

# APPROVED

## MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, May 19, 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 7:04 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 Naleesha Giga (attended at 7:15 p.m.), Aidan Woodcock-Russell (attended at 7:15 p.m.)

Regrets: Student Trustee James Hare

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

Regrets: Superintendent Janet Edwards

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Trustee Partrice Barnes indicated that the moment of silence could be used to reflect on the recent earthquake in Nepal and remember the many people dealing with hardships throughout the world.

4. O Canada

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5. Dr. S.J. Phillips P.S.

Trustee Linda Stone welcomed the Dr. S.J. Phillips P.S. Triple Trio. The students, directed by Rhonda Kirkpatrick, Teacher performed two selections entitled “Cry Me a River” and “Landslide.” Trustee Linda Stone congratulated the group, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

2015:50

MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

The agenda was amended by adding Item 7. (b) Student Senate Report.

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED

2015:51

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 23, 2015;

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2015.

CARRIED

7. Presentations

(a) Math Portal, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Resource

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs introduced Tim Ralph, Technology Officer, who provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation about the new 21<sup>st</sup> Century Math Classroom Resource Portal. He noted the five sections of the portal space and the wealth of resources, documents and videos available for Grades 5, 8 and 9 next year, along with links to rich Ontario-based external resources. The site had 800 teacher views in the first three weeks. It is anticipated that the following year will include resources for Grades 2, 4 and an additional secondary school grade.

(b) Student Senate Report

Student Trustee Naleesha Giga provided trustees with an overview of the Student Senate meeting held last week. She noted the special education guests, and advised that students discussed the labour disruption, tips, next steps, and what students should be keeping up with.

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, administrative transfers and promotions, personnel issues, property matters and employee relations issues. A copy of the administrative transfers and promotions was available to members of the public for their information.

9. (a) Public Question Period

- (i) Sandra Forsyth, Ajax asked for specific examples of how the Board's actions show that the Board is abiding by the provisions of the Human Rights Code, specifically, if there is a policy.

Director Martyn Beckett advised that the Board has worked very hard to follow the Equity and Inclusive Education Framework which includes the Ontario Human Rights Code. Much training, at a variety of levels, has been built on that. Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs and Barry Bedford, Officer, Equity, Diversity & Race Relations have done much work in this area. The Board does not have a Human Rights Policy, and all work is based on the Equity and Inclusive Education Framework.

- (ii) Rajiv Joshi, Pickering noted that the community submitted a petition in 2014. He asked what the status of the petition is and when and where a public consultation regarding the change to the Duffin Heights boundary was held.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services advised that he is aware of the petition provided in September 2014. He noted his March 2, 2015 report which outlines that a number of emails and communication took place with community members. The report outlined the Board's process and answered the majority of questions regarding the petition. The Board's procedure for boundary adjustments does not require that it take place prior to the construction of homes. The redirection of enrolment from Valley View P.S. to Valley Farm P.S. did not require public consultation.

Rajiv Joshi indicated that there is no need for consultation when the homes have not been built. He indicated that the report was released subsequent to 50 homes being occupied.

(a) Public Question Period (Continued)

David Visser indicated that the community asked for specific items. He understands the question that is being posed and can supply a report at the next meeting outlining the procedure and next steps for that catchment area.

- (iii) Sandeep Kakan, Pickering asked if it was not the Board's intention to deliberately split up the community knowing that the community had generated a 180% capacity when the community's representatives alerted the Board of the lack of awareness. He asked if the rezoning was done intentionally, so the Board could divert the issue of building a new school by putting an arbitrary cap on the enrolments within the same community.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services indicated that the March 2, 2015 report outlined the enrollment projections. Staff will continually review the enrolment for this school, and all Board schools, and will follow the Ministry practice of utilizing schools that are under capacity and joining catchment areas. What the DDSB practiced is consistent with the Ministry's intention to maximize the community.

Sandeep Kakan asked how the Board can explain the jump in the enrollment submitted to the Ministry for funding. He noted the limited classrooms for instruction, and the limited washrooms. He indicated that the Board is violating the Ministry standards of 3.2 sq.ft./student, as Valley View does not offer that. Students are outside in winter until the portables are open. The community believes that the data is an archaic projection for 2015 and asked where the data was taken from.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services noted the March 2, 2015 report. Table 1 outlines past actual enrollment and future enrollment. Page 4 outlines the Ontario Building Code, in that, Valley View PS has a washroom capacity that can accommodate 504 pupils. In previous years, there were 10 portables at Valley View PS when the school was used for holding purposes. Valley View PS is not a holding school for this school. When the homes commenced Valley View PS was not a holding school, but was the home school. Enrolment increases and the net deficit of two locations is a shortfall of 56 pupil places. Staff recognizes that the community would like a new school in the catchment area. The site for a new school has not been acquired yet by the Board as the municipality has not released it. To submit a Ministry submission for a full school, 520 pupil placements is problematic for that submission.

