vice President, Cathy Abraham as second Vice President, and Michael Barrett stepped down as President, but will remain on the executive Committee as Past President.

Trustee Linda Stone congratulated Donna Edwards on her election to the position of Regional Vice President. She will continue in her fifth year on the Policy Development Work Team. Congratulations were also extended to Patrice Barnes who was elected to serve on the Education Program Work Group.

A recommendation was passed at the Board of Directors' meeting stating that all OPSBA meetings open with an acknowledgement of the event being held on traditional territory. It was suggested that it would also be appropriate to open Durham District School Board meetings with an acknowledgement that they take place on the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nations under the Williams Treaties.

(a) OPSBA Report (Continued)

2016:71

MOVED by Trustee Linda Stone

SECONDED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT MEETINGS OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD BEGIN WITH AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT WE ARE ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE MISSISSAUGAS OF SCUGOG ISLAND FIRST NATION WHICH IS UNDER THE WILLIAMS TREATIES.

CARRIED

(b) Accommodation Review – Township of Scugog Elementary (Epsom PS, Greenbank PS, Prince Albert PS and SA Cawker PS) – Staff Update Report One

Anne Marie Laginski, Superintendent of Education/Schools presented Trustees with an update on the accommodation review for Scugog Township.

(c) Communications Standard Update

Camille Taylor, Superintendent of Education/Schools. On behalf of the Sub-Committee of the Communications Ad Hoc Committee, presented Trustees with an update on the Communications Standards and Communication Guidelines, and outlined the next steps for the finalization and system implementation of the Communications Standards for Board staff.

(d) Quarterly Construction and Major Projects Progress Report

David Visser, Associate Director and Treasurer of the Board provided Trustees with a quarterly report of the current construction and major projects progress as information. He also responded to questions.

12. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested

(b) Other

- i) Thames Valley District School Board
- ii) Thames Valley District School Board
- iii) Toronto Catholic District School Board

Correspondence was shared for the information of Trustees.

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13. Other Business

Chair Michael Barrett recognized Janet Edwards, Superintendent of Education Employee Relations as she is leaving the Board effective June 30<sup>th</sup>. Janet was thanked and congratulated for her many years of dedicated service and contributions in leading the Board in employee relations.

Chair Michael Barrett also thanked Interim Director Luigia Ayotte for her service over the past several months and her steady leadership over the period of the Director search. He stated that the Board looks forward to Lisa Millar, Superintendent of Education/Operations/Leadership Development/Early Years as she begins as Director of Education on June 30<sup>th</sup> and to her work in serving the children of Durham.

14. Adjournment

2016:72

MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary