

Board Highlights

DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

On Monday, April 20, 2020, the Durham District School Board held its monthly Board Meeting in a virtual online format. View the streamed broadcast of the [Board Meeting](#) in its entirety.

Blair Ridge P.S. Students Perform O' Canada



Students from Blair Ridge Public School, in a performance of O' Canada, recorded prior to the the current physical distancing protocols
From front to back, left to right.

Row 1: Maia, Brook, Victoria, Abigail, Izzy (clarinets/flutes)

Row 2: Ella, Chloe, Lauren, Mollie (bass clarinet/clarinets)

Row 3: Nolan, Madison, Lauren, Madison, Grace (alto saxes)

Row 4: Hayden, Danika, Gracie (tenor saxes)

Row 5: Sydney, Violet, Hailey (trumpets)

Row 6: Josh (trombone)

Row 7: Owen Aidan Ben (percussion)

Ministry Memorandums and Information Update

Board staff are awaiting two memos from the Ministry of Education. One in relation to Special Education in the time of Distance Learning, and the other will be an assessment and evaluation memo.

The Ministry of Education has indicated they expect schools will be closed past May 4, however school boards have not received official notification of what date schools will reopen.

Ministry Memorandums and Information Update con't



Tentative Agreement Reached with OSSTF

Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) has reached a tentative central agreement with the Province. The next step is to move forward with local bargaining.

Principal and Vice Principal Selection Process

The DDSB has moved forward with the Principal and Vice Principal selection process. Virtual interviews have been conducted with potential leaders.

GSN Funding

Board staff have received notice from the Ministry of Education and expect Grants for Student Needs (GSN) Funding to be sent in early May 2020.

Ministry Memorandums and Information Update con't

School Year Calendar

School Year Calendar approval from the Ministry of Education has been delayed. The process will be the typical standard routine, however they have been delayed in meeting the regular timeline due to extenuating circumstances and other commitments.

Distribution of Supplies to Local Health Providers

The DDSB has contributed just over 158,000 pieces of medical equipment from our supplies to medical practitioners and provided access to our 3D Printers so community led organizations can provide protective face masks.

Work with Food Caterers

The DDSB has supplied equipment not in use to partners in food catering to support individualized dining for local seniors in their residences.

Staying Off DDSB Playground and Schoolyards

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic Signage has been displayed and messages have been communicated to remind our school communities that our playgrounds, outdoor tracks and basketball courts are not to be used due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Special Events are Cancelled Until the End of June

Communication regarding individual special events will go out at the school level to inform school communities. The only exception made thus far is for graduation ceremonies as staff are waiting to analyze the situation closer to our various graduation dates.

DDSB Family Needs

The DDSB has distributed close to \$30,000 in gift cards to families for groceries and other essential items. DDSB staff are continuing to source further donations to our 'Make A Difference' campaign in order to continue our support of families in need, while keeping students healthy, engaged, and learning.

DDSB Good News



Click on the image to watch the Good News that was presented to the Board on Monday, April 20, 2020, narrated by O'Neill CVI students Danielle and Barrett.

Recommendations and Information Items

The Board approved the following recommendations:

- Report: Standing Committee Meeting of March 2, 2020
- Report: Standing Committee Meeting of April 6, 2020
- Report: SEAC Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2020

The following Information Items were brought forward:

Distance Learning Update #2

This report provided an update to the Board of Trustees on school closures and subsequent related activities since April 6, 2020:

- Deployment of Learning Materials and SEA Equipment
- Stabilization of Distance Learning
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Community Relationships
- Field Trips and Special Events

Quarterly Construction and Major Projects Report

Due to the pandemic, and general hold on construction projects, all DDSB construction projects are on hold. It is not believed that this current delay will have any major impact on school operations, student accommodation or childcare operations in either September 2020 or September 2021. If the delay persists, the Board of Trustees will be notified.

Inclusive Student Services – Supports During COVID-19 Related Closures & Distance Learning

This report provided an overview of supports and services for students with special needs and/or in risk during Distance Learning due to COVID-19 related school closures.

The DDSB recognizes that the COVID-19 crisis has had an impact on students and families across the region and that each family and individual will have their own unique needs, which may change over time. Our Inclusive Student Services team remains available during this time to help support families.

Your Well-Being Matters – Stronger Together... Even When Apart

This report updated Trustees on the DDSB Well-Being and Mental Health Strategic Plan 2018-2021 and shared information regarding community supports provided during Distance Learning.

Recommendations and Information Items con't

The vision for the Well-Being Strategic Plan priority is to create welcoming, safe and inclusive learning environments. The goal is to consistently promote well-being for all students and staff by recognizing that good mental health is an important foundation for achievement and well-being.

Regular Board and Committee Meetings

Virtual Standing Committee Meeting

Monday, May 4, 2020

Public Session — 7:00 p.m.

Virtual Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Public Session — 7:00 p.m.



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

