

Report of the Durham District School Board  
Standing Committee Public Session  
June 1, 2015

The regular meeting of the Standing Committee of the Durham District School Board was held this date in Room 2007, Education Centre, 400 Taunton Road East, Whitby:

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Trustee Donna Edwards, Chair

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Michael Barrett, Chris Braney, Paul Crawford, Elinor Hansen, Larry Jacula, Carolyn Morton, Linda Stone, Student Trustees Naleesha Giga, James Hare, Aidan Woodcock-Russell

Regrets: Trustees Christine Winters, Kimberly Zeppieri

Officials Present: Director Martyn Beckett, Superintendents Luigia Ayotte, John Bowyer, Doug Crichton, Janet Edwards, Ed Hodgins, Anne Marie Laginski, Silvia Peterson, Camille Taylor, David Visser

Regrets: Superintendents Richard Kennelly, Lisa Millar

Recording Secretary: Kim Cox

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Motion to Approve Agenda

2015:11  
MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

The agenda was amended to include Item. 7. (a) Report from the Committee of the Whole In Camera.

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

(a) Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee James Hare advised trustees that the Student Senate meeting held earlier in the evening was well attended as all incoming senators, interested in attending Student Senate meetings next year, were invited to attend the meeting in order to ensure a smooth transition to the next school year. Students participated in an ice breaker activity along with a debriefing regarding the OSSTF strike. There was an engaging discussion on what went well for students this year, what worked and what did not work. Students talked about restructuring student senate for next year with consideration being given to new committees. An interesting proposal was discussed with respect to the formation of a special needs committee, out of Student Senate, to encourage a new voice. Students enjoyed a good bye dinner and heard from former Student Trustee, Francis Asheri, 2013/2014 who has developed a motivational speaking company called Tough Tears.

Trustee Larry Jacula drew the attention of trustees to the Oshawa Generals and their successful win of the Memorial Cup in Quebec City. He noted that 60 junior teams compete and only four teams make it to the finals. Many of the players are only together for three years, and many are students in Durham. The last Memorial Cup win for the Oshawa Generals was in 1990.

5. Recommended Actions

(a) Special Education Adhoc Committee

Trustee Carolyn Morton reminded trustees of the Special Education funding model changes by the Ministry, which has resulted in reduced revenue for special education programming. Over four years, the Board will realize a decrease of \$1.5M. This will impact students that have special needs and the programs and services we provide to the most vulnerable. The Board is also seeing an increase in the number of students in need. 17% of our students have identified learning needs, which means, 12,000 students need targetted support to achieve their potential. The Board needs increased revenue rather than reduced funding.

(a) Special Education Adhoc Committee (Continued)

2015:12

MOVED by Trustee Carolyn Morton

THAT THE BOARD FORM A SPECIAL EDUCATION ADHOC COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS AS IT RELATES TO THE REDUCED REVENUE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING, AND THE RESULTING IMPACT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING.

CARRIED

Possible meeting dates will be sent to trustees to explore availability.

6. Information Items

(a) Year End Parent Involvement Committee Report

Camille Taylor, Superintendent, Ajax/School Councils/Parent Engagement introduced Mary Hindle and Kathleen Abe-Gokool, Co-chairs, Parent Involvement Committee who provided trustees with a year end report on the activities of the Durham District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) for the school year 2014-2015. The Committee is working on a communication brochure for 2015.

(b) Suspension Trends

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Whitby/Safe Schools introduced Alex Toulis, Accountability and Assessment Officer and Ken MacNaughton, Safe Schools Officer and they provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation and information about suspension trends in the Durham District School Board. They also answered questions of trustees.

(c) Valley View P.S. – Creekwood Development Supplemental Report One

David Visser, Superintendent, Facilities Services on behalf of Lisa Millar Superintendent, Pickering/Early Years & Child Care provided trustees with further information related to the Creekwood development community and their concerns from public Question Period at the Board Meeting on May 19, 2015. He also answered questions of trustees.

7. Committee Reports

(a) Report from the Committee of the Whole In Camera

Trustee Larry Jacula reported on the actions of the Committee of the Whole in Camera. Trustees dealt with retirements, appointments, administrative transfers and promotions, property matters and employee relations issues.

Doug Crichton, Superintendent, Operations/Transportation announced the following:

Administrative Council is planning to transfer the following, effective July 1, 2015:

- (a) Adam Leigh, Vice Principal, Sinclair S.S. to Vice Principal, Glen Dhu P.S.

Administrative Council is planning to promote the following, effective July 1, 2015:

- (a) Sarah MacDonald, Vice Principal, Anderson C.V.I., to Principal, Anderson C.V.I.  
(b) Jacqueline Crosby, Teacher, Pine Ridge S.S., to Vice Principal, Anderson C.V.I.

(b) OPSBA Report

Trustee Donna Edwards advised trustees that there was no OPSBA report this evening. She reminded trustees that information is available regarding the upcoming OPSBA AGM, including information on members running for committees. She noted that the OPSBA priorities have been sent out and the Board has input into the priorities.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this time.

9. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

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10. Upcoming Events

The upcoming events were listed for the information of trustees.

11. Adjournment

2015:13

MOVED by Trustee Michael Barrett

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary