

APPROVED

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board

Monday, September 15, 2014

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 Joe Allin, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney, Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Yvonne Forbes, Kathleen Hopper, Carolyn Morton, Kimberly Zeppieri, Student Trustees Naleesha Giga (left at 9:30 p.m.), James Hare (left at 9:30 p.m.), Aidan Woodcock-Russell (left at 8:40 p.m.)

Regrets: Trustees Larry Jacula, Christine Winters

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

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Moment of Silence

Chair Joe Allin suggested that the moment of silence could be used to recognize the new school year, and working toward students being safe, respected and successful.

4. O Canada

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5. O'Neill C.V.I.

Trustee Michael Barrett welcomed the O'Neill C.V.I. Senior Chamber Choir. The students, directed by Erin Collins performed two selections entitled "Hlonolofatsa" and "Run to You". Trustee Michael Barrett congratulated the group, on behalf of the trustees, for their excellent performance.

6. Adoption of Agenda

2014:91

MOVED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri
SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

The agenda was amended to include Items 10. (i) Municipal Election Information and 11. (e) OPSBA CSBA.

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED

2014:92

MOVED by Trustee Chris Braney
SECONDED by Trustee Yvonne Forbes

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPROVED MINUTES BE RECEIVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MAY 20, 2014;

THAT THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MINUTES BE APPROVED:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 16, 2014.

CARRIED

7. Presentations

(a) The Durham Region Parkinson Society Scholarship

Director Martyn Beckett advised that the Durham Region Chapter of Parkinson Society Central and Northern Ontario has sponsored a scholarship to a graduating student in the 2013-2014 academic year, proceeding to post-secondary studies in a related life sciences field leading to the study of Parkinson's or related neurological diseases. The prize is to be awarded to one Durham District School Board graduating student who:

- Is pursuing education beyond secondary school, i.e. Canadian college or university, apprenticeship or other post-secondary education;

(a) The Durham Region Parkinson Society Scholarship (Continued)

- Is pursuing education in the field of science;
- Has an interest in the study of Parkinson's or related neurological diseases.

The criteria for the award is based upon the assessment of personal qualities, demonstrated interest in the study of science, volunteer experience in agencies such as seniors' residences, hospitals, etc., and personal experience with individuals who have Parkinson's. The applicant is to be recommended by their Secondary School Principal. The amount of the scholarship is \$500. The Durham Region Chapter of Parkinson Society Central and Northern Ontario has chosen Olivia Rennie, a student at Pickering H.S. to receive the scholarship for the 2013/2014 school year. Olivia Rennie was enrolled in Grade 12 University level credits in order to meet the requirements for a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience. She is an extremely organized individual with excellent work habits and attention to detail as demonstrated by her presence on Pickering High School's Honour Roll. Olivia has a positive attitude in all situations presented to her. She is a competent, enthusiastic and encouraging individual who is willing to do whatever it takes to aid a fellow student. Her maturity and initiative made her an excellent peer helper in the Grade 9 science class in which she volunteered. Olivia is studying neuroscience in her undergraduate years of university with the ultimate dream of contributing to our understanding of the brain, leading to discoveries that will save individuals from needless pain and suffering, in addition to educating others about the brain's intricate and complex functions.

Harry Murphy, Vice President and Linda Thrasher, President, Durham Region Parkinson Society, Phil Matsushita, Principal, Pickering H.S. were in attendance. Linda Thrasher provided trustees with information about Parkinson's disease and their fundraising efforts.

Chair Joe Allin, Vice Chair Chris Braney, Trustee Yvonne Forbes, Harry Murphy and Linda Thrasher, Durham Region Parkinson Society presented Olivia Rennie with her award.

(b) Self-Regulation Initiatives

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby/Safe Schools provided trustees with information about Self-Regulation Initiatives including Wonderful Whitby Celebration – How Will You Be Brave?, and the Summer Institute – Calm and Alert Classrooms. He noted that one of the schools participating in the wonderful Whitby Celebration is Pringle Creek P.S. and recognized Renee Price, Principal, Kara Trumbley-Novak, Vice Principal, and Safe Schools Officer Ken MacNaughton. He introduced Tracy Krys, Teacher, Pringle Creek P.S. who spoke about student-driven initiatives to help inspire and motivate their peers to "Be Brave". Tracy Krys introduced two students from Pringle Creek P.S. who highlighted their experiences at the celebration.

