

June 4, 2013
Joint Meeting of the Physical Planning and Building Committee
and the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee:nf

PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of a joint meeting of the Physical Planning and Building Committee and 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 Tuesday, June 4, 2013 at 18:15 hours.

Members present:

Rick Williams, Chair
Beryl Ford
David Green
Steve Kavanagh
Sue Lawton
Harinder Malhi
Janet McDougald
Suzanne Nurse
Jeff White

Trustees also present:

Stan Cameron
Meredith Johnson

Administration:

Randy Wright, Controller, Planning and Accommodation Support Services
(Executive Member)
Shawn Moynihan, Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction Support Services
(Executive Member)
Christine Beal, Controller, Finance Support Services
Pertia Bent, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
Ina Fournier, Superintendent of Education
Jaspal Gill, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
Carla Kisko, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Hazel Mason, Superintendent of Education
Scott Moreash, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
David Neale, Controller, Corporate Support Services
Carol Speers, Superintendent of Education
Shirley-Ann Teal, Coordinating Superintendent
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education
Brian Woodland, Director, Communications and Community Relations Support Services

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was slightly reordered.

PB-48, moved by Harinder Malhi, 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 Physical Planning and Building Committee Meeting, May 7, 2013

PB-49, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the Minutes of the Physical Planning and Building Committee Meeting, held May 7, 2013, be approved.

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4. Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) Minutes, February 15, 2013

PB-50, moved by Jeff White, that the minutes of the Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) meeting, held February 15, 2013, be received.

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5. Celebrating Faith and Culture Backgrounder – June 2013

PB-51, moved by Beryl Ford, that the report re Celebrating Faith and Culture Backgrounder – June 2013, be received.

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6. Quarterly Status Report – Combined Projects

Project Manager, John Hartzema, noted that each trustee received a copy of the Quarterly Status Reports – Combined Projects, specifically sorted to reflect only the schools in their ward. He explained that the report outlines the progress of project construction and renewal as well as work planned for the upcoming construction season by the Planning and Accommodation Support Services and Facilities and Environmental Support Services.

In response to a member's question regarding the occupancy of Eldorado and Lorenvile Public Schools, Controller of Planning and Accommodation Support Services, Randy Wright, and Manager of Design and Construction, Eugene Radley, confirmed that staff are confident that the schools will be ready for occupation on schedule. It was noted that the roofers' strike caused some delay, but roofs were installed by the end of May.

PB-52, moved by Suzanne Nurse, that the Quarterly Status Report – Combined Projects, be received.

..... carried

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7. Renaming of School

Reviewing the above-noted report, Director of Communications and Community Relations, Brian Woodland, highlighted the proposal to rename Central Peel Secondary School as Central Peel Academy. He indicated that the school's trustee, staff, students and parents are in support of the administrative recommendation, which aligns with messages to Peel staff to re-think and re-focus on ways to attract and retain students. He noted that staff at Central Peel Secondary School have done significant work with regard to 21st Century Teaching and Learning, revitalization of the school, and the September 2013 introduction of the Advanced Placement and Strings programs. Brian Woodland confirmed that discussions were held whether to propose a complete name change, but school staff felt that there is history, tradition and connection to Central Peel. He explained that "Academy" has been used for the Executive Leadership program at T.L. Kennedy Secondary School and the Peel Academy for International Students at Clarkson Secondary School.

In response to a member's question, Brian Woodland noted that the cost to change the school sign is approximately \$4,500. The member remarked that the word "Academy" has been used by the Board in specific circumstances; however, it has yet to be used in a school name, and he indicated that he would not support the renaming.

Another trustee pointed out that the renaming has full support of the Central Peel Secondary School community, as well as the school council, superintendent of education, principal and staff. He stated that the Board has spoken frequently about listening to and understanding the need of the parents and the community. Reporting that school staff have done significant work in investigating and obtaining feedback on the proposed name, he expressed support for the proposal, indicating that it positively impacts the image and direction of the school, and its ability to attract and retain students. Later in the discussion, the trustee reported that the renaming provided opportunities to attract more partnerships on 21st Century Teaching and Learning.

Another member expressed the opinion that using "Academy" for a program is understandable, but changing "Secondary School" to "Academy" is confusing. She remarked that there will be a number of schools now interested in being called academies, as the public perception of "Academy" is of a more prestigious learning environment. She indicated that she did not see value in the proposed name, but will nevertheless support the recommendation. Brian Woodland acknowledged the public perception of the word, but indicated that its inclusion in the name will help to leverage the regional programs that the school will offer in September 2013, and to attract and retain students. He commented that the work done at the school does support the use of "Academy".

Board Chair McDougald reported that she has reviewed the administrative recommendation at an Executive Committee meeting. She stated that, although she is not totally satisfied with the proposed name change, she is respectful of the community's wishes. She explained that attracting and retaining students is important, but she also has concerns that other secondary schools would like to be renamed as academies. Acknowledging that Central Peel Secondary School staff have worked hard to provide a good rationale for the proposed name, Chair McDougald noted, however, that the Board has no criteria to name schools as academies. She stated that, without specific criteria, there would be no basis to refuse other proposals. She suggested that trustees consider the implications of this proposal, and she asked about timing of the proposal.

7. Renaming of School (Continued)

Brian Woodland advised that other school boards name some of their schools as academies usually because of the addition of a program, such as International Baccalaureate, or Advanced Placement, which is their criteria for the inclusion of “Academy” in the name. Associate Director of Instructional Support Services, Scott Moreash, stated that, through his visits to the school, he has observed the good work done by the principal and staff. He stated that the introduction of the Advanced Placement and Strings program, and the proposal to rename the school would be similar to a new beginning in September 2013 for the school.

Board Chair McDougald explained that the use of “Academy” in Peel school names is a bigger issue than the renaming of Central Peel Secondary School. She suggested that the perceptual connection of the word in relation to public education be explored. In reply to a member’s question, Brian Woodland clarified that the Naming of Schools policy outlines the process of how a school is renamed, but does not define why a school is renamed, which can happen because schools combine, close, etc. The trustee suggested an addendum to the Naming of Schools Policy be developed to clarify the issues.

Replying to another member’s question, Brian Woodland confirmed that, during his discussions with the school on the proposed renaming, he had suggested a complete renaming. He explained his role in bringing forward names for schools, noting that he has to balance instinct, uniqueness of the school, and needs of the community. In respecting the desire of the community to retain Central Peel in the name, he expressed the opinion that this will help in attracting and retaining students. In reply to a trustee’s question, it was noted that a rejection of the proposal would be extremely disappointing to the school and community.

PB-53, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the Physical Planning and Building Committee and the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee recommends to the Board:

- i) That, the inclusion of “Academy” in the name of a Peel DSB school be discussed by a Committee of the Whole Board,
- ii) That, Central Peel Secondary School be renamed Central Peel Academy.**
(APPENDIX I)

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Speaking in support of a referral to the Committee of the Whole Board, Chair McDougald requested trustees to be prepared to discuss the inclusion of “Academy” in the name of a Peel DSB school. She spoke about people’s perceptions around the word, and that the inclusion will