

# Board Highlights

DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

On Monday, January 18, 2021, the Durham District School Board held its monthly Board Meeting. To view the streamed broadcast of the Board Meeting in its entirety click [here](#).

## Ministry Memorandums and Information Update

Director of Education Norah Marsh informed the Board of Trustees that the Ministry of Education is making masking compulsory for students in Grades 1-3 and is encouraging masking in Kindergarten. The Ministry has also committed to expanding asymptomatic testing to regions within province. There will be more information on both items to come from the Ministry.

The District is expecting to receive notification from the Ministry by Wednesday, January 20, 2021 if students will continue to learn remotely after January 25, 2021. The Ministry has also indicated that front line education workers will be included in Phase 2 of Ontario's vaccination plan.

The Ministry has also started to roll-out more training in relation to the Grade 9 Math curriculum.

## DDSB Good News from the System



Click on the image to watch the Good News presented to the Board on Monday, January 18, 2021, narrated by DDSB@Home Secondary students Olivia and Lauren.

## Recommendations and Information Items

The Board approved the following recommendations:

- Report: Standing Committee Meeting of January 4, 2021
- Report: SEAC Meeting of December 17, 2020
- Incident Ad Hoc Committee Report
- Retainer of Integrity Commissioner
- Director's Performance Appraisal Committee
- Option B - Unnamed North Ajax FI PS Boundary
- Option A - Unnamed North Whitby PS Boundary
- Trustee Expense Summaries

The following Information Items were brought forward:

### Bell Time Review

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with an update on bell times.

An extensive review of school bell times, along with a Board-wide consultation process occurred in spring 2017. From this review, there were 28 schools where bell times were revised.

The report advised to continue with the most efficient use of buses and busing needs. An annual review of existing bell times is required to manage transportation within the funding provided.

This report is provided to Trustees for information.

## 2020–2021 Interim Financial Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with an update on enrolment information and budget changes as part of the 2020–2021 Revised Estimates, and operating expenditures as at November 30, 2020 (Quarter 1).

## 2020–2021 Supplementary Funds Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with an update on Supplementary Funding announced or received to date for 2020–2021.

Throughout the year, the Board receives several Priorities and Partnerships Fund (PPF) grants.

These grants fall outside of the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) funding and may be one-time only or in place for a limited period. These initiatives are all governed by agreements that outline the purpose of the funding, expectations and specific accountability requirements. This report is provided for information purposes.

## Secondary Staffing Update

The purpose of this report is to provide Trustees with an overview of secondary staffing in 2020–2021 for both in-person schools and the DDSB@Home virtual school.

For quadesters 1 and 2, the number of teachers at in-person schools was based upon the results of the August survey of families wishing to remain at in-person schools. Due to the increase in student enrollment at DDSB@Home, an additional 50 long-term occasional teachers were hired to accommodate student course selections. Quadesters 3 and 4 will see a reduction in the number of teachers at in-person schools (104 FTE) to accommodate the transfer of students to DDSB@Home. The report provides Trustees with an update on secondary staffing and our commitment to support individual family preferences in the transition to and from virtual learning.

## 2019–2020 Trustee Expenses

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with information regarding the annual reporting of Trustee Expenses, in accordance with Board Policy and Regulation. This report is provided to the Board of Trustees for information.

## Trustees Expense Update

The purpose of this report is to provide Trustees with information regarding Trustee expenses, in accordance with Board Policy and the DDSB Regulation on Trustee Expenses. As part of the transition to move from Board Regulations to Policies and Procedures, staff will undergo a jurisdictional review of Trustee Expense Policies and bring a draft policy and procedure to replace the current DDSB Regulation for Trustees to review and approve.

## Quarterly Construction and Major Projects Progress Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with a quarterly report of the current construction and major projects progress, for information.

The DDSB has not had a detrimental impact on ongoing projects as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

## OPSBA Report

The OPSBA Program and Policy Committee met to discuss an overview of the sector and consultations on the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) to provide detailed information for the Ministry. A draft will be submitted to the Ministry of Education sharing guidelines and thoughts on priorities going forward and what should be funded within the GSN.

## Regular Board and Committee Meetings

### Standing Committee Meeting

Monday, February 1, 2021

Public Session — 7:00 p.m.

Monday, March 1, 2021

Public Session — 7:00 p.m.

### Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Public Session – 7:00 pm

Monday, March 22, 2021

Public Session – 7:00 pm

### Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Public Session — 6:30 pm

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Public Session – 6:30 pm