



# Board Highlights

*On Monday, November 21, 2016, the Durham District School Board held its regularly scheduled Board meeting.*

## Brilliant Performance from R.H. Cornish Public School

A very special thank you to teacher Nicola Lee and the R. H. Cornish Jazz Band. The band is primarily made up of Grade 7 and Grade 8 students who opened the Board meeting with O Canada and a brilliant rendition of the chart "Oye Como Va" by Tito Puente.

Thank you for sharing your time and to family, friends and fans for attending the board meeting to support the students in their outstanding performance.

## Definitely Durham Awards

Before tonight's Board Meeting, [Definitely Durham](#), the DDSB's hall of fame inducted its newest members.

[Definitely Durham](#) celebrates and showcases the successes of its former students and public education in our community.

This year's inductees are:

- **Perdita Felicien**
- **Rex Grignon**
- **Governor Stephen S. Poloz**

## Perdita Felicien

Perdita Felicien is a two-time Olympian, 10-time National Champion and the only Canadian woman to win a World Championship gold medal in track and field. During her career as a 100-metre hurdler she earned numerous honours, including Canada's Athlete of the Year, Keys to the City of Pickering, and the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal.



*Pickering Trustee Chris Braney and Whitby Trustee Christine Winters present Perdita Felicien's mom, Cathy Browne with the award of distinction.*

## Governor Stephen S. Poloz

Stephen S. Poloz was appointed Governor of the Bank of Canada, effective June 2013, for a term of seven years. He is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank and a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS). He currently chairs both the BIS Audit Committee and the Consultative Council for the Americas.

*Unfortunately, Governor Stephen S. Poloz was unable to attend the ceremonies..*

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## Rex Grignon

As Head of Character Animation at DreamWorks for 18 years, Rex Grignon has been a pioneer in the field of computer animation.



*Whitby Trustee Christine Winters (right) and Pickering Trustee Chris Braney (left) proudly present Rex with his award of distinction.*

[Read more](#) about Definitely Durham and this year's inductees.

## Director's Good News

On November 7th David Bouchard Public School in Oshawa hosted a visit from Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education; David Zimmer, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; and representatives of our First Nations communities to celebrate Ontario's inaugural Treaties Recognition Week. It also marked the launch of Gdoo-Sastamoo Kii Mi – also known as Understanding Our Nation to Nation Relationship. Gdoo-Sastamoo Kii Mi is a high school education toolkit representing the provincial government's commitment to rebuilding relationships with First Nations communities based on trust and respect by honouring the importance of treaties and helping people learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships.

Our Safe Schools department also hosted our annual Bullying Awareness and Prevention conference on November 17th with over 100 participants attending from across the DDSB representing both elementary and secondary schools. Students learned about the power of words to address verbal bullying while learning about student-led initiatives to combat verbal bullying and how students can use words to inspire and create safe, positive environments for all voices. Many of our students were able to use their own voice

with media present to state the importance of positive words and safe environments.

We are also pleased to announce the DDSB and Advancing Access to Affordable Recreation in Durham (AAARD) have been awarded a \$548,000 grant in round two of the Local Poverty Reduction Fund (LPRF) administered by the Ontario Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy Office. The purpose of the LPRF is to showcase and evaluate innovative, local, community-driven solutions to poverty – with a focus on preventing or lifting people out of poverty. The grant will focus on reducing poverty rates of vulnerable populations while learning how to improve participation rates in recreation and active living initiatives. We are excited to be the lead partner.

This past weekend our Special Education department hosted the second Tech for Learning and Life Expo giving participants from our schools and communities an opportunity to better navigate some of the devices, apps and general programs students, teachers and schools are currently using. Participants of all ages attended the weekend Expo with the goal of making schools and the world around them easier to navigate technologically while understanding and helping to build better digital literacy skills.

On Saturday, October 22nd, DDSB staff were delighted to host our most recent Kindergarten Symposium at the Ed. Centre. The symposium was well attended with well over 300 educators learning together on a Saturday and sharing their dedication to students. The Kindergarten Symposium supported numeracy learning with coaches, facilitators, early childhood educators and teacher presenters working and learning together.

On November 15th elementary and secondary principals, and mathematics department heads were engaged in a full-day of leadership activities at the Education Centre designed to successfully implement our renewed math strategy. Our vision of the renewed math strategy is to foster a mathematical learning culture strategically aimed at improving student achievement by providing quality programs and improved instruction to ensure all students are able to see themselves as competent in mathematics.

Students and staff at Dunbarton High School were invited by the City of Pickering to partner with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority for one period on October 18th to plant trees at Ernie L. Strouds Park. The invitation was a continuation of the environmental rehabilitation that has been performed over the past three years with leadership from TRCA and City of Pickering staff. We thank them for keeping our students involved in this ongoing partnership.



On November 3rd, students at Ajax High School participated in 'The Inside Ride.' The event is an energetic indoor cycling celebration that raises funds in support of children and their families living with and beyond childhood cancer. Ajax High School students and staff teamed up to have a fun time while raising awareness during the indoor-cycling challenge energizing participants, spectators and volunteers.

Last week our Special Education department held their Transition Night seminars for students moving on from secondary to post-secondary education. The Transition Night seminars answered questions for parents regarding resources and how to access them. The seminars addressed additional supports available to families and students and guided families in understanding the various employment and educational supports accessible for our students once they have completed their education with the DDSB.

College Hill Public School students in Oshawa were treated to a fun time last month as members of the UOIT Womens' Hockey team invited students to join them for a hockey game at the campus facilities. Many of the womens' hockey team players were gracious enough to join students at the school for a personal visit thanking them for their participation at the game.

Congratulations to Whitby's Anderson CVI midget boys' cross country team as well as Ajax's Pickering High School senior girls' basketball team for capturing LOSSA gold. Both teams will represent the DDSB at the upcoming provincial championships.

The United Way's Great Conversations was held on October 31st with participation from Director Millar. The event was a fundraiser with community leaders sharing experiences through stimulating conversations over lunch with community members and guests.

A unique partnership at Whitby's Bellwood Public School was announced between students and Durham Region Police Services. Bellwood Public School students have initiated the Sunnycrest Craft Club meeting once a week with DRPS to make crafts for the residents of Sunnycrest Nursing Home. The club is a great reciprocal relationship between students who show pride in their work and gain empathy and understanding of residents through visits to the home.

The DDSB is pleased to announce it has received Ministry of Education approval to proceed with the construction of a new elementary school in Oshawa. Ministry approval was received on October 28th. North Oshawa will be home to the Unnamed Forest Hills Public School to be located at Greenhill Drive and Clearbrook Drive in the City of Oshawa. The Unnamed Forest Hills Public School is proposed as a 519 pupil place elementary school with a four-room child care

centre. Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2018 with a planned opening of September 2019.

Congratulations to Terry Fox Public School for winning the "Harmony School of the Year Award."

### **Highlights of upcoming events and recognitions at the DDSB:**

- This week is Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week with events happening at schools across the DDSB.
- This week is also English as a Second Language Week.
- The DDSB is proud to have recognized Transgender Day of Remembrance this past Sunday.
- This coming Friday the DDSB is proud to also recognize Holodomor Memorial Day and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

## **Diversity is Our Strength and Future**

At the DDSB, we realize Diversity is our strength and Diversity is our future.

In the spring of 2016, the DDSB commenced a process to enhance community and employee voice and to learn about both our strengths and our challenges for the purpose of improving our responses, actions, programs and initiatives related to equitable practices and our responsiveness to diverse communities and focusing on creating inclusive, safe spaces.

This week and next week the results of the Community Voice Project led by Justice Donald McLeod will be shared with DDSB staff, DBEN, parents, students and the community.

Director Millar had the privilege of meeting one-on-one with Justice McLeod to review the feedback and recommendations. While proud of the initiatives and training the DDSB has implemented to support equity, diversity and inclusive practices, there is still a lot of work to do.

The demographic landscape of Durham Region has changed and is continuing to change. Our communities, families and the students we serve represent a rich cultural diversity that reflects our community and the DDSB.



Education should and must be dynamic. We need to continually evolve and improve our practices to support, enhance, celebrate and be responsive to the social and cultural realities of the students and families we serve.

In September 2016, the Board of Trustees and senior team members worked together to examine current practices, review data and plan together. These sessions resulted in the creation of the DDSB Operational Goals, which are the specific goals we want to accomplish and measure during the 2016-2017 school year. The specific, targeted goals are a year's worth of work for trustees and the senior team.

This year, we explicitly developed goals for Equity and Diversity which include:

School and classroom practices will reflect multiple social realities and perspectives to identify and eliminate barriers to learning: and

Ensure equitable access and practices are reflected in our policies and programs to create an inclusive environment where all stakeholders have a sense of belonging.

However, we need to go deeper and be intentional in our focus and precision to specifically address, evolve and improve our commitment to equitable and diverse practices.

On behalf of the senior team working and in conjunction and collaboration with the trustees, we are making a strong commitment to the work needed in the areas of equity and diversity.

These actions and commitment will include:

The establishment of a system steering committee with representatives from all stakeholder groups to guide the work and recommendations from the Community Voice Project

The development of sub-committee action teams who will implement the projects and initiatives

The development of a three year Equity and Diversity Strategic Plan with specific goals that will be measured and reported back

A revision to our hiring practices and policies

A series of projects for Black boys and youth such as 100 Strong and Stand Up

The establishment of a Diversity Leadership program for racialized, aspiring leaders

The continued embedding of equity at each Family of Schools monthly meeting

A pilot program to begin in January 2017 to expand our hiring to external school administrator candidates

A summer reach ahead program to help support students traditionally taking applied-level courses to move into academic level programs

The establishment of Diversity Intelligent teams at every school in the DDSB with specific training to support school level equity and diversity initiatives and programs

An increase in Black Studies and Racialized courses at our secondary schools.

We are also excited and pleased to support Minister Hunter's announcement of the collection of racialized data to assist and inform us on improving outcomes and programs for racialized students. We look forward to the ministry providing school boards with the next steps.

These are a few of the examples of what we, as a senior team and leaders, commit to making happen in the DDSB. We know working with our new steering committee, we will be inspired to create even more opportunities and programs.

In the DDSB, Diversity is our strength. Diversity is our future.

## Transfers and Promotions

The following **transfers** were approved effective January 1, 2017:

### Elementary Vice-Principal

- a) Sharon Knights, Vice-Principal, Pringle Creek P.S., to Vice-Principal, Bolton C. Falby P.S.
- b) Elisabeth Kaufmann, Acting Principal, Prince Albert P.S., to Vice-Principal, Williamsburg P.S.
- c) Sandra Makris, Vice-Principal, Dr. Robert Thornton P.S., to Vice-Principal, Robert Munsch P.S.



## Transfers and Promotions con't

### Elementary Acting Vice-Principal

- a) Jennifer Clark, Teacher, Julie Payette P.S., to Acting Vice-Principal, Dr. Robert Thornton P.S.

### Elementary Acting Principal

- a) Margaret Snider-McGrath, Vice-Principal, Bolton C. Falby P.S., to Acting Principal, McCaskill's Mills P.S.

The following **promotions** were approved effective November 21, 2016:

### Promotions Elementary Vice-Principal *(Placed from the Short List)*

- a) Stacey Christopher, Teacher, Williamsburg P.S., to Vice-Principal, Whitby Shores P.S., effective January 1, 2017
- b) Amanda Clay, Acting Vice-Principal, Norman G. Powers P.S., to Vice-Principal, Norman G. Powers P.S.
- c) Jane Irvine, Acting Vice-Principal, Walter E. Harris P.S., to Vice-Principal, Walter E. Harris P.S.
- d) Allison Kerr, Acting Vice-Principal, Bayview Heights P.S., to Vice-Principal, Bayview Heights P.S.
- e) Lori Peck, Acting Vice-Principal, Sir Samuel Steele P.S., to Vice-Principal, Sir Samuel Steele P.S.
- f) Deborah Sansford, Acting Vice-Principal, Joseph Gould P.S., to Vice-Principal, Joseph Gould P.S.
- g) Melissa Shields, Acting Vice-Principal, C.E. Broughton P.S., to Vice-Principal, C.E. Broughton P.S.
- h) Lisa Marie St. John, SERT, Forest View P.S., to Vice-Principal, Pringle Creek P.S., effective January 1, 2017

- i) Debbie Steeves, Acting Vice-Principal, Roland Michener P.S., to Vice-Principal, Roland Michener P.S.