(a) Public Question Period (Continued)

- (iv) Baneet Bhakhri, Pickering stated that by rezoning the boundary, the Board simply wishes to wash its hands clean of both substantive issues and he asked for an explanation. He asked if the Board thinks that the community is that uninformed to draw their own conclusions about the Board's intentions. He also asked how long the Board will keep parents and children unhappy over the lack of teaching space, washrooms and the gymnasium at Valley View PS.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services indicated that the March report outlines that a boundary re-designation does not allocate existing pupils from one school to another, an open house and public consultation process is not required under Board Regulation #3313-School Boundaries. The Board recognizes that the community wants their own school. The report also outlines the business case and construction criteria. The community feels it is generating enough pupils to qualify for a new school, but the Ministry looks at the existing capacity of the school and the schools nearby. The Ministry expects that students will be reallocated. The Board will continue to monitor the enrollment and site at this time. When the enrollment qualifies, a submission will be brought forward at that time.

Baneet Bhakhri stated that the community will never qualify for a new school in the next couple years due to the new boundary created. He noted that the numbers would be forthcoming if the boundary was left in the original position over the next year or two.

Chair Michael Barrett asked if enrolment is reviewed for the entire municipality when looking at building a new school in a jurisdiction. He asked what the criteria is that is critical to Ministry funding to build a new school, based on the funding model to date.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services referred to Section 3.1.3.1 of the March 2, 2014 report entitled Business Case Criteria. He noted that there must not be sufficient surplus capacity at nearby schools to accommodate the excess enrolment at the school(s). It must be logistically sound to move a portion of the enrollment to another location. The Ministry can pull up the capacity and enrollment projections for each school. If enrollment was not moved to a nearby school and a business case was submitted, the Ministry would ask why the Board didn't proceed with a boundary realignment. The process the Board is following is the process for all school boards in the Province. This issue is expected to exist for the next 10 years. There must be an 80% average utilization rate, starting from year 2 and extending to year 12. In 2017 there would be a shortfall of 56 pupil places. Enrollment at the school will continue to be monitored.

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(a) Public Question Period (Continued)

- (v) Ahmad Khan, Pickering asked if the Board will redraw the boundary again when Valley Farm PS reaches 100% capacity. In addition to the first petition presented last year, the community presented a second petition for the information of trustees.
- (vi) Simon Maggi, Pickering asked why the Board cannot find \$400,000 for the special education classes that have been cut when it is proposing to find \$1.2M for transportation.

Ed Hodgins, Superintendent, Business & Financial Services advised that the budget process is currently underway. The Board is responsible for establishing a balanced budget each year by allocating money to address expenditure needs. The Special Education budget review of programming is a result of the reduction in high needs money available to the Board which has resulted in the programs review. A recommendation is forthcoming through the Education Finance Committee.

- (vii) Faelyne Templer, Pickering advised that no costs were provided for the two-phase option presented as #4 of the DSTS Student Transportation Report, and asked how it can be evaluated thoroughly, which is critical when deciding budget issues and facing class closures. The subsequent phases will have a cost.

Chair Michael Barrett advised that it is not confirmed that Phase 2 will have a cost.

Faelyne Templer noted that a number of the options have an additional cost for facility improvements like driveways to accommodate bus traffic. Those facilities haven't been costed out. The intended costs for facility improvement is taking money away from small classrooms.

Chair Michael Barrett indicated that the Board appreciates the advice and will take it into consideration.

- (viii) Cassie Frazer, Whitby advised that she would like to follow up on an email exchange with Director Martyn Beckett over the weekend. Durham region students were not able to compete in the LOSSA provincial qualifying event because the LOSSA Constitution forbids students who are part of a labour dispute to participate. She asked if it could be determined that an alternate meet/opportunity could be established to allow these athletes to compete and potentially qualify for OFFSA. The Rainbow DSB held a similar event.

Director Martyn Beckett advised that a number of parents shared in this disappointment and his email response was based on the LOSSA Constitution which is a self-governing body with its own rules. He advised that he will follow up further with the athletic coordinator, but can make no promises.

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- (ix) Gerard O'Neill, Oshawa and ETFO President asked if it is the position of the trustees to support OPSBA's demands at the central bargaining table with ETFO and OSSTF.

Chair Michael Barrett indicated that, based on the representation of the 31 school boards that came forward with a position on the bargaining established at the OSSTF and ETFO tables, the position is shared and endorsed by all 31 boards. Therefore, as representatives of OPSBA, trustees of this board are prepared to defend the bargaining position put forward by OPSBA.

Gerard O'Neill stated that OSSTF has been on strike for five weeks and ETFO is sliding towards the same precipice. He asked the Board to re-evaluate its position.

