



Board Highlights

On Monday, October 19, 2015, the Durham District School Board held its regularly scheduled Board meeting.

O'Neill's Senior Chamber Choir Delights!

Special thanks music director Erin Collins and the Senior Chamber Choir from O'Neill CVI, for starting the meeting off on a high note! This group provided an awe inspiring performance with O Canada, Go Down Moses and For Good. Thank you to our students and Ms. Collins for sharing your time and considerable talents! A special thanks to the families and fans for coming up to the Board Meeting to show their support.

Award continued...

He assisted with local community events and was consistently kind, conscientious, and known for his big heart and hard work ethic.

As an individual who had demonstrated dedication to his team, the Board and the system, Bill Dyson is a most deserving recipient of the Educational Services Staff Award.

Congratulations and thank you Bill!

Educational Services Staff Award

Bill Dyson, Chief Custodian at S.A. Cawker Public School received the 2015 Educational Services Staff Award.



(Left to right) Board Chairperson Michael Barrett, Scugog Trustee Carolyn Morton, Bill Dyson, Vice Chair Donna Edwards and the Director of Education Martyn Beckett.

Bill Dyson is invested in creating a safe and clean environment in which to learn and work at S.A. Cawker PS and worked with administration and his colleagues with great patience, problem solving, empathy and perseverance, helping to create a pleasant, positive school environment.

Director's Good News

October 19, 2015 was Federal Election Day, Director Beckett took the timely opportunity thank the organizers and participants in the recent all candidates debate held at Eastdale CVI in Oshawa. Grade 10 students currently enrolled in Civics and Citizenship were invited to participate in the event. Participating schools worked with their students to create questions which were used as the foundation of the debate. The debate was an engaging way to involved students in learning through the electoral process. It is also a great way to bring the Political Thinking Concepts to life so that our students can better understand political significance, political objectives and results, stability and change, as well as various political perspectives.

The Director also mentioned that the DDSB had 16,115 students participate in Student Vote this year. With 86 schools participating, it looks like the DDSB has the highest percentage of schools participating in the country. The Director congratulated the organizers of Student Vote, an excellent program that provides a parallel election for students under the voting age, coinciding with federal, provincial, territorial and municipal elections.

Director's Good News *continued...*

The purpose is to provide young Canadians with an opportunity to experience the voting process firsthand and build the habits of informed and engaged citizenship.

On October eighth, the Durham District School Board played host to the authors for the launch of their brand new original book series, 'The Secrets.'

This is the third time the DDSB has hosted a book launch for this unique series of young adult fiction.

The seven authors of the 'The Secrets' series were at the DDSB Education Centre, along with book lovers and fans, to launch their new collection after visiting 14 DDSB schools across the region to showcase their new books to both students and the public.

Director Beckett thanked all of the authors -- Eric Walters, Kelley Armstrong, Vicki Grant, Marthe Jocelyn, Kathy Kacer, Norah McClintock and Teresa Toten, for sharing this exciting event with the DDSB and for spending much of the day visiting various DDSB schools igniting a love of reading with our students and staff.

More than 1,400 runners took part in the Durham Elementary Athletic Association cross country Regional finals on Thursday, October 15, 2015, at Lakeridge Ski Resort near Uxbridge.

Students from across the region raced in age-based categories, from eight-years-old and under to 13-years-of-age and over. This year, 96 of 107 DDSB schools took part.

Students from elementary schools across the Durham District School Board first participated in an area meet the week of October 5th to 9th with the top two teams from each area sending their top six competitors to compete in the regional finals.

The event also includes a fantastic finish with a parent and teacher fun run – an excellent way to demonstrate the importance of well-being for all ages and abilities.

The Director thanked all of the event organizers, coaches and the parents and guardians who participated and provided their support to our competitors. Congratulations to all of our athletes and coaches!

Motions

- That Melodie Vaughan continue to be the SEAC representative and Audrey Higo will be the alternate representative for Autism Ontario-Durham Region.
- That Eva Kyriakides will be the SEAC representative and Bobbi-Lee Pick will be the alternate representative for the Association for Bright Children of Ontario (ABC).
- That a By-Law Review Ad Hoc Committee be formed for the purpose of reviewing Board by-laws.
- That the Trustees establish an ad hoc committee to provide input into the development of a trustee component of the Communications Standard Resource. This process would also engage Trustees in providing input into the development of the implementation plan for the Communications Standards

Upcoming Boundary Reviews:

- Boundary change proposal for [Duffin's Bay and Carruthers Creek](#) in Ajax. Open House - December 10, 2015, 7 pm at Carruthers Creek PS.
- Boundary review underway for [Julie Payette PS](#), Whitby. Open House – November 17, 2015.
- Boundary consultation begins for [Henry Street HS and Donald A. Wilson SS](#), Whitby. Open House – November 24, 2015 at Henry Street HS.

Upcoming Events:

- On Thursday, October 22nd – Frenchman's Bay will host its [50th Anniversary](#) celebration.
- Saturday, October 24th, 2015 the DDSB will be hosting '[Rising Above the Challenge of Poverty](#)' [Symposium](#) which



is open to all members of the education community. The symposium will take place at the Education Centre and feature national speakers addressing teaching, students in poverty and strategies to erase the gaps in opportunities due to poverty.

- On Thursday, October 29th the DDSB will host its annual [Volunteer of Distinction Ceremony](#) celebrating and thanking our many wonderful school-based volunteers.

More information about this and other events can be found on the [DDSB's website](#).

Regular Board and Committee Meetings

Standing Committee Meeting

Monday, November 2, 2015 – 7:00 pm

Public Session

Board Meeting

Monday, November 16, 2015 – 7:00 pm

Public Session

Student Senate Meeting

Monday, November 2, 2015 – 4:15 pm – 6:00 pm



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