(c) DDSB 2014 Focus on Youth – Summer Program Presentation

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs introduced Jill Frazer, Facilitator, Cooperative Education and OYAP who provided trustees with an overview of the educational opportunity that Durham secondary school students were provided during the 2014 summer months through the Focus on Youth Program. She introduced Janet Taylor, Head of Cooperative Education at Pickering H.S., and Levon Johnson and Cayne Cayley, students, who provided trustees with an overview of their work placements. Levon Johnson was placed at the YMCA summer camp and Cayne Cayley worked at the Habitat for Humanity store. Both students gained valuable experience from their placements.

(d) Durham Black Education Network

Doug Crichton, Superintendent, Operations/Transportation introduced Eleanor McIntosh, Chair, DBEN and the Executive Members. Eleanor McIntosh, Administrative Officer, Ajax/Pickering introduced Cheryl Rock, Teacher, J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, Andrea Walters, Principal, Bellwood P.S., Tracey Grose, Social Worker, and they provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the role of DBEN in supporting the Durham District School Board's goals for continuous improved, student achievement and well-being. The organization has a mandate to optimize the educational experiences for educators, students, and parents of the black diaspora and works in tandem with the DDSB to ensure that families of diverse backgrounds feel connected to their schools and their communities. It was noted that the Parent Engagement Session is planned for April 11, 2015.

(e) Bruce Mather Award 2014

Director Martyn Beckett 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. 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, Joe Allin, Vice-Chairperson, Chris Braney and the Director of Education, Martyn Beckett, reviewed nominations and have selected Karen Kettle, Teacher, Port Perry H.S., as the recipient for the 2013/2014 school year. Karen retired in June of 2014. Karen is a passionate teacher who invested countless hours towards the improvement of her students' intellectual and emotional growth. A junior science and senior biology teacher, Karen has the ability to see the potential in students and values the needs of others. Beyond her subject areas, Karen's endless patience for and interest in the successful development of young people in general, as both life-long learners and contributing members of society, provides a focus that transforms many students as demonstrated by several submissions by students and parents included in her nomination package. Karen has epitomized a deliberate approach to differentiated instruction and the needs of each of her students, encouraging their education based on a deep understanding of both individual learning styles as well as on what may best assist

(e) Bruce Mather Award 2014 (Continued)

them with the development of self-esteem. Karen's contribution to leadership, at the system and school community level, demonstrates her strengths and interests as an outstanding educator. Karen initiated a student leadership camp at Eastdale Collegiate which quickly became an anchor for secondary student leaders in her area. Karen personally trained her student leaders; then at camp time watched from the sidelines as students became the teachers and took ownership of their student-led leadership camp. As word spread of the success of this camp and the positive impact on school climate, Karen extended invitations to guest teachers and students from other area schools to attend the leadership camp. Nearly every student body in the Board now benefits from her student-led "lead the leaders" camp. Karen's high expectations of her students, as well as herself, allowed her to be a role model for all students and colleagues. She ensures that student and parent voices are heard, acknowledged and appreciated. Karen models the best of teaching, learning and leadership in all that she does. She is an exceptional challenge-seeker, mobilizer and reflective practitioner. As an individual who has demonstrated dedication to her students and the Board, Karen Kettle is a most deserving recipient of the Bruce Mather Award.

Karen Kettle, Caysi Stark, Principal, Port Perry H.S. Joe Allin, Chair, Chris Braney, Vice Chair, Carolyn Morton, Trustee, and staff/students from Port Perry H.S. participated in a photo opportunity.

8. Report from the Committee of the Whole in Camera

Trustee Chris Braney 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, property matters, employee relations issues and EQAO.

Doug Crichton, Superintendent, Operations/Transportation announced the following transfers and promotions:

Secondary Principal

- (i) Caysi Stark, Principal, Port Perry H.S., to Principal, Grove School, effective August 25, 2014.
- (ii) Brent Woodward, Principal, Ajax H.S. to Principal, J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, effective July 17, 2014.

Elementary Principal

- (i) Grayson Hefford, Vice Principal, West Lynde P.S., to Principal, Jack Miner P.S. effective July 1, 2014

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

Secondary Vice Principal

- (i) Ann Armstrong, Teacher, J. Clarke Richardson, to Vice Principal, Donald A. Wilson S.S. (Placed From Short List) effective July 1, 2014
- (ii) Julie Mackenzie, Teacher, Henry Street H.S. to Vice Principal, Dunbarton H.S. (Placed From Short List) effective August 25, 2014.

Secondary Principal

- (i) Andrea Pemberton, Vice Principal, Donald A. Wilson S.S., to Principal, Ajax H.S. (Placed From Short List) effective July 1, 2014.
- (ii) Kandis Thompson, Vice Principal, Dunbarton H.S., to Principal, Port Perry H.S. (Placed From Short List) effective August 25, 2014.

9. (a) Public Question Period

- (i) Stephen Monaghan, Whitby asked why his daughter, who is in Grade 9, is ineligible to take the school bus when the distance to school is over 4.1 km when travelled by streets. He noted that shortcuts are not well lit, and his daughter is currently taking two buses to get to school and three buses to get home. Other students in the area are eligible for bussing.

Doug Crichton, Superintendent, Operations/Transportation stated that the walk distance calculation is completed through Durham Student Transportation Services, which is a consortium between the Durham Catholic District School Board and the Durham District School Board. The consortium operates through our policies and parameters that are used. The Geo Reference Bus Planner contains municipal maps and is used to measure the distance to school. Durham Student Transportation Services can assist with calculating the shortest distance.

Chair Joe Allin advised that Kelly Mechoulan is the Chief Administrative Officer of DSTS and she can be contacted to discuss specifics. The application of safety considerations is of interest to trustees.

- (ii) Sandeep Kakan, Pickering asked what the Board is doing to alleviate the 170% overcapacity of Valley View P.S. and bring a neighbourhood school to the Duffin Heights community. The community is sending 200 children to Valley View P.S. and the boundary at Valley View P.S. needs to be reviewed to establish a new school in the community.

Lisa Millar, Superintendent, Pickering/Early Years and Child Care advised that Valley View P.S. has been used as a holding school in the past for new developments. It was used as a holding school for Romeo Dallaire in 2009 and is currently the holding school for the Brock/Rossland development. She noted that she met with Sandeep Kakan on September 5 and reviewed enrolment numbers.

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9. (a) Public Question Period (Continued)

Christine Nancekivell, Senior Planner also attended the meeting when enrollment capacities were reviewed. A follow up meeting is scheduled to be held on October 7 at the school to review maps/boundaries and discuss the options available. She noted the number of families/students that are impacted east and west of Brock Road and advised that boundaries will be reviewed to help offset pressures.

Sandeep Kakan asked for a concrete timeline to begin the construction of a neighbourhood school.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services outlined the number of students anticipated from the area, and the Ministry requirements as it relates to the submission of a business case.

Rajiv Jushi, Pickering noted that 1,200 homes are to be added to the area in the next 18 months. He asked how long it will take to construct a new school should one be justified. He also presented a petition relating to the school boundary for Valley View P.S., Pickering.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services advised that the catchment area enrollment projections will continue to be monitored along with the boundaries of the nearby schools. He noted that portables are also an option in alleviating enrollment projections. The situation will be monitored and if enrollment projections support a new school, a business case will be submitted.

Sandeep Kakan asked what lead time is needed for the approval process to construct a school.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services stated that trustees and staff work diligently on business cases that meet Ministry criteria and they are submitted in a timely manner.

- (iii) Akilah Haneef-Jabari, Whitby noted that allies are borne of the desire to protect others against adverse social conditions and/or oppression. She asked what social realities in the Board gave rise to the Board naming 2014-2015 'Year of the Ally'.

Director Martyn Beckett noted that the Board has been gracious in granting staff focus on a given year. The Year of Digital Citizenship built on the strengths of the Board as it moved into technology, and the Year of Mental Health gave special attention to building supports and advances already undertaken in mental health.

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs noted several presentations in the area of equity and diversity and the idea to bring together notions and training and highlight it. She noted the DBEN work done through Pringle Creek P.S. She advised that the Board is being responsive which keeps the focus on a specific area each year. Year of the Ally is the culmination of the work the Board is doing

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and has been doing for a long time. Part of the initiative is teacher training whereby Facilitators and Officers are trained and then offer training to teachers providing additional tools to work with in the field.

- (iv) Tracey Ridley, Uxbridge asked why the boundary for qualifying for the bus is 3.2 for Catholic schools and 4 kms for public schools. She noted that the bus has been cancelled and the impact on students is tremendous for those living in the furthest west point of town, taking 45 minutes to get to school. She requested that the bus service be reestablished for students, as public transportation is not available.

Doug Crichton, Superintendent, Operations/Transportation indicated that the 3.2 km was changed to 4 km in 2013. He noted that transportation was provided last year and as part of the harmonized transportation policy, the walk distance for the DCDSB and DDSB is within the DSTS policy. The change in the walk distance is related to a variety of factors including budget considerations and funding from the Ministry of Education.

- (v) Tracey Holder, Uxbridge asked if trustees are aware that public transportation is not available in Uxbridge and, due to the bus cancellation, the only transportation available to students is by foot.

Chair Joe Allin advised that there were a number of significant changes and/or pressures at the time the decision was reached. One pressure was the cost for a student pass in the southern municipalities to use the transportation services network escalating from \$40/month to \$90/month. The issue was discussed with the Region of Durham and it was clear that they wanted to move out of the business of providing transportation to schools. Trustees are aware that Uxbridge does not have a public transportation service and, for the southern municipalities, the majority of students do not have access to a reasonable bus ride to school even if they are willing to pay \$90/month. The transportation service is being extended to all students in a similar way, and the affordability of the action resulted in a walking distance. Trustees are very aware of the implications and the limited flexibility dealing with the reduced grant. The Ministry of Education has audited and reviewed the current practice and endorsed it for top level rating.

- (b) Director's News from the System

Director Martyn Beckett thanked staff for all their hard work over the summer to get our schools and programs ready to welcome students back for another school year. It was also an incredibly busy summer for Facilities Services. This September saw the Durham District School Board open a brand new elementary school – Clara Hughes Public School in Oshawa. Work continued through Labour Day weekend to ensure students were in their new school on the first day. School staff worked tirelessly to make the new schools feel like home to students on the first day.

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

The Director also commented that this was also the final year of Full Day Kindergarten implementation across the province. All DDSB schools now have Full Day Kindergarten programs. This marks the completion of the five-year roll-out of this program, which we know helps give the best possible start to our youngest learners. Director Martyn Beckett highlighted that the DDSB started in the first year of the program with approximately 45 classes, and now has more than 330 full day kindergarten classrooms across the DDSB.

While some were moving into new schools to begin new traditions, others were celebrating a long-time observance. The Director mentioned that we have been fortunate each year since Captain Michael VandenBos Public School opened to, weather-permitting, have a flypast by Canada's Snowbirds on the first day of school. The nine planes roar overhead in incredible synchronized formations – and louder yet is the roar of the students 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. The Director thanked the VandenBos school community for an amazing event and an exciting way to start the school year.

Director Martyn Beckett took the opportunity to remind everyone that this school year has been designated the Year of the Ally. This action re-affirms the DDSB's commitment to supporting all dimensions of diversity and our goal of creating caring school communities. The observance places a focus on encouraging people to recognize marginalization, speak up about it and work together to plan and take action to create positive social change.

Throughout the school year, there will be many opportunities to emphasize the Three As - Awareness, Advocacy and Action – in an effort to encourage all within our schools to be social justice allies.

Upcoming Events

Hillsdale Public School in Oshawa will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with an event on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the school at 525 Oshawa Boulevard North.

Valley Farm Public School will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Saturday, November 15, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the school at 1615 Pepperwood Gate in Pickering.

The annual Parents as Partners event is set for Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The event takes on a new format this year, with the conference being made available via Adobe Connect at four different locations: Pine Ridge Secondary School, Meadowcrest Public School, Dr. C. F. Cannon Public School and R. H. Cornish Public School. This year's event features DDSB Curriculum/Technology Officer Tim Ralph and DDSB Mental Health Leader Allison Potts, who will speak on balancing tech wealth with mental health. Their address will be followed by a series of interactive, face-to-face sessions presented by community partners at the four schools.

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10. Recommended Actions

(a) Report: Standing Committee Meeting of September 2, 2014

Trustee Chris Braney presented the Report of the Standing Committee Meeting of September 2, 2014.

2014:93

MOVED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri
SECONDED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF
SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(b) Report: SEAC Meeting of May 15, 2014

Trustee Donna Edwards presented the Report of the SEAC Meeting of May 15, 2014.

2014:94

MOVED by Trustee Yvonne Forbes
SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE REPORT OF THE SEAC MEETING OF MAY 15, 2014 BE
RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(c) Parent Involvement Committee Report 2014-15 Committee Representatives

Camille Taylor, Superintendent, Ajax/School Councils/Parent Engagement presented trustees with the proposed membership for the DDSB Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) 2014-2015.

2014:95

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett
SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE FOLLOWING PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
BE APPROVED:

CO-CHAIRS
KATHLEEN ABE-GOKOOL
MARY HINDLE

(c) Parent Involvement Committee Report 2014-15 Committee Representatives
(Continued)

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES:

AJAX: KAREN HASLAM AND FIZAL KHAN

PICKERING: TASNEEM SALOOJEE AND MIHAELA OANCEA

WHITBY: MAYLINE BROWN AND HUMBERTO CAROLO

NORTH: TRACEE SHELDRAKE (TO BE DETERMINED)

OSHAWA: VASUKI THILLAINADARAJAH AND PHILIP SWITZER

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

SHERMAIN PEREIRA

GERALD PARKER

JOSEPH SGANDURRA

BILL HOLTBY

STAFF REPRESENTATIVES:

CAMILLE TAYLOR, SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

JIM MARKOVSKI, STAFF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

TANYA SALMON, ELEMENTARY TEACHER

JAMES KLODNICKI, SECONDARY VICE PRINCIPAL

CARRIED

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

Silvia Peterson, Superintendent, Oshawa introduced Carey Trombino, Senior Planner, Facilities Services who provided trustees with information with respect to the commencement of a program review consultation process in accordance with Regulation #3313 School Boundaries.

2014:96

MOVED by Trustee Kathleen Hopper

SECONDED by Trustee Michael Barrett

THAT THE UNNAMED STONECREST P.S. FRENCH IMMERSION
BOUNDARIES, CITY OF OSHAWA REPORT BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED

(e) Short Term Borrowing Resolution

Ed Hodgins, Superintendent, Business & Financial Services provided trustees with the resolution for short-term borrowing for the 2014-2015 school year. He also answered questions of trustees.

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(e) Short Term Borrowing Resolution (Continued)

2014:97

MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

SECONDED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE BORROWING RESOLUTION FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR
BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

(f) 2014 Municipal Elections Compliance Audit Committee

Ed Hodgins, Superintendent, Business & Financial Services provided trustees with information to appoint members to the Compliance Audit Committee for the Durham District School Board for the 2014-2018 term of the Board.

2014:98

MOVED by Trustee Kimberly Zeppieri

SECONDED by Trustee Yvonne Forbes

THAT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS BE APPOINTED TO THE COMPLIANCE
AUDIT COMMITTEE FOR THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD FOR THE
2014-2018 TERM OF THE BOARD:

PAUL JONES

JOHN HUNTER

HOWARD SMITH

CARRIED

(g) Ontario Regulation 357/06 – Honoraria for Board Members

Ed Hodgins, Superintendent, Business & Financial Services provided trustees with information to establish the honoraria for the 2014-2018 Board members.

2014:99

MOVED by Trustee Kathleen Hopper

SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE HONORARIA FOR TRUSTEES OF THE DURHAM DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD, FOR THE TERM OF OFFICE DECEMBER 1, 2014 TO
NOVEMBER 30, 2018, SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

(i) BASE AMOUNT

- (g) Ontario Regulation 357/06 – Honoraria for Board Members (Carried)
- (a) THE ANNUAL BASE AMOUNT PER TRUSTEE FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 2014 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018, SHALL BE \$6,454.00.
 - (b) THE BASE AMOUNT FOR THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR IN ALL YEARS OF THE TERM SHALL BE AS THE AMOUNT SET OUT ABOVE PLUS AN ADDITIONAL \$2,500.00 IN THE CASE OF VICE CHAIR AND AN ADDITIONAL \$5,000.00 IN THE CASE OF THE CHAIR.
 - (ii) THE ENROLMENT AMOUNT PER TRUSTEE SHALL BE 100% OF THE AMOUNT DETERMINED WHEN MULTIPLYING THE BOARD'S DAY SCHOOL AVERAGE DAILY ENROLMENT

CARRIED

- (h) Notice of Motion: Budget Policy 3110 and Block Budgeting Policy and Regulation 3171

Ed Hodgins, Superintendent, Business & Financial Services presented the following notice of motion:

THAT BOARD POLICY 3110: BUDGET AND BOARD REGULATION 3110: SCHOOL BLOCK BUDGETING BE APPROVED AS AMENDED, AND THAT BOARD POLICY AND REGULATION 3171: BLOCK BUDGETING BE RESCINDED.

- (i) Municipal Election Information

Trustee Donna Edwards advised that the municipal election is scheduled to be held on October 27, 2014. She noted that voter turn-out is typically low. She asked if there is a way that the municipal election can be discussed through the curriculum, as a means to provide general election information to students that are of voting age.

Director Martyn Beckett advised that staff would be pleased to make election information available, without advocating positions or support for specific candidates. Information can be provided regarding the election date, and any opportunities, through school websites. Flyers are also located in the Education Centre.

2014:100

MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT STAFF EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF PROVIDING MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFORMATION, AND OPPORTUNITIES, THROUGH SCHOOL WEBSITES; AND

(ii) Municipal Election Information (Continued)

THAT A LINK TO THE OPSBA WEBSITE BE MADE AVAILABLE ON SCHOOL WEBSITES IN ORDER TO OBTAIN MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFORMATION BY CITY.

CARRIED

11. Information Items

(a) Student Transportation Eligibility

Doug Crichton, Superintendent, Operations/Transportation introduced Kelly Mechoulan, CAO, Durham Student Transportation Services and they provided trustees with information regarding transportation eligibility and the policies and procedures administered by Durham Student Transportation Services. They also answered questions of trustees.

(b) Portable Replacement and Renewal Program – Report One

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services provided trustees with an update on the Portable Replacement and Renewal Program.

(c) Sale of Former R.A. Sennett P.S.

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services provided trustees with information surrounding the sale of former R.A. Sennett P.S. site.

(d) Quarterly Construction and Major Projects Progress Report

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services presented the quarterly report of the current construction and major projects progress, as information.

(e) OPSBA Report

Trustee Donna Edwards advised trustees that she attended the Ontario Public School Board AGM which was jointly held with the Canadian School Board Association's Congress, from July 3 - 6, 2014, in Niagara Falls, ON, along with Trustees Yvonne Forbes and Michael Barrett. She attended the keynote session with the Honourable Justice Murray Sinclair at the National Aboriginal Trustee Gathering on the evening of July 2. The Honourable Mr. Sinclair spoke about the history of treaties around education and the impact of residential schools. Although aware of the history of residential schools, watching video testimonials and impact from people who attended these schools was enlightening.

(a) OPSBA Report (Continued)

The CSBA keynote speaker was Chris Hadfield. Mr. Hadfield's main message was to "Plan to Fail". Mr. Hadfield stated that he and his team would practice for a mission until they were comfortable that they would be able to perform comfortably. However, his Team did not stop there. The Team would also anticipate problems and would work out various solutions to the problem. He states that planning gives piece of mind and eliminates anxiety. It is important that we give our students the opportunity to fail so we can provide them the opportunity to develop problem solving skills and help them plan for a variety of situations to help them eliminate stress.

Dr. Pasi Sahlberg, Director General Of CIMO (Centre For International Mobility and Cooperation) in Helsinki, Finland talked about the Finish school system. Finland ranked in the top 10, if not #1, in the PISA (Program for International Assessment). He states that success has nothing to do with the school system but with health care, society and whether the school is ready for the student. The Finnish way of education is based on collaboration, creativity, trust-based responsibility and equity. Dr. Pasi Sahlberg shared some interesting facts around the PISA results. When comparing PISA results, there was a strong correlation between spending on education, social program and the GDP.

Trustee Michael Barrett was acclaimed as OPSBA president, Laurie French (Limestone DSB) was elected as 1st Vice President and Mark Bailey (Upper Grand DSB) was elected as 2nd Vice President at the OPSBA AGM. Louise Clodd (Trillium Lakelands DSB) was elected as Central East's Regional Vice Chair and Donna Edwards was elected as the alternate. Donna Edwards was also elected as the Central East representative on the Policy Development Working Group.

As the OPSBA conference followed a Provincial Election, and MPPs had just been sworn in, discussions were limited. However, trustees discussed labour relations, GSN funding, legislative updates, EQAO, etc.

OPSBA, OCSTA and the French School Board have launched a new website for Municipal Elections. It is an online resource for candidates running for trustees. It will also be reporting election results for trustees. You can find it at <http://elections.ontarioschooltrustees.org>.

12. Correspondence

(a) Action Requested:

There were no actions requested at this time.

(b) Other

There was no correspondence at this time.

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13. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

14. Adjournment

2014:101

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

SECONDED by Trustee Kathleen Hopper

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:36 p.m.

Chair

Secretary