

PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Peel District School Board, held in the Brampton Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 19:45 hours.

Members present:

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

Member absent: (apologies received)

Sue Lawton

Student Trustees:

Paul Okundaye, Student Trustee North
Trevor Sookraj, Student Trustee South

Administration:

Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services
Dawn Beckett-Morton, Director, Human Resources Support Services
Shelley Bortolotto, Assistant Director, Human Resources Support Services
Ted Byers, Superintendent of Education
Patrika Daws, Superintendent of Education
Jeff deFreitas, Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction Support Services
Wendy Dowling, Superintendent of Education, Early Years
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
Ina Fournier, Superintendent of Education
Jaspal Gill, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Poleen Grewal, Superintendent of Education
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent of Education
Hazel Mason, Superintendent of Education
Scott Moreash, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
Shawn Moynihan, Superintendent of Education
Janice Mueller, Executive Assistant
David Neale, Controller, Corporate Support Services
Tony Pontes, Director of Education
Patricia Rossall, Superintendent of Education
Louise Sirisko, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services
Carol Speers, Superintendent of Education, Alternative Programs
Shirley-Ann Teal, Coordinating Superintendent

Administration:

Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education
Joe Weinberg, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
Randy Wright, Controller, Planning and Accommodation Support Services

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. Open Session

The Open Session commenced with the singing of O'Canada.

2. Approval of Agenda

The following changes were made to the agenda:

- Item 7.1 Delegation by Tajinder Dhadwar re French Immersion Boundary Change for Ingleborough Public School (circulated)
- Item 7.2 Delegation by Scott Morrell and Shannon Morrell re French Immersion Boundary Change for Whiteoaks Public School (circulated)
- Item 8.2 Interim Response to Petition re French Immersion Boundary Change at Walnut Grove Public School (withdrawn)
- Item 12.2 OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 26, No. 30 (added)

Resolution No. 15-10 moved by Brad MacDonald
seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

..... carried
(2/3rds' majority)

3. Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, November 25, 2014

Resolution No. 15-11 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Stan Cameron

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held November 25, 2014, be approved.

..... carried

5. Written Questions

There were no written questions.

6. Notices of Motion and Petitions

There were no notices of motion or petitions.

7. Special Section for Receipt

Resolution No. 15-12 moved by Carrie Andrews
seconded by Rick Williams

Resolved, that the following items, be received:

1. Retirements:

Leon Barrett	Cynthia Evans	Candice Rowley
David Booty	Khalid Farooq	Hilary Sturmey
Sandy Buckingham	Susan Grigor	John Vario
Sally Cobb	Renee Laba	James Vincent
Diane Drylie	Judy Marcuson	David Wood
Simonne Elliott	Ginny Monaghan	Linda Woodhead

2. Good News (Recipients of the Premier's Award for Safe and Accepting Schools - Agnes Taylor Public School, Erindale Secondary School and Stanley Mills Public School)

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Referring to Item 7.2, Good News, trustees congratulated and thanked the administration and staff of Agnes Taylor Public School, Erindale Secondary School and Stanley Mills Public School on receiving the Premier's Award for Safe and Accepting Schools.

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Resolution No. 15-12 carried

8. Delegation by Tajinder Dhadwar and Paula Pascoe re French Immersion Boundary Change for Ingleborough Public School

Tajinder Dhadwar and Paula Pascoe delegated the Board from PowerPoint slides, which had been circulated to trustees. The delegation stated that they were speaking on behalf of families with children at Ingleborough Public School who have been affected by the French Immersion (FI) boundary change.

8. Delegation by Tajinder Dhadwar and Paula Pascoe re French Immersion Boundary Change for Ingleborough Public School (Continued)

Indicating that the delegation is not entirely opposed to the boundary change, Tajinder Dhadwar requested the administration to mitigate the negative impact of the change on some families, by allowing students currently in Grades 1-2 FI with siblings in Grades 3-5 FI program at Ingleborough Public School, to continue in the FI program at this school. Paula Pascoe provided background information regarding the communication of the boundary change on October 29, 2014. She stated that parents who had spoken to the principal within the first ten days of the communication, were advised that students with older siblings in the school will be allowed to continue at Ingleborough Public School, but were later advised that the younger children in Grades 1-2 would move to the new school. Statistical information regarding enrolment at the school was provided. It was noted that, of the 42 Grades 1-2 students affected by the boundary change, 13 have siblings in higher grades.

Views expressed by the delegation regarding the impact of the boundary change on the students included: students' performance and sense of security negatively impacted by the second boundary change in the past three years; student safety may be compromised due to location and timing of busing; adverse effect on the stability and consistency of learning environment; negative effect on family and school relationships. Anecdotal examples were provided, and the delegation concluded by putting forward three options for the administration to consider: affect the fewest students by maintaining status quo for the 13 students; offer Grades 1-8 FI at the new school so all students can attend; provide a new school as a Grade 1 FI school to reduce impact on students.

Chair McDougald reported that the administration is reviewing similar circumstances for five school communities. She indicated that a response to the delegation will be brought to the January 13, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Board.

