

## PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee of the Peel District School Board, held in the Brampton Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 18:00 hours.

Members present:

Kathy McDonald, Chair  
Stan Cameron  
Robert Crocker  
Janet McDougald  
Suzanne Nurse  
Harkirat Singh (18:10)  
Rick Williams

Trustee also present:

David Green

Administration:

Poleen Grewal, Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction Support Services  
(Executive Member)  
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education, Early Years (Executive Backup Member)  
Jeff deFreitas, Coordinating Superintendent  
Wendy Dowling, Superintendent, Leadership Development and School Support Services  
Scott Moreash, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services  
Gale Solomon-Henry, Superintendent of Education

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

### 1. Approval of Agenda

Chair Kathy McDonald thanked previous Chair of the Committee, Trustee Rick Williams, for his leadership, and she congratulated him on receiving the African Canadian Achievement Award in recognition of his long-standing leadership and contributions to the Black community.

IP-01, moved by Robert Crocker, that the agenda, be approved.

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### 2. Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**3. Minutes of the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee Meeting, November 16, 2016**

IP-02, moved by Rick Williams, that the Minutes of the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee Meeting, held November 16, 2016, be approved.

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**4. Celebrating Faith and Culture Backgrounder – January and February 2017**

IP-03, moved by Janet McDougald, that the reports re Celebrating Faith and Culture Backgrounder – January and February 2017, be received.

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**5. Caledon Cougars Basketball Association Program – Humberview Secondary School**

Joe Grdisa, Coordinator of Health and Physical Education and Extracurricular Athletics, reviewed information contained in the report regarding the Board's intention to enter into a partnership agreement with the Caledon Cougars Basketball Association to establish a girls basketball preparation program at Humberview Secondary School, effective September 2017. He noted that the Association is a member of Ontario Basketball, and offers many basketball programs in Caledon. Students enrolled in the preparatory program at Humberview Secondary School will train throughout the year and compete within the Ontario Scholastic Basketball Association (OSBA), which is the scholastic governing body of preparatory basketball programs in Ontario. Joe Grdisa stated that the Caledon Cougars Basketball Association has a good reputation, and good coaches and trainers. He noted that recruitment will be from Caledon as well as across Ontario and Canada. The administration responded to trustees' questions of clarification, including: eight girls' preparatory basketball teams compete within OSBA; students in the program cannot play on the school team, and the preparatory team cannot compete in ROPSSAA.

IP-04, moved by Stan Cameron, that the report re Caledon Cougars Basketball Association Program – Humberview Secondary School, be received.

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**6. Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) 2016 Summer Learning Program – Camp SAIL**

Wendy Dowling, Superintendent, Leadership Development and School Support Services, introduced Sue Stanford, Principal of Thornwood Public School, and Deanna Whiteley, Teacher at Fernforest Public School. She thanked Sue Stanford for her work on the summer learning program, and noted that Valerie Cunningham has taken the place of Sue Stanford as the Family Centre Leader in Curriculum and Instruction Support Services – Early Years.

**6. Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) 2016 Summer Learning Program – Camp SAIL (Continued)**

Superintendent Dowling reported that Summer Adventures in Learning (SAIL) is a summer learning program funded by CODE and supported, measured and tracked by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat (LNS). She noted that one of the requirements of participation in the program is that a report is presented to trustees on the work being done. Providing details of SAIL, she reported that the goal is to mitigate summer learning loss, enhance parent engagement and support student confidence. Outlining class allocation, participating schools, rationale for school selection, and staffing, Wendy Dowling indicated that the camp is held for three weeks in July, and that student mentorship is possible as a result of hiring secondary school students to support the camp. Sue Stanford highlighted staff deliverables, and student enrolment, and a video on Camp SAIL was shown to the Committee. Deanna Whiteley spoke about the learning tools and resources used, and she shared anecdotes of the parents' and students' enthusiasm for the program. Superintendent Dowling reported on the assessment done of summer learning programs by LNS, and advised that preliminary data indicates that summer learning loss is reduced, with the greatest gains in numeracy.

A trustee noted that SAIL programs were clustered mainly in the central and eastern areas of Peel. Superintendent Dowling clarified that the requirements to receive funding includes that consideration be given to schools with higher social risk, and she highlighted the criteria for selecting students. Suggestions were made including: remedial classes be offered at other schools with the goal of equity of access, as costs for SAIL classes are reasonable; undertake another comparative study regarding summer learning loss vis-a-vis balanced calendar year concept.

IP-05, moved by Suzanne Nurse, that the report re Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) 2016 Summer Learning Program – Camp SAIL, be received.