### Promotions Elementary Principal

*(Placed from the Short List)*

- a) Paul Haines, Acting Principal, Lakewoods P.S., to Principal, Lakewoods P.S.
- b) Lisa Hill, Acting Principal, Beau Valley P.S., to Principal, Beau Valley P.S.
- c) Karen McCready, Acting Principal, C.E. Broughton P.S., to Principal, C.E. Broughton P.S.
- d) Barbara Speed, Acting Principal, Clara Hughes P.S., to Principal, Clara Hughes P.S.
- e) Kara Trumbley-Novak, Acting Principal, Lincoln Alexander P.S., to Principal, Lincoln Alexander P.S.
- f) Tamara Turpin, Vice-Principal, Williamsburg P.S., to Principal, Prince Albert P.S., effective January 1, 2017

### Promotions Secondary Vice-Principal

*(Placed from the Short List)*

- a) Dawn White, Teacher, J. Clarke Richardson, to Vice-Principal, Anderson C.V.I., effective November 28, 2016

### SHORT LISTS

The following candidates are recommended to Elementary Vice-Principal Short List:

Amanda Clay, Norman G. Powers P.S.  
Stacey Christopher, Williamsburg P.S.  
Jane Irvine, Walter E. Harris P.S.  
Allison Kerr, Bayview Heights P.S.  
Lori Peck, Sir Samuel Steele P.S.  
Deborah Sansford, Joseph Gould P.S.  
Melissa Shields, C.E. Broughton P.S.  
Lisa Marie St. John, Forest View P.S.  
Debbie Steeves, Roland Michener P.S.

The following candidates are recommended to Elementary Principal Short List:

Paul Haines, Lakewoods P.S.  
Lisa Hill, Beau Valley P.S.  
Karen McCreedy, C.E. Broughton P.S.  
Barbara Speed, Clara Hughes P.S.  
Kara Trumbley-Novak, Lincoln Alexander P.S.  
Tamara Turpin, Williamsburg P.S.

The following candidate is recommended to Secondary Vice-Principal Short List:

Erin Oliver, Program Facilitator

The following candidate is recommended to the Secondary Principal Short List:

Peggy Perkins, J. Clarke Richardson

## Motions

- That the 2015-2016 Financial Report of Durham District School Board including transfers to and from internally restricted funds be approved as presented.
  - That the Board of Trustees approved the changes to Policy and Regulation #4135 – Trustee Expenses
  - It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approved the revisions to the Child Care Regulation and Policy 1500
  - It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approves the revisions to the Early Years Regulation and Policy 3071
  - It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approved the draft Regulation and Policy – After School Early Years Recreation Programs
  - It is recommended that 2017-208 Budget process and meeting schedule for Education Finance Committee be received for information
  - That the Durham District School Board of Trustees receives the Addendum Report to “Accommodation Review – Township of Scugog Elementary (Epsom PS, Greenbank PS, Prince Albert PS and SA Cawker PS) – Final Staff Report” entitled “Accommodation Review – Township of Scugog Elementary (Epsom PS, Greenbank PS, Prince Albert PS and SA Cawker PS) – Staff Update Report”.
- The following represents the motions that were deferred from the October 17, 2016 Board Meeting, and thereby re-tabled for the Board of Trustees’ consideration:*
- That the Durham District School Board of Trustees authorizes Board Staff to close Epsom PS effective June 2017, as outlined in Appendix B.
  - That the Durham District School Board of Trustees authorizes Board Staff to consolidate the students residing within Epsom PS as follows:
    - Consolidate Epsom PS boundary with Prince Albert PS boundary.
    - Epsom area Grade 7 and Grade 8 students would attend Prince Albert PS, rather than attend SA Cawker PS for Grade 7 and Grade 8.
    - The exception is that current (September 2016) Grade 7 Epsom students attending SA Cawker PS would be grandfathered for September 2017, based upon past practice.
    - Greenbank PS boundary remain status quo.
  - That the Durham District School Board of Trustees approve that current Epsom PS students attending Greenbank PS and SA Cawker PS, with transportation, will continue to receive transportation to the school (Greenbank PS or S.A. Cawker PS) that they are attending until Grade 8.
  - That the Durham District School Board of Trustees approve the current Epsom PS students, attending Greenbank PS with transportation, will receive transportation to S.A. Cawker PS for Grade 7 and Grade 8.

- That the Durham District School Board of Trustees approve funding to assist in the transition and 'celebration of Epsom PS'
  - Year 1 – \$2,500 be provided to assist Prince Albert PS in the transition and celebration of Epsom.
  - Year 2 - \$5,000 be provided to assist Prince Albert PS in the transition and celebration of Epsom.
  - Year 3 - \$2,500 be provided to assist Prince Albert PS in the transition and celebration of Epsom.

## Regular Board and Committee Meetings

### Student Senate Meeting

December 5, 2016

4:15 pm — 6:00 p.m.

### Standing Committee/Board Election Meeting

Monday, December 5, 2016

Public Session — 7:00 p.m.



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT  
DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

