

# APPROVED

## MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Monday, October 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 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney (left at 9:10 pm), Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Elinor Hansen, Larry Jacula, Carolyn Morton, Linda Stone, Christine Winters, Kimberly Zeppieri, Student Trustees Michelina Aguanno, Melanie Manning (left at 9:17 pm), Kevin Zheng (left at 9:10 pm)

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

Regrets: David Visser, Associate Director

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Trustee Michael Barrett indicated that the moment of silence could be used to reflect on the recent loss of a 12 year old boy from the north, and the fragility of life. The Board supports his family and classmates during this difficult time.

4. O Canada

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5. O'Neill C.V.I.

Trustee Linda Stone welcomed the O'Neill C.V.I. Senior Chamber Choir. The students, directed by Erin Collins, played two selections entitled "Go Down Moses" and "For Good." Trustee Linda Stone congratulated the group, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

2015:78

MOVED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

2015:79

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula

SECONDED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MAY 15, 2015; AND

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2015.

CARRIED

7. Presentations

(a) Educational Services Staff Award 2015

Director Martyn Beckett introduced Janet Edwards, Superintendent, Employee Relations who advised trustees that at the June 2013 Board meeting, the Board approved the establishment of an annual Educational Services Staff Award. The award is to recognize a staff member/team affiliated with CUPE, consisting of office-clerical-technical staff, custodial and maintenance staff, and Educational Assistants. These staff support the safe operation of schools, keep schools clean and systems operating, and provide program support to teachers and students. The award provides the Board with the opportunity to recognize an educational services staff member who has made an exceptional contribution to the support of students, schools or the growth of others in the Board.

(b) Educational Services Staff Award 2015 (Continued)

The winner receives an award and \$500 to be allocated by the winner in a manner related to his/her project/program or initiative. A Committee consisting of the Chair of the Board, Michael Barrett, Vice-Chairperson, Donna Edwards, Rod King, President of CUPE Local 218, and Janet Edwards, Superintendent of Education/Employee Relations reviewed nominations and have selected recently retired Bill Dyson, Chief Custodian, S.A. Cawker P.S., as the recipient for the 2014/2015 school year. Bill Dyson was invested in creating a safe and clean environment in which to learn and work at S.A. Cawker P.S. and worked with administration and his colleagues with great patience, problem solving, empathy and perseverance, helping to create a pleasant, positive school environment. He assisted with local community events and was consistently kind, conscientious, and known for his big heart and hard work ethic. As an individual who has demonstrated dedication to his team, the Board and the system, Bill Dyson is a most deserving recipient of the Educational Services Staff Award. Trustee Carolyn Morton also commented that it was an opportunity and privilege to work with Bill Dyson. His contribution to a positive healthy learning environment went above and beyond the call of duty.

Chair Michael Barrett, Trustees Donna Edwards and Carolyn Morton, and Director Martyn Beckett presented Bill Dyson with his award and participated in a photo opportunity.

(c) "Make A Difference" – My Way Initiative Mental Health and Wellness Programs

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Operations/Leadership Development/Early Years provided trustees with an update on the Make A Difference Poverty Initiative and the Mental Health and Wellness programs developed to support Oshawa students. She introduced Alex Toulis, Accountability & Assessment/MISA Officer and Chris Conley, Research Analyst who provided trustees with an overview of the pre and post student and parent survey results. Joanne Jones, Senior Manager, Clinical Care Program and Sandra Chen, Registered Nurse, highlighted the summer group program and the importance of early intervention. Cristina Cox, Principal, Dr. C.F. Cannon P.S. advised that students in grades 4-8 learn strategies to talk about feelings in small groups, or one on one, through the Make A Difference Program. The program assists students with confident and healthy ways to deal with stress and conflict. Each participant had a good entry back to school. Hailey Viau, Grade 8 student, Dr. C.F. Cannon P.S. spoke positively about her personal experience in the program and indicated that she is a better and happier person. They also answered questions of trustees.