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**7. Elementary French Immersion Review: Terms of Reference**

IP-06, moved by Harkirat Singh, that the Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee recommends to the Board:

That, the following Elementary French Immersion Review Terms of Reference, be approved:

1. To plan for the sustainability of a high quality French Immersion program
2. To maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of delivery and instruction of the French Immersion program
3. To ensure that students throughout the Board have equitable access to the French Immersion program
4. To ensure that the French Immersion program is effective.  
(APPENDIX I)

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**7. Elementary French Immersion Review: Terms of Reference (Continued)**

Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Support Services, Poleen Grewal, noted that the report contains the Terms of Reference of the elementary French Immersion (FI) review. Providing background information, she indicated that the final report of the Elementary French Immersion Review Committee recommended that a review of staffing, instructional time, and space accommodation be completed by December 2017.

Giselle Blain, Principal of Gordon Graydon Senior Public School, and Co-chair of the Elementary FI Review Committee, reported on the recommendations made by the Committee in 2012, and stated that the Terms of Reference for the elementary FI review are being recommended for Board approval. Referring to the research design contained in the report, she outlined the review questions which will be examined through a literature and document review, the review samples, and the proposed timelines. Giselle Blain noted that the Research Work Plan timelines are also provided.

In response to a trustee's question, it was clarified that, while the FI review does not include reviewing Core French, outcomes from the FI review may impact Core French. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the review question on change in students' oral French marks from Grade 1 to Grade 2 since FI instruction decreased from 85% to 50%. Comments and opinions offered regarding the relevance of the question included that the oral grade mark will be difficult to track, and there may not be much change in report card data, as teachers will be assessing students on where they are in the program. A comparative review of Grade 1 to Grade 4 or 5 oral French marks would have been more relevant. Responding to a trustee's remark that the primary reason for the cap was the difficulty to attract and retain qualified French teachers, Superintendent Grewal indicated that this issue has reached crisis proportions. She noted that, with the growth in total enrolment, the number of FI students within the cap has also grown. It is expected that there will be a shortage of 279 teachers with the problem more significant in hiring LTO FI teachers. Board Chair McDougald reported that the York RDSB offers FI in Grade 1, and Toronto DSB offers FI in Senior Kindergarten, both with 100% instruction in French. She spoke about examining the FI programs in these and other boards with similar programs to determine how they can offer programs with 100% instruction in French, and to look at data on the number of non-FI qualified teachers and LTO teachers who are providing FI instruction. Associate Director of Instructional Support Services, Scott Moreash, advised that the collection of such data will be an onerous task, even if school boards will be willing to share the data.

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**8. Amalgamation of Peel Alternative School (PAS) West and Peel Alternative School South**

Associate Director of Instructional Support Services, Scott Moreash, introduced Nancy Chew, Principal of Peel Alternative School, and Greg Pearson, Vice-Principal of Peel Alternative School South, and he reviewed the administrative recommendation for Board approval regarding the amalgamation of PAS West and PAS South to the PAS South site.

Reporting that PAS West is located at West Credit Secondary School, Associate Director Moreash noted that the proposed amalgamation continues the move to consolidate the number of disparate PAS sites set up over the years. He outlined the rationale for the proposal, as contained in the report, highlighting benefits for students, PAS staff, and the system. He explained that one of the main reasons was to provide engaging multi credit programs, such as is available to PAS North students, which facilitates full day attendance and higher credit accumulation. Scott Moreash advised that some PAS programs, such as TELL, will continue to be offered at West Credit Secondary School. A trustee expressed concern that the location of the school in south Mississauga will significantly increase travel time for some students and will, therefore, be an obstacle to attending school. Nancy Chew spoke of the additional facilities that are available at PAS South, including a gymnasium, cafeteria for students, staff room, etc., and stated that full day attendance, higher enrolment and credit completion is more feasible with the larger number of multi credit packages offered at PAS South. The trustee then requested that the Committee be provided with an update report next year on the impact of the proposal, if approved. Greg Pearson confirmed that depot busing is provided both ways for students and taxi or van travel is provided, if student well-being is a concern.

IP-07, moved by Janet McDougald, that the Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee recommends to the Board:

That, Peel Alternative School West and Peel Alternative School South be amalgamated to the Peel Alternative School South site. (APPENDIX II)

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**9. Report of the Regional Learning Choices Programs (RLCP) Committee**

Associate Director Moreash reviewed the recommendation arising from the December 2016 meeting of the Regional Learning Choices Program Committee regarding revisions to be made to the operating procedure relating to membership of the Committee.

IP-08, moved by David Green, that the report of the Regional Learning Choices Programs (RLCP) Committee, be received.

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**10. Question Period**

Trustee Nurse reminded trustees that the second community forum on the We Rise Together report will be held on January 21, 2017 at Turner Fenton Secondary School. Associate Director Moreash reported that there are 275 registrants so far. Trustees Green and Williams indicated that they are not able to attend the community forum due to prior engagements, and they requested Trustee Nurse to update them following the consultation. Superintendent Grewal advised that an oral update report on the We Rise Together Action Plan will be brought to the Committee at the February 2017 meeting.

**11. Public Question Period**

There were no public questions.

**12. Adjournment**

IP-09, moved by Suzanne Nurse, that the meeting adjourn (20:10 hours).

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..... Chair ..... Secretary