



Board Highlights

On Tuesday, February 16, 2016, the Durham District School Board held its regular Board meeting.

Frenchman's Bay Public School Entertains!

Teacher Tiina Paluoja and the Grade 5 choir from Frenchman's Bay Public School opened the Board meeting with a grand performance of Grandfather's Clock, and The French Song.

Thank you to family, friends and fans for joining and attending the board meeting to support the choir.

Director's Good News

Director Beckett highlighted the 'Technology for Learning and Life Expo,' **Saturday, February 27, 2016 at the DDSB's Education Centre starting at 1 pm.**

The Expo will bring parents and guardians up to speed with the tools of technology students and youth are immersed in today. Parents/guardians and students are invited to attend.

For participants of all ages, the Expo will make school and the world easier to understand and to help to build better digital literacy skills.

The Expo will feature keynote speaker Dr. Todd Cunningham a clinical and school psychologist on faculty at the University of Toronto. Please visit our website at www.ddsb.ca for registration information and conference details.

February marks Black History Month and it offers the DDSB to participate in Black History Month classroom activities and events that honour the legacy of black Canadians, past and present.

Director Beckett shared that the DDSB continues to mark the importance of discussing race, equity and privilege and the Equity and Inclusive Education

Department, in partnership with the Durham Black Educators' Network, recently premiered a workshop entitled 'Race and Privilege.' The workshop explores the concepts of race and privilege and how these manifest in our classrooms and schools. Participants reflect on their bias and deepen their understanding of how it can impact teaching and learning.

In addition, Director Beckett added that the first Equity Book Club of the Year has started and features, 'Teaching Community – A Pedagogy of Hope,' by Bell Hooks. Her book combines critical thinking about education with autobiographical narratives. She invites readers to extend the discourse of race, gender, class and nationality beyond the classroom into everyday situations of learning.

Director Beckett thanked the organizers and participants. The Book Club has enjoyed a great turnout for this series and has a waiting list for a future opportunity.

During Black History Month, DDSB schools are participating in a number of events, activities and learning during February and beyond.

Recently the DDSB hosted the annual Library Conference. This full day conference brought together all of our Teacher Librarians to receive professional development in all areas of school libraries. Director Beckett commented that it is a day where our Teacher Librarians reflect upon the great things happening in each of our school library Learning Commons.

Teacher Librarians attended a variety of workshop sessions that included: library advocacy, integrating educational technology into the library, inquiry based learning, numeracy, First Nation, Metis and Inuit curriculum connections, Growth Mindset, and more.

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The highlight of the DDSB Library Conference was the keynote presentation by Neil Pasricha. Neil is the author of The New York Times best seller “The Book of Awesome.” His keynote presentation focused on his journey from being a DDSB student to his success today. Throughout his presentation he touched on literacy, schooling and the “Awesome” things in life. Director Beckett thanked Neil Pasricha for returning to the DDSB to share his journey and his enthusiasm with DDSB staff.

Director Beckett thanked conference organizers for providing an excellent professional development opportunity for DDSB staff.

Motions

- That the following be approved:
 - The proposed School Year Calendar for elementary schools;
 - The proposed School Year Calendar for secondary schools;
 - The proposed Modified School Year Calendar for C.E. Broughton PS and Winchester PS;
 - The proposed Modified School Year Calendar for Brock HS Henry Street HS and Maxwell Height SS and,
 - This information be forwarded to the Ministry of Education by March 1, 2016 for the Modified Calendars and May 1 2016 for the regular calendars, so that the Durham District School Board will be compliant with the respective deadlines as outlined in Regulation 304.

Please note, the calendars are not final until Ministry approval is received. Approved calendars will be circulated to schools and posted on the DDSB’s website when Ministry approval is received.

- That the Durham District School Board of Trustees approve Section 8.2 of revised Procedure #7113, Pupil Accommodation Review.
- That the attached borrowing resolution for the 2015-2016 School Year be approved.

Regular Board and Committee Meetings

Standing Committee Meeting

Monday, March 7, 2016
Public Session — 7:00 p.m.

Student Senate Meeting

Monday, March 7, 2016
4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Board Meeting

Monday, March 21, 2016
Public Session — 7:00 p.m.



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