- (x) Darlene Forbes, Oshawa noted that students in small class placements are there through the IPRC process. Given that the students are in small classes for good documented reasons, will the Board commit to providing direct EA support for students in the small special education classes as they go into the main stream classes.

Richard Kennelly, Superintendent, Special Education stated that the EA allocation process would take into account the needs of the small class students being moved to mainstream, or students moving to their home school. EA allocation is a two-level process. Centrally EA's are allocated by a committee that reviews the small classes and the overall needs of the school based on the school submission. EA's are allocated to the school and the principal allocates them to the classroom based on needs of the class and subject ie. numeracy and literacy blocks.

Darlene Forbes asked who sits on the EA Allocation Committee and asked why the Superintendent of Special Education does not sit on the committee.

Richard Kennelly, Superintendent, Special Education indicated that historically the Superintendent has not been part of the committee. The individuals that form the committee are qualified in knowing the needs of the schools they are allocating to.

- (xi) Akilah Haneef-Jabari, Whitby asked what measurable academic differences will DDSB students experience as a result of ongoing professional training geared at addressing issues of racism in DDSB schools ie. non white/black students the Board will have as of September 2015?

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs stated that the goal is for all students to see themselves in the classroom and that the material is relevant to them. Through the Board Improvement Plan, it is expected that experiences are transferred to the student in the classroom. The Board has reflected on the practices in place to provide teachers with resources and guidance to ensure every child has a positive experience that applies to them.

(b) Director's News from the System

Director Martyn Beckett shared that he recently had the honour of attending the Durham Black Educators' Network's third annual Activating Success awards. The theme of this year's celebration was 'Cultivating Pathways to Infinite Possibilities.' The event is dedicated to highlighting the achievements of students representing the Black diaspora from all over Durham Region. Students attending the event have been leaders in both their school and regular community. Director Martyn Beckett thanked Justice Donald McCleod, the event's keynote speaker. The Director congratulated all of the deserving honourees, thanked event organizers and congratulated DBEN on its tenth anniversary here at the DDSB.

Director Martyn Beckett highlighted the recently held Forest of Reading which was celebrated during a fantastic event last Friday at Iroquois Park Sport Complex. More than 1,500 students from both The Durham District School Board and The Durham Catholic District School Board participated. These Durham students have been participating in the Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading throughout the winter and spring. Students were joined by an impressive list of 18 Canadian authors for the Durham Forest of Reading Celebration. Silver Birch is for readers in Grades 3 through 6, and Red Maple is for those in Grades 7 and 8 and Le Prix Tamarac is for our French Language students. It's a wonderful program, promoting both a love of reading and Canadian authors. The program encourages students to read at least five books from the official list. As part of the program, students then discuss and have an opportunity to vote for a winner. It is very common for many DDSB students to read all books from all of the nominated forest lists. This year's winners are posted on the Ontario Library Association's website at [www.accessola.org](http://www.accessola.org) – a great source for a summer reading list! The Director thanked the organizers and congratulated all of the participants.

The Director announced that nominations are now open for Definitely Durham, the Durham District School Board's Hall of fame to celebrate and showcase the successes of former DDSB students. The DDSB is inviting nominations from the public from now until July 13, 2015. This is Definitely Durham's fifth year. The selection criteria and the nomination form can be found on the Durham District School Board's website at [www.ddsb.ca](http://www.ddsb.ca) and he encouraged everyone to have a look and consider making a nomination. Complete details are posted on the DDSB's website. Nominations will be reviewed by a selection committee this summer and the induction ceremony will take place in November. All inductees will be honoured at the ceremony and a plaque will be installed at the Durham District School Board Education Centre.

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10. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting of May 4, 2015

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the Report of the Standing Committee Meeting of May 4, 2015.

2015:52

MOVED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

SECONDED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
MAY 4, 2015 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(b) Report: SEAC Meeting of March 26, 2015

Trustee Patrice Barnes presented the Report of the SEAC Meeting of March 26, 2015.

2015:53

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula

SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

THAT THE REPORT OF THE SEAC MEETING OF MARCH 23, 2015 BE  
RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(c) Notice of Motion: DSTS Student Transportation Report

The following notice of motion was presented:

THAT THE BOARD CONSIDER OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 4 AND PROVIDE DSTS  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE WITH A RECOMMENDATION.

CARRIED

11. Information Items

(a) Board Improvement Plan 2015-2018

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Board Improvement Plan. She also answered questions of trustees and provided trustees with a copy of the plan entitled "Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being."

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(b) Kindergarten Staffing 2015-2016

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Pickering/Early Years & Child Care provided trustees with an update on current Kindergarten enrollment. She also answered questions of trustees.

12. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested:

The correspondence was listed for the information of trustees.

(b) Other

The correspondence was listed for the information of trustees.

13. Other Business

14. Adjournment

2015:54

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:48 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary