

PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held in the Board Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 19:55 hours.

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair	Sue Lawton
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair	Brad MacDonald
Carrie Andrews	Kathy McDonald
Robert Crocker	Harkirat Singh
Nokha Dakroub	Rick Williams
David Green	

Member absent: (apologies received)

Stan Cameron

Student Trustees:

Carolyn Mahr, Student Trustee South
Khushpal Pawar, Student Trustee North

Administration:

Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services
Dawn Beckett-Morton, Director, Human Resources Support Services
Ted Byers, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services
Liz Cook, Acting Superintendent of Education
Paul Da Silva, Superintendent of Education
Patrika Daws, Superintendent of Education
Jeff deFreitas, Superintendent of Education
Lawrence De Maeyer, Acting Superintendent of Education
Wendy Dowling, Associate Director, School Support Services
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education, Alternative Programs
Jaspal Gill, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Adrian Graham, Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Support Services
Poleen Grewal, Associate Director, Instructional and Equity Support Services
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent of Leadership Development and School Support Services
Adam Hughes, Chief Information Officer
Nina Jaiswal, Superintendent of Education
Peter Joshua, Director of Education
Michael Logue, Superintendent of Education
Matthew McCutcheon, Acting Superintendent of Education
Janice Mueller, Executive Assistant
Patricia Noble, Superintendent of Education
Carla Pereira, Director, Communications and Community Relations Support Services
Jamie Robertson, Superintendent of Education
Gale Solomon-Henry, Superintendent of Education
Michelle Stubbings, Superintendent of Education

4. Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**5. Minutes of the Audit Committee, November 15, 2017
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, November 28, 2017**

Resolution No. 18-06 moved by Nokha Dakroub
seconded by Brad MacDonald

1. That, the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting, held November 15, 2017, be received;
2. That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held November 28, 2017, be approved.

..... carried

6. Written Questions

There were no written questions.

7. Notices of Motion and Petitions

There were no notices of motion or petitions.

8. Special Section for Receipt

Resolution No.18-07 moved by Sue Lawton
seconded by Harkirat Singh

Resolved, that the following items, be received:

1. Retirements

Kimberly Clark
Robert Crawford
Katherine Daoust
Charles Dayfoot

Steve Fralick
Carolyn Hassard
Anne McFarlane
Nancy Meyers

Steven Oldham
Stephen Rutherford
Michael Simpson
Dale Webber

..... carried

9. Delegation by Jotvinder Sodhi re the Delay of the New School for the Vales of Humber Community

Jotvinder Sodhi delegated the Board regarding the delay in the proposed new school affecting the Vales of Humber neighbourhood. Using a slide presentation, he reviewed the proposed plan along with a map, which indicates a boundary change to James Grieve Public School, moving 87 students to Treeline Public School, and Peel DSB's application for a new school at Vales of Humber. Stating that the community was built in 2015, he spoke of issues with proposed boundary changes and redirection of students impacting the community, due to the delay in building the new school. Jotvinder Sodhi advised that MPP Harinder Malhi has written a letter to the Minister of Education to support the proposal for a new school. He outlined suggested solutions, which included the addition of temporary portables at James Grieve Public School to accommodate students, and working proactively with the province and municipality to avoid delays.

The delegation responded to questions of clarification from trustees which included: assurance received from MPP Harinder Malhi to discuss the delay with the Minister of Education; Jotvinder Sodhi is a member of the Vales of Humber community and spokesperson for parents of this community. Jotvinder Sodhi advised that he will be inquiring with the Premier about the delay of the new school in Brampton at an upcoming town hall meeting. Chair McDougald advised that the application of this school is part of a package of applications that are awaiting funding which is expected in January or February 2018. She welcomed help from the community to motivate the government to process the requests efficiently. A response to the delegation will be provided at the Regular Meeting of the Board on January 9, 2018.

