



Board Highlights

On Monday, October 17, 2016, the Durham District School Board held its regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Amazing Vocals from Goodwood Public School

A very special thank you to the 'Primary, Junior and Intermediate Choir' from Goodwood PS. Led by director Ms. Alicia Stanko, the choir opened the Board meeting with O Canada followed by 'Star Up' written by Toronto Jazz singer/performer/writer Barbara Lica and 'A Dream Is A Wish Your Heart Makes'.

'Star Up' resonated with the classroom teacher, Ms. Melodie Guy, who at the time was the teacher of a student in her class who tragically passed away. The choir took up the song as a way of celebrating his life, as he was also in the choir.

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.

Educational Services Staff Award

Diane Cobbing, Educational Assistant at Anderson CVI received the 2016 Educational Services Staff Award.

Diane has been teaching students the art of theatre make-up and volunteered her time to provide lessons to a dedicated group of students. This "Make-Up" crew has worked on the Dramatic Arts performances, spending many nights and weekends crafting students' ideas, and practicing their art on performing arts cast members.



Presenting Diane with her award are (l-r) Trustee and Vice Chair of the Board Carolyn Morton; Director of Education Lisa Millar; award recipient Diane Cobbing; Superintendent of Education Camille Taylor and Chair of the Board Michael Barrett.

As an individual who has demonstrated dedication to the Board and the system, Diane Cobbing is a most deserving recipient of the Educational Services Staff Award.

Director's Good News

Schools across the DDSB prepared for Safety Week with drills and safety procedure preparations highlighted through a partnership with local first responders from police and fire services. A few notable highlights from Safety Week had Glengrove Public School students in Pickering participate in a lunch hour lockdown drill.

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Director's Good News *continued*

In Oshawa, DDSB students and staff at GL Roberts CVI were trained on how to use AED/CPR life-saving devices. At the Education Centre over 250 educators participated in training about the Police/School Board Protocol.

Grade 5 students were congratulated for participating in the 14th annual Police Chief for a Day essay contest. DDSB students participated in writing a 500 word essay entitled "What I would do if I were Chief for a Day."

Last month at Uxbridge Secondary School over 300 DDSB high school students attended the Durham Farm Connections agriculture science education day. The agriculture education program is designed to align with curriculum requirements for Grades 9 and 10 science, Grade 11 biology and environmental science, and Grade 12 biology. Students attended the program for one class period and rotated through agriculture-themed stations covering topics such as: soil and aquatic health; green energy; marketing and labeling for food products and genetically-modified organisms. Each station was designed to encourage students to consider careers in the agri-business field by making them aware of the career paths available in this multi-faceted industry.

The Equity and Inclusive Education department hosted the Student Voice Conference last week calling for our intermediate students to raise their voice through awareness and organization.

The Student Voice Conference provided 140 intermediate students an opportunity to discuss relevant equity and inclusion issues from their perspective and collaborate with their peers to create an action plan to address equity and inclusiveness issues at their school. The conference helped students develop leadership skills through collaboration and activism. At the conference, secondary students acted as student mentors to elementary students in workshops on topics such as starting an elementary GSA, understanding social justice, addressing Islamophobia and learning how to have courageous conversations about race using Hip Hop.

Students and education staff recognized and showed support for Orange Shirt Day on September 30th.

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC. It grew out of the story of a young student named Phyllis, who recounted having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission. Orange Shirt Day has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening. Throughout the DDSB, Orange Shirt Day

was organized by our First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education program with great success. The DDSB is proud to recognize Orange Shirt Day as an opportunity for our schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

Last week, staff had the pleasure of hosting a visit by Minister of Education Mitzie Hunter at Sherwood Public School in Oshawa. Minister Hunter participated in a Grade 6 math activity.

Students across the board recently attended the Talking About Mental Illness program (TAMI) whose purpose is to bring together schools, community agencies, youth, people with mental illness and other community members to develop and deliver awareness programs for intermediate elementary students, and secondary school students in the DDSB. Our students attended some great presentations delivered by impassioned speakers to have students understand the number one goal of TAMI, to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness.

On September 27th staff at the education centre gathered for the first Director's Coffee Break for 2016-2017 school year.

Staff was introduced to the DDSB strategic plan and operational goals that were developed by staff and trustees to implement 'Ignite Learning' for the 2016-2017 school year. The Coherence framework was also shared as a model to increase and cultivate collaborative cultures and break down silos. Education centre staff shared their input and ideas to help support us in building Coherence and strengthening a stronger culture of collaboration across the DDSB.

Staff shared feedback during the process that many of them do not know colleagues who work in other departments. At a recent fire drill, instead of returning to work areas, everyone was invited to the Atrium to take time to introduce themselves to two new people.

The DDSB is now in partnership with the Abilities Centre and the Ontario Basketball Association in launching the Academy for Student Athlete Development, otherwise known as ASAD. ASAD was launched September 23rd at the Abilities Centre where 11 elite student athletes and their parents joined in celebrating the start of a new beginning as they pursue their passion in developing their basketball skills. Students enrolled in this partnership will have their high school education delivered by staff at Henry Street High School where each individual athlete will be provided with an academically developed individualized learning program to align with their individual education pathway.

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Relocation of Village Union PS Proposal

- Relocation proposal for Village Union PS, with its current boundary, relocate into the former Oshawa Central CI, effective September 2017.

[Board Report](#)

[Notice of Open House](#) – November 10, 2016

Motions

- That the Durham District School Board receives the report entitled Accommodation Review – Township of Scugog Elementary (Epsom PS, Greenbank PS, Prince Albert PS and SA Cawker PS) – Final Staff Report.
- That the Durham District School Board defers the decision of the following motions until the Board meeting on November 21, 2016;

Deferred motions:

- a) That the Durham District School Board authorizes Board staff to close Epsom PS effective June 2017;
- b) That the Durham District School Board authorizes Board staff to consolidate the students residing within Epsom PS as follows:
 - Consolidate Epsom PS boundary with Prince Albert PS boundary
 - Epsom are Grade 7 and 8 students would attend Prince Albert PS, rather than attend S.A. Cawker PS for Grade 7 and Grade 8
 - The exception is that current (September 2016) Grade 7 Epsom students attending S.A. Cawker PS would be grandfathered for September 2017, based upon past practice.
 - Greenbank PS boundary remains status quo.
- c) That the Durham District School Board approves that current Epsom PS students

attending Greenbank PS and S.A. Cawker PS, with transportation, will continue to receive transportation to the school (Greenbank PS or SA Cawker PS) that they are attending until Grade 8.

- d) That the Durham District School Board approves the current Epsom PS students, attending Greenbank PS with transportation, will receive transportation to S.A. Cawker PS for Grade 7 and Grade 8.

- e) That the Durham District School Board approves 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

- That the Durham District School Board of Trustees approves the establishment of a Modified Pupil Accommodation Review for Beaverton PS and Thorah Central PS which involves seeking community input on the recommended option contained in this Initial Staff Report as well as consideration of any other options that may be put forward by the community throughout the consultation.

- That the Durham District School Board of Trustees approves the appointment of the Co-Chairs of the Modified Accommodation Review Process as being the Superintendent of Education/Uxbridge/Brock/Brooklin/Sinclair Family of Schools and the Supervisory Officer for Facilities Services or delegate, respectively.

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Upcoming Events

- **October 17-21: School Bus Safety Week**
- **October 20: Online OSSLT**
- **October 22: Kindergarten Symposium, DDSB Education Centre**
- **October 22: Embracing Diversity and Engaging Our Community Conference in Ajax**
- **October 26: Childcare Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day**
- **October 27: Volunteer of Distinction Awards Ceremony, Sinclair SS**
- **November 10: 50 Norwegian Administrators visit the DDSB**
- **November 19: Technology for Learning and Life Expo**

Regular Board and Committee Meetings

Student Senate Meeting

November 7, 2016
4:15 pm — 6:00 p.m.

Standing Committee Meeting

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

Board Meeting

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



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