9. Delegation by Scott Morrell and Shannon Morrell re French Immersion Boundary Changes for Whiteoaks Public School

Shannon Morrell read from speaking notes that were provided to the trustees. She indicated that she and her husband, Scott Morrell, are delegating the Board with regard to the boundary change for the Whiteoaks Public School French Immersion program, and the adverse effects this will have on her family. She asked the Board to consider allowing her two younger children to attend the French Immersion program at Whiteoaks Public School where their two older siblings currently attend the FI program.

With PowerPoint slides, Shannon Morrell introduced her four children, and the location of their home. She stated that the boundary changes will require her four children to attend four different schools. She spoke of after school supervision at Hillcrest, Whiteoaks, Riverside and Owenwood Public Schools, and the school bus pick up and drop off times for three schools which are the same, but the locations are different. Shannon Morrell highlighted that bus stops for French Immersion are community stops and further apart due to the larger area covered. She added that, if a student from junior school is not met at the stop, they would stay on the bus and returned to school. If this happens on a regular basis, the child is suspended from the bus.

9. Delegation by Scott Morrell and Shannon Morrell re French Immersion Boundary Changes for Whiteoaks Public School (Continued)

Shannon Morrell outlined her reasons for wishing to continue providing the FI program to her children. She remarked on her family's relationships and work in their community, and the special bond and friendship between siblings. Acknowledging the Board's responsibility to be fair and equitable in balancing many factors and interests, and that decisions are made with good intentions based on demographics, she stated, however, that her family's circumstances are unique and made difficult with the boundary changes. She requested that an exemption be made due to their specific situation, to allow their two younger children to attend FI at Whiteoaks Public School which their older siblings attend.

Chair McDougald noted once again that the administration is reviewing similar situations being faced by five school communities. She indicated that a response to the delegation will be brought to the January 13, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Board.

10. Response to Petition Requesting Exemption from Randomized Selection Process for Current Sci-Tech Students to Attend the Secondary Sci-Tech Program

At the November 25, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Board, Trustee Beryl Ford submitted a petition from parents residing in Brampton Wards 7 and 8, Mississauga and other parts of the country, requesting that the Peel DSB exempt current elementary Sci-Tech students, wishing to attend a Sci-Tech program at a secondary school, from the present lottery selection process.

Resolution No. 15-13 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Nokha Dakroub

Resolved, that the Petition Requesting Exemption from Randomized Selection Process for Current Sci-Tech Students to Attend the Secondary Sci-Tech Program, be received.

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11. Response to Delegation by Trudy-Ann Newby re Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Section 293 of the Education Act

Resolution No. 15-14 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Robert Crocker

Resolved, that the Response to Delegation by Trudy-Ann Newby re Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Section 293 of the Education Act (Regular Meeting of the Board, November 25, 2014), be received.

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12. Notice of Appointment of Two Trustees to the French Second Language Advisory Committee

Chair McDougald reported that the establishment of the French Second Language Advisory Committee is one of the recommendations of the French Immersion Review Committee – Secondary approved at the Regular Meeting of the Board, held on June 10, 2014.

Resolution No. 15-15 moved by Kathy McDonald
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the appointment of two trustees to the French Second Language Advisory Committee be made at the Regular Meeting of the Board on January 13, 2015.

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13. Borrowing Resolution for the School Board Current Expenditures – 2015

Resolution No. 15-16 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Whereas the Peel District School Board (hereinafter called the "Board") finds it necessary to borrow to meet the ongoing expenditures from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 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 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, 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. Director's Report

1. Peel DSB Named One of GTA's Top 100 Employers

Director of Education, Tony Pontes, announced that the Peel DSB has been selected as one of the GTA's Top 100 employers for 2015. He stated that this exciting news was published in the Globe and Mail, and that he and Chair McDougald attended the recognition ceremony. Director Pontes remarked that this is a prestigious award and that Peel DSB is in the company of outstanding employers in the Greater Toronto Area. He commented that the award is a testament to the commitment of trustees and staff to inspire success, hope and confidence in each of the students. The plaque awarded to the Board was shown to trustees and the audience.

Chair McDougald indicated that she was pleased to attend the recognition ceremony, and that representatives of unions and federations were present. She noted that the application process is rigorous, and she thanked Communications department for their work on the application, and for highlighting the excellent work done in Peel. Stating that this is an annual award, she reported that the application for next year will be processed.

15. Reports from Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Resolution No. 15-17 moved by Carrie Andrews
seconded by Robert Crocker

Resolved, that the following reports, be received:

- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 26, No. 29
- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 26, No. 30

..... carried

16. Reports from Trustee Representatives on Councils / Associations

Trustee Williams reported on the OPSBA Board of Directors' Meeting he had attended two weeks ago. He advised that the discussions on labour relations cannot be shared at this time as they are embargoed. With regard to pupil accommodation review, the Ministry is reviewing the process to make it easier to conduct an accommodation review. A report will be published in January 2015. Trustee Williams referred to Bill C-597 – An Act to Amend the Holidays Act (Remembrance Day), and he stated that some school boards have indicated that they are not in favour of declaring Remembrance Day a holiday because the activities conducted in schools and workplaces highlight the relevance and observance of the day.

17. Question Period

Trustee Green noted that this is the last Regular Meeting of the Board for the year. He thanked staff and communities for the work done to make schools safe and great places to learn, and for their support of students in reaching their potential. He wished those celebrating, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and he extended holiday wishes to everyone.

Trustee MacDonald referred to Trustee Williams' report from OPSBA (Item 18 of these Minutes) regarding the accommodation review committee (ARC) process, and he expressed the opinion that the Peel DSB has been following the current ARC process correctly. He stated that, rather than the Ministry reviewing and changing the ARC process, other school boards should learn from Peel DSB. Indicating that he is looking forward to the report due from the Ministry in January 2015, Trustee MacDonald offered the opinion that a lengthy ARC process is required in order to build consensus, and that the Ministry may make a disappointing decision. Chair McDougald asked whether a report on this topic has been published, and Trustee Green noted that the issue was highlighted in an OPSBA Fast Facts report. Chair McDougald suggested that school boards be given an opportunity to respond to the Ministry report.

Trustee Cameron reported that he will be attending a Kindergarten concert at a Caledon school tomorrow and, on Thursday, December 11, 2014, he will be attending a concert at the Mayfield Secondary School. He commented that this is a great time to be in the schools, to share the joy in class and on stage.

18. Public Question Period

Chrissy Aligafour asked for the rationale to withdraw from this meeting's agenda, the interim response to the petition regarding the French Immersion boundary change at Walnut Grove Public School (Item 2 of these minutes). She asked that information relating to the proposed community meeting be conveyed to all affected families, and confirmed that their contact information had been provided to the Board. She noted that the boundary change will make it very difficult for families to get their children to school and to manage their work life. Chair McDougald responded.

Scott Morrell stated that, in researching information for his delegation earlier in the meeting (Item 9 of these minutes), he had become aware that the Peel DSB receives significantly lower funding from the Ministry. He asked whether there was anything he can do to facilitate changes to the funding formula. Chair McDougald responded.

Elena Mangal, a parent from the Walnut Grove Public School community, indicated that the names of the petitioners regarding the French Immersion boundary change at the school had been given to the former trustee, and contact had been made with the newly elected trustee. She stated that she had travelled from Brampton for this meeting as the interim response to the petition had been on the agenda, but the item was withdrawn during approval of the agenda (Item 2 of these minutes). She suggested that parents be advised ahead of time in such cases, to avoid inconvenience. Chair McDougald responded.

19. Further Business

1. Chair's Comments

Noting that this is the last meeting of the year, Chair McDougald reflected that 2014 has been a remarkable year, and she expressed appreciation to the Leadership team, principals, vice-principals, support staff, unions, federations, and staff at the Central Board Office for the work done to make a difference for students. She stated that there has been great progress and the Board continues to be very well respected because of the collaborative work done by trustees. Chair McDougald explained that staff and trustees work to balance funding and allocate space and resources, with the single focus of working in the best interests of students. She urged staff and fellow trustees to spend time with family and friends during the holidays, and return in 2015, ready to take on new challenges and opportunities for greater achievements.

20. Adoption of the In Committee Report

Resolution No. 15-18 moved by Harkirat Singh
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the Report of the In Committee Session regarding: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), November 25, 2014; Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting, November 13, 2014; Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee - Part B), November 25, 2014; Resignations; Retirements; Secondary Vice-Principal Assignments and Appointments, and Question Period, be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

..... carried

21. Adjournment

Resolution No. 15-19 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the meeting adjourn (20:40 hours).

..... carried

..... Chair Secretary

December 9, 2014
Regular Meeting of the Board:nf

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN IN COMMITTEE SESSION – DECEMBER 9, 2014

Members present:

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

Member absent: (apologies received)

Sue Lawton

Student Trustee:

Trevor Sookraj, Student Trustee South

Part A

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, be approved.

**2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A),
November 25, 2014**

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), held November 25, 2014, be approved.

PART B (Not including Student Trustees)

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, as amended, be approved.

**2. Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting, November 13, 2014
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B),
November 25, 2014**

1. That, the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting, held November 13, 2014, be received;
2. That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee - Part B), held November 25 2014, be approved.

3. Resignations

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

4. Retirements

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

5. Secondary Vice-Principal Assignments and Appointments

That the following secondary vice-principal appointment, effective December 10, 2014, be received:

Jeff Bertrand from Acting Vice-Principal at Cawthra Park Secondary School to Vice-Principal at Cawthra Park Secondary School until June 30, 2015

That the following secondary vice-principal assignments, effective January 30, 2015, be received:

Donna Moore from Vice-Principal at North Park Secondary School to Vice-Principal at Glenforest Secondary School

Crissa Hill from Vice-Principal at Rick Hansen Secondary School to Vice-Principal at North Park Secondary School

Mark Botnick from Vice-Principal at Thomas L. Kennedy Secondary School to Vice-Principal at Continuing and Adult Education

That the following secondary vice-principal appointment, effective January 30, 2015, be received:

Penni Gunby from Teacher at Louise Arbour Secondary School to Vice-Principal at Thomas L. Kennedy Secondary School