10. Address to Board of Trustees by Louise Sirisko

Former Superintendent of Education, Louise Sirisko, stated that she has been a student in Peel DSB and an employee in Peel for 25 years. She expressed gratitude to the Board of Trustees, staff, friends, and colleagues over the years who have contributed to success in her career, starting as a teacher. She thanked her mentors for their guidance, opportunity to lead, and lessons learned, which will assist her in her newly appointed position as Director of Education at the York Region District School Board. Chair McDougald thanked Louise Sirisko for her work in Peel and congratulated her on her new position. She remarked that York Region DSB will benefit from the skills, experience, and personal touch of Louise Sirisko.

11. Response to Delegation by Candy Weekes, on Behalf of Canadian Parents for French re Recommendations of the Report of the Elementary French Immersion Review

Resolution No. 18-08

moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the Response to Delegation by Candy Weekes, on Behalf of Canadian Parents for French re the Recommendations of the Report of the Elementary French Immersion Review (Regular Meeting of the Board, November 28, 2017), be received.

..... carried

12. Response to Delegation by Wadeed Irfan re Recommendations of the Report of the Elementary French Immersion Review

Resolution No. 18-09 moved by Carrie Andrews
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the Response to Delegation by Wadeed Irfan re the Recommendations of the Report of the Elementary French Immersion Review (Regular Meeting of the Board, November 28, 2017), be received.

..... carried

13. Borrowing Resolution for School Board Current Expenditures - 2018

Resolution No. 18-10 moved by Nokha Dakroub
seconded by Harkirat Singh

Whereas the Peel District School Board (hereinafter called the "Board") finds it necessary to borrow to meet the ongoing expenditures from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 until the current revenue has been received,

Therefore, be it resolved that:

1. Any two of the Chair, Vice-Chair, the Director, the Associate Director of Operational Support Services/Treasurer of the Board and Associate Director of Instructional and Equity Support Services and Associate Director of School Support Services, are hereby authorized on behalf of the Board to borrow from time to time by way of promissory note, banker's acceptance, or operating overdraft facility in accordance with Section 243(1) of the Education Act, up to the maximum sum of \$250,000,000, and the outstanding amount in any given time will substantially represent the unreceived or uncollected balance of the estimated revenues of the Board to meet the current expenditures of the Board until the current revenue has been received, provided that the interest and any other charges connected therewith do not exceed the interest that would be payable at the prime lending rate of the majority of chartered banks on the date of borrowing.
2. The Associate Director of Operational Support Services/Treasurer of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to apply in payment of all sums borrowed as aforesaid, together with interest thereon, all the moneys comprising the current revenue of the Board hereafter received.

..... carried

14. Destreaming Research Report

Associate Director of Instructional and Equity Support Services, Poleen Grewal, recalled that last year the Board had requested that the administration prepare a report on destreaming. She advised that an interim report was brought to the Board in spring 2017 and today a full report prepared by Paul Favaro, Chief of Research and Accountability, and Marija Glisic, Research Officer, will be presented. Using PowerPoint slides, Marija Glisic reviewed the definition of academic streaming and the importance of the study of streaming as a contributing factor in intensifying social inequity. She summarized the history of academic streaming in Ontario prior to 1999 and post 1999, and noted that in 1999 a new Ministry policy OSS:99 formally stopped streaming and introduced options for course selections to prepare students for post-secondary destinations. Marija Glisic reviewed the potential benefits and issues around academic streaming. She spoke about recent destreaming initiatives in Ontario and reports in the media, highlighting that destreaming appeared to be challenging for mathematics and English students as well as for students with high academic ability. She added that, in Ontario, destreaming initiatives have been planned at the local level in small sized classes, with standardized assessments and have yields and positive outcomes; however, each initiative differs in its implementation. She clarified that the initiatives are exploratory and there are no long term evaluations of these projects. Marija Glisic reviewed key considerations for design and implementation of the Peel DSB destreaming project outlined in the report.

Trustees speaking expressed appreciation for the information in the report and Chair McDougald noted the significant amount of work involved in preparing the report. A trustee expressed concern about spending Board funds on a pilot project initiated by the government. He stated that the focus has moved to graduating students that are college and university bound, however, graduation rates are low in some schools, and there are programs for students entering the workforce if they do not wish to pursue post-secondary education. Another trustee agreed with the comments and stated her concern that destreaming may lower the standards and create a larger disparity between students who are in a regional learning choices program and those in a regular program. Marija Glisic responded to trustees comments and questions of clarification, noting that, the report does not indicate that streaming is better than destreaming, options for students with high academic abilities will not be removed but options will be available for all students, and more research is required on streaming in elementary schools. Other opinions and suggestions from trustees included: that destreaming may be useful if done early in Grade 9 when students are unsure about whether they will continue further studies; destreaming can be beneficial but can be demoralizing for students who are not successful. Referring to the report, a trustee noted that policy OSS:99 inadvertently created another streaming structure that is disadvantageous to low income and marginalized students, and streaming practices created labels and self-categorization. He recalled streamed 5-year programs and vocational programs in the past and stated that the expectation that students could move from applied to academic did not hold true. Advising on proceeding with care on the process to be implemented, he asked about the plan for going forward in Peel, and whether the Ministry of Education is being apprised. Chair McDougald clarified that the report provides information; however, a decision to proceed with a pilot project has not yet been made. She expressed concern about funding for the project.

14. Destreaming Research Report (Continued)

A trustee commented that students in Grade 8 may be too young to make choices related to post-secondary education. She asked about supports for students in the elementary level and for more information on streaming. Speaking about key considerations with Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation and working with teachers in the classroom with regard to academic or applied courses, she suggested further discussion and action. Chair McDougald spoke about teacher training and additional resources required and suggested to review the report again in the new year for next steps.

Resolution No. 18-11 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Nokha Dakroub

Resolved, that Destreaming Research Report, be received.

..... carried

15. Ontario Public School Boards' Association – OPSBA Connects

Resolution No. 18-12 moved by Rick Williams
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the following reports be received:

- OPSBA Connects – November 27, 2017
- OPSBA Connects – December 4, 2017

..... carried

16. Comments or Questions from Board Members

Chair McDougald wished everyone Happy Holidays and Happy Hanukkah.

Trustee Dakroub inquired about the age for children starting in Junior Kindergarten. It was clarified that according to the Education Act, Junior Kindergarten starts at age four.

Trustee Crocker reported on a visit to West Credit Secondary School along with Director of Education, Peter Joshua. He described interesting activities seen at the school, including a dog grooming program room. He wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

Trustee McDonald expressed her opinion that some comments made by teachers in the classroom are a form of streaming and she asked how does one measure that kind of streaming. Chair McDougald suggested that individual and unique situations once confirmed, can be resolved with the school principal, an investigation can be carried out by the superintendent of education, and training and support can be provided to the teacher.

16. Comments or Questions from Board Members (Continued)

Trustee McDonald reported positively on her recent visits to the Adult Education Centre, We Welcome the World Centre, and the 40th anniversary event of Judith Nyman Secondary School. She stated that a community member has inquired whether the Board had another suggestion when they proposed that EQAO be discontinued. Chair McDougald replied that EQAO is not the only measure of student success, and that students are assessed in a variety of ways, through report cards, test assessments and through the In School Review Committee (ISRC). She clarified that the request was for a one year pause in EQAO testing for the government to improve efficiency and not for a discontinuation of the EQAO test.

Trustee Green wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and in the spirit of equity and inclusion he expressed the hope that occasions will be celebrated according to tradition. He recalled that in the past former Director Pontes had reminded school principals about inclusivity in celebrations at this time of the year. Chair McDougald agreed with Trustee Green's comments and expressed pride in Peel DSB for all the initiatives and work done. She wished everyone a restful holiday.

17. Public Question Period

Catherine Sople referred to the Destreaming Research Report, Item 13 of these Minutes, and indicated that some students in Year 5 students could be integrated into the destreaming program. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

18. Recess and In Committee Session

At 21:40 hours, the Board completed its Open Session agenda and, after a brief recess, reconvened in the In Committee Session at 21:50 hours, in order to complete the In Committee Agenda.

The Board moved back into Open Session on a motion by Trustee Green (22:30 hours) to adopt the report of the In Committee Session.

19. Adoption of the In Committee Report

Resolution No. 18-13 moved by Brad MacDonald
seconded by Robert Crocker

Resolved, that the report of the In Committee Session regarding: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), November 28, 2017; Follow-up Report re ROPSSAA and OFSAA; Proposed Sport Field Improvements at Applewood Heights Secondary School; Renovation of Space at Bramalea Secondary School for the Adult Education Centre and We Welcome the World Centre, Brampton; Tony Pontes Public School - Dedication of Land, Town of Caledon; Jack Smythe Field Centre – Sale of Land, Halton Region; Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), November 28, 2017; Minutes of the Audit Committee (In Committee) Meeting, November 15, 2017; Retirements; Resignations, and Question Period be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

..... carried

December 12, 2017
Regular Meeting of the Board:lf

20. Adjournment

Resolution No. 18-14

moved by Kathy McDonald
seconded by Nokha Dakroub

Resolved, that the meeting adjourn (22:30 hours).

..... carried

..... Chair Secretary

December 12, 2017
Regular Meeting of the Board:lf

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN IN COMMITTEE SESSION – DECEMBER 12, 2017

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair
Carrie Andrews
Robert Crocker
Nokha Dakroub
David Green

Sue Lawton
Brad MacDonald
Kathy McDonald
Harkirat Singh
Rick Williams

Member absent: (apologies received)

Stan Cameron

Student Trustees:

Carolyn Mahr, Student Trustee South
Khushpal Pawar, Student Trustee North

Part A

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, as amended, be approved.

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), November 28, 2017

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), held November 28, 2017, be approved.

3. Follow-up Report re ROPSSAA and OFSAA

That, the follow-up report re ROPSSAA and OFSAA, be received.

4. Proposed Sport Field Improvements at Applewood Heights Secondary School

That, the Board enter into a License Agreement with Community Sports Partners for the construction and operation of an artificial surface sports playing field and other improvements at Applewood Heights Secondary School. (Appendix I, as attached to the Minutes)

5. Renovation of Space at Bramalea Secondary School for the Adult Education Centre and We Welcome the World Centre, Brampton

That, the renovation of space at Bramalea Secondary School to accommodate the Adult Education Centre and the We Welcome the World Centre, Brampton, be approved.
(Appendix II, as attached to the Minutes)

6. Tony Pontes Public School - Dedication of Land, Town of Caledon

That, the Board grant the dedication of approximately 452.2 m² (4,867.44 ft²) of land on the west side of Kennedy Road to the Town of Caledon for a future road widening project.
(Appendix III, as attached to the Minutes)

7. Jack Smythe Field Centre – Sale of Land, Halton Region

1. That, a portion of the Jack Smythe Field Centre property is not required for Board purposes; and
2. That, staff proceed with the sale of approximately 876 m² (9,429.19 ft²) of the land to Halton Region for the purposes of a road widening project. (Appendix IV, as attached to the Minutes)

Part B (Not including Student Trustees)

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda be approved.

**2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B),
November 28, 2017
Minutes of the Audit Committee (In Committee) Meeting, November 15, 2017**

1. That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), held November 28, 2017, be approved;
2. That, the Minutes of the Audit Committee (In Committee) Meeting, held November 15, 2017, be received.

3. Retirements

That, the report of retirements of staff, be received.

4. Resignations

That, the report of resignations of staff, be received.