(d) Social Justice and Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Operations/Leadership Development/Early Years and John Legere, Superintendent, Pickering informed trustees of the initiatives and activities being implemented to support the DDSB's Social Justice Focus and the Ministry of Education's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy in the Year of the Ally. She introduced Elinor McIntosh, Administrative Officer and Justin AbdelKerim, Vice Principal, Highbush P.S. who provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the Equity and Social

(e) Social Justice and Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy (Continued)

Justice area of focus. A video was shared regarding cultural responsiveness and how equity is embedded into classroom instruction. The resource document is a by-product of the work shared with the Pickering area. They also answered questions of trustees.

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.

9. (a) Public Question Period

(i) Faylene Templer, Pickering asked if there is a policy governing when agendas for public Board events will be made public, or a process by which this occurs. She noted that Board and Standing Committee meeting agendas are posted to the website in advance. Other committees, though public, for instance SEAC, do not post their agendas in advance on the website.

Richard Kennelly, Superintendent, Special Education advised that there is no policy that dictates the timing of the SEAC agenda. The agenda is developed and administered in collaboration with the SEAC chair.

Faylene Templer advised that last year, the Board conducted a review of Special Education. The recommendations of this review could substantially change Special Education and impact thousands of children in our region. She asked in what ways are parents being actively and meaningfully engaged in the review and analysis of these recommendations.

Richard Kennelly, Superintendent, Special Education advised that the Board will work through the review findings and recommendations and will work at developing a strategic plan. Consultation will take place within the Board and communicated to parents. There will be an opportunity for parents to provide feedback on the outcome of the review.

(ii) Simon Maggi, Pickering noted that after the closure last year of many of the small Special Education classes, the Board committed to provide the equivalent of 4 FTE Educational Assistants to support impacted children in their return to mainstream classes, as well as to monitor the transition and provide data by which to assess these transitions. He asked what monitoring criteria are used, how it will be analyzed and by whom, and how parents of these specific children can stay informed as to these findings.

9. (a) Public Question Period

Richard Kennelly, Superintendent, Special Education advised that the monitoring criteria deals with the individual transitions for each student. Staff will look at what the needs are and the timeframe of the transition. The measures of that will be analyzed by staff in the Special Education department. The data will be very specific to individual students and cannot be shared. The transition process relates to the overall support and needs of students. SERTs and/or staff can speak to how transitions are working out, and adjust goals similar to the IEP.

Simon Maggi, Pickering asked what the strategy will be should the analysis reveal that impacted children are not successfully integrating into the mainstream classes, and how this will be addressed to provide children with effective accommodation such that they can meaningfully access the educational curriculum.

Richard Kennelly, Superintendent, Special Education advised that the transitions will have a check-in partway through. Strategies being used will be reviewed and if they are not successful, staff will look at why they are not, and what else can be done. If support is coming to an end, staff will be consulted on a case by case basis. The majority of students require accommodations and staff will work with school staff to ensure accommodations are being met.

- (iii) Sandra Forsythe, Ajax asked how she can obtain a copy of the methodology and findings from the study of extreme cases of aggression and violence.

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby/Safe Schools advised that he is not aware of a study conducted on that matter. Violent issues are followed by the Code of Conduct process. He also noted that the reference to aggression and violence noted in the October 2011 minutes was the motion used to create the Mental Health Adhoc Committee.

- (iv) Akilha Haneef-Jabari, Whitby asked what new items are being unveiled to mark the Year of the Ally and how can she be made aware of items prior to them being unveiled.

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs advised that Barry Bedford, Equity Diversity & Race Relations Officer works with officers and principals regarding activities that are ongoing. At the regional level, superintendents are building on the work that has developed in Pickering. At the school level, classroom teachers take a grassroots approach therefore items are not always known ahead of time.

Akilha Haneef-Jabari asked what the Board is doing about the lack of diversity of teachers.

