

Report of the Durham District School Board
Standing Committee Public Session
October 3, 2016

The regular meeting of the Standing Committee of the Durham District School Board was held this date in Room 1017, Education Centre, 400 Taunton Road East, Whitby:

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Patrice Barnes, Chris Braney (left at 8:00 p.m.), Paul Crawford, Donna Edwards, Elinor Hansen, Larry Jacula (left at 7:35 p.m.), Carolyn Morton, Linda Stone, Christine Winters, Kimberly Zeppieri

Regrets: Trustees Michael Barrett, Elinor Hansen, Student Trustees Avery Jackman, Kofi Richter, Kevin Zheng

Officials Present: Director Lisa Millar, Superintendent Luigia Ayotte, John Bowyer, Richard Kennelly, Anne Marie Laginski, John Legere, Jim Markovski, Silvia Peterson, Martine Robinson, Camille Taylor, David Visser, Communications Officer Charles Senior

Absent: Superintendent Mark Fisher

Recording Secretary: Diane Kent

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

3. Motion to Approved the Agenda

2016:14
MOVED by Trustee Donna Edwards

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

(a) Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Annual Report

John Legere, Superintendent, Special Education introduced Nicole Rands, SAL Facilitator and Heather Hawco-Gray, SAL Youth Worker who provided trustees with a PowerPoint overview of the Supervised Alternative Learning program from September 2015 to June 2016. Student Monique Keene provided trustees with an overview of her personal experience while enrolled in the program. They also answered questions of trustees.

(b) Ontario Summer Learning Program

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs introduced Erin Elmhurst, Officer, First Nation, Metis and Inuit Education who provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting this summers' three week literacy, numeracy program that was provided for elementary students who identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuit, or who are behind their peers academically and would benefit from additional structured learning. She introduced students Cyara Donahue and Jesse McLeod who shared their experiences with the Summer Learning Program located at Lakewoods P.S. in Oshawa. Parent, Randy Donahue indicated that he was grateful that his child had the opportunity to attend the program. They also answered questions of trustees.

(c) Anderson C.V.I.'s STEM Initiative

John Bowyer, Superintendent, Family of Schools/Safety and Security introduced David Rule, Vice Principal, Anderson CVI who introduced teacher Melissa Mahoney and students Christien Forrester and Tatyana Lopez. The group provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation regarding Anderson C.V.I.'s STEM Initiative. They also answered questions of trustees.

(d) Racing With Autism

Jason Riley, Racing With Autism provided trustees with a PowerPoint presentation on "Raising Awareness One Lap at a Time." He noted that Austin is a Grade 12 student at Uxbridge S.S. and a graduate of Joseph Gould P.S. in Uxbridge and he has ADHD and autism. The Racing with Autism organization supports local high school students and athletes with autism who participate in kart racing. He highlighted Austin's challenges through school, but focused on what people with autism can do. Children need to accept children for what they can do and not

(a) Racing With Autism (Continued)

discriminate against what they cannot. Austin races cars that go over 180 km/h and has raced across North America raising awareness for Autism. He also answered questions of trustees.

(b) Manager's Council Update

Mark Loya, Manager, Employee Relations, Labour/Legal and Chair of Manager's Council provided trustees with an update on the purpose of Manager's Council. He introduced the staff from Leadership, Speech and Language, Early Years, and Facilities Services that were in the gallery. He advised that Manager's Council has adopted, and is in full support of, the Coherence Framework. He presented the Chair and the Director with letters of support from Manager's Council that are sealed and include the strategic goals. He also answered questions of trustees.

5. Recommended Actions

There were no recommended actions at this time.

6. Information Items

(a) Student Trustee Report

Student trustee Kofi Richter provided trustees with an overview of the first Student Senate meeting held earlier in the evening. Students reviewed the leadership retreat held in September, the smart goals for student senate, shared best practices and decided on what the individual districts need to work on. An action plan for next meeting was also discussed.

(b) Results of the 2016 OSSLT Assessment

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs provided trustees with the results of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) conducted in the Durham District School Board on March 31, 2016.

(c) 2015-2016 Primary (Grades 1-3) and Junior (Grades 4-6) EQAO Assessment Results

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs provided trustees with the results of the 2015-2016 results of the Primary (Grades 1-3) and Junior (Grades 4-6) Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

(d) Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics – Results of the Spring 2016 Test

Luigia Ayotte, Superintendent, Programs presented trustees with the 2016 results of the Grade 9 Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Assessment of Mathematics.

7. Committee Reports

(a) OPSBA Report

Trustee Linda Stone advised trustees that several issues were discussed at the recent Board of Director's meeting including: labour relations, community hubs, First Nations, legislative updates, employee life and health trusts and education finance.

On July 1, 2016 important updates were introduced to the Integrated Accessibility Standards, for example, service animals as opposed to just service dogs. School boards are advised to have policies and procedures in place that address service animals used by students when attending school and members of the public accessing schools or other school board facilities.

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act also states that if a fee is charged to an event, support workers should not be charged. School Boards again are advised to create policies that address the attendance of support workers on school premises.

A presentation was given by the Children's Aid Society stating they are working toward some new initiatives such as more data gathering and sharing among all CAS associations and district school boards, and considering that only 46% of children in care graduate high school, a new initiative called Joint Protocols for Student Achievement will be started. For students in care, or who are receiving services from CAS and are in need of assistance, CAS will offer resources and connections to a team of support staff at the schools where these children attend. They also talked about their awareness campaign for Child Abuse Prevention

(a) OPSBA Report

Month in October. Go Purple Day is on October 19 and staff and students are encouraged to wear purple. School boards can apply for funding from the Government to put in place innovative projects created by the Board to support children in care. To date, there are 44 projects ongoing involving 500 students.

The Honourable Mitzi Hunter, Minister of Education spoke to the Board of Directors Friday evening. The Minister talked about expanding child and family programs on reserves to make supports more available, the expansion of child care spaces for infants and children up to 4 years old, and the doubling of child care funding since 2003 to 1 billion dollars annually. She also spoke about the new math strategy and the hours of math instruction being no less than 300 minutes per week. In November, the Ministry will begin to focus on what student well-being really means, how we are doing and how we can be better. There will be a focus on looking at the whole person. The Ministry is reviewing the GSN's and how transportation is funded and also working on partnerships with trades like the Iron Works in Hamilton in order to train students in various trades.

She reminded trustees that the central east regional meeting is scheduled to be held on November 5, 2016 and will be hosted by the Toronto Board.

The Board approved the Executive Council report and Priorities Action Plan to advance OPSBA's multi-year 2016-2017 priorities.

Trustee Donna Edwards asked a question regarding CAS individual data sharing agreements and received a response.

8. Correspondence

The correspondence was listed for the information of trustees.

9. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

10. Adjournment

2016:15
MOVED by Trustee Paul Crawford

THAT THE MEETING DOES NOW ADJOURN.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Chair

Secretary