9. (a) Public Question Period (Continued)

Janet Edwards, Superintendent, Employee Relations advised that the Board has begun putting together a thorough action plan to review recruitment hiring and viewing through an equity lens. Training for administrators will look at where we recruit, where we gain applications, and who is being hired in teaching and non-teaching positions. The Board must work within the requirements of Regulation 274, but is looking at further outreach by reviewing what currently exists and building a plan to reach out to various communities.

(b) Director's News from the System

Director Martyn Beckett took the timely opportunity to thank the organizers and participants in the recent all candidates debate held at Eastdale CVI in Oshawa. Grade 10 students currently enrolled in *Civics and Citizenship* were invited to participate in the event. Participating schools worked with their students to create questions which were used as the foundation of the debate. The debate was an engaging way to involve students in learning through the electoral process. It is also a great way to bring the Political Thinking Concepts to life so that our students can better understand political significance, political objectives and results, stability and change, as well as various political perspectives.

The Director also mentioned that the DDSB had sixteen-thousand one hundred and fifteen (16,115) students participate in Student Vote this year. With eighty-six schools participating, it looks like the DDSB has the highest percentage of schools participating in the country. The Director congratulated the organizers of Student Vote, an excellent program that provides a parallel election for students under the voting age, coinciding with federal, provincial, territorial and municipal elections. The purpose is to provide young Canadians with an opportunity to experience the voting process firsthand and build the habits of informed and engaged citizenship.

On October eighth, the Durham District School Board played host to the authors for the launch of their brand new original book series, '*The Secrets*.' This is the third time the DDSB has hosted a book launch for this unique series of young adult fiction. The seven authors of the '*The Secrets*' series were at the DDSB Education Centre, along with book lovers and fans, to launch their new collection after visiting 14 DDSB schools across the region to showcase their new books to both students and the public.

Director Beckett thanked author Eric Walters for sharing this exciting event with the DDSB and for spending much of the day visiting various DDSB schools igniting a love of reading with our students and staff.

More than 1,400 runners took part in the Durham Elementary Athletic Association cross country Regional finals on Thursday, October 15, 2015, at Lakeridge Ski Resort near Uxbridge. Students from across the region raced in age-based categories, from eight-years-old and under to 13-years-of-age and over. This year, 96 of 107 DDSB schools

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

took part. Students from elementary schools across the Durham District School Board first participated in an area meet the week of October 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> with the top two teams from each area sending their top six competitors to compete in the regional finals. The event also includes a fantastic finish with a parent and teacher fun run – an excellent way to demonstrate the importance of well-being for all ages and abilities. The Director thanked all of the event organizers, coaches and the parents and guardians who participated and provided their support to our competitors.

Upcoming events:

- On Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> – Frenchman's Bay will host its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.
- Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> the DDSB will be hosting 'Rising Above the Challenge of Poverty' Symposium which is open to all members of the education community. The Symposium will take place at the Education Centre.
- On Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> the DDSB will host its annual Volunteer of Distinction Ceremony celebrating and thanking our many wonderful school-based volunteers.

You can read more about these programs and events on our website, [www.ddsb.ca](http://www.ddsb.ca).

10. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting of October 5, 2015

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the Report of the Standing Committee Meeting of October 5, 2015.

2015:80

MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

SECONDED by Trustee Christine Winters

THAT THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
OCTOBER 5, 2015 BE RECEIVED; AND

THAT A BY-LAW REVIEW ADHOC COMMITTEE BE FORMED FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF REVIEWING BOARD BY-LAWS.

CARRIED

(b) Report: SEAC Meeting of June 11, 2015

Trustee Patrice Barnes presented the Report of the SEAC Meeting of June 11, 2015.

2015:81

MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes  
SECONDED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

THAT MELODIE VAUGHAN WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE SEAC REPRESENTATIVE AND AUDREY HIGO WILL BE THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR AUTISM ONTARIO – DURHAM REGION.

CARRIED

2015:82

MOVED by Trustee Patrice Barnes  
SECONDED by Trustee Larry Jacula

THAT EVA KYRIAKIDES WILL BE THE SEAC REPRESENTATIVE AND BOBBI-LEIGH PICK WILL BE THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ASSOCIATION FOR BRIGHT CHILDREN OF ONTARIO (ABC).

CARRIED

2015:83

MOVED by Trustee Larry Jacula  
SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE REPORT OF THE SEAC MEETING OF JUNE 11, 2015 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(c) Update on Communication Standards Resource

Camille Taylor, Superintendent, Ajax/PIC/Parent Engagement updated trustees on the development of the Communication Standards Resource and proposed direction for the next steps towards finalization and system implementation of the Communication Standards.

2015:84

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards  
SECONDED by Trustee Patrice Barnes

(c) Update on Communication Standards Resource (Continued)

THAT AN AD HOC COMMITTEE BE FORMED TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TRUSTEE COMPONENT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS RESOURCE. THIS PROCESS WOULD ALSO ENGAGE TRUSTEES IN PROVIDING INPUT INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS.

CARRIED

11. Information Items

(a) Summer School 2015 Summary

Anne Marie Laginski, Superintendent, Brock/Uxbridge/Scugog/DCE/DASS provided trustees with an update on Summer School 2015. She also answered questions of trustees.

(b) School's Cool and Early Years Readiness Summer School Programs

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Operations/Leadership Development/Early Years provided trustees with information on the 2015 Early Years Summer School Readiness Programs. She also answered questions of trustees.

(c) Elementary Staffing – Primary Class Size Report and Kindergarten Enrolment, 2015-2016

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Operations/Leadership Development/Early Years introduced Mike St. John, Operations Officer and they provided trustees with an update on Primary Class Size (PCS) and Kindergarten Enrolment that was submitted to the Ministry of Education website on September 30, 2015. A video was shown depicting a day in the life of a child in kindergarten. She also answered questions of trustees.

(d) Boundary Adjustment – Carruthers Creek P.S. and Duffin's Bay P.S., Town of Ajax

Camille Taylor, Superintendent, Ajax/PCC's/Parent Engagement introduced Christine Nancekivell, Manager of Property and Planning Services who provided trustees with information regarding a boundary review consultation process in accordance with Regulation #3314 School Boundaries with regards to a boundary adjustment involving Carruthers Creek P.S. and Duffin's Bay P.S., effective September 2016. She also answered questions of trustees.

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(e) Julie Payette P.S. Boundary Review, Town of Whitby

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby introduced Carey Trombino, Accommodation Coordinator and Senior Planner and they provided trustees with information regarding a boundary review for Julie Payette P.S. The consultation process is in accordance with Regulation #3313 School Boundaries.

(f) Donald A. Wilson S.S./Henry Street H.S. Boundary Consultation and Considerations

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby/Safe Schools introduced Carey Trombino, Accommodation Coordinator and Senior Planner and they provided trustees with information regarding the Donald A. Wilson S.S. and Henry Street H.S. boundary consultation in accordance with Regulation #3313 School Boundaries.

(g) OPSBA Report

Trustee Donna Edwards advised trustees that the Board of Directors met on September 25-26, 2015. Board members discussed legislative updates, First Nations report, GSN funding, AODA, community hubs, communications and media, collective bargaining, and transportation. The role of the Ombudsman was discussed and many factors are taken into consideration before an investigation is undertaken by the Ombudsman. It was noted that most complaints are referred back to the organization as the complainant has not taken advantage of the organization's existing complaint process. The AODA Accessibility Compliance Report will be filed by October 31, 2015. She reminded trustees that the Children and Youth Mental Health Summit will be held on April 7-8, 2016. Several pre sessions have already been announced. The OPSBA Central Regional East meeting is scheduled to be held on October 31, 2015 at the Education Centre from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

12. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested:

There was no correspondence at this time

(b) Other

The correspondence was listed for the information of trustees.

13. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

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14. Adjournment

2015:85

MOVED by Trustee Elinor Hansen

SECONDED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:26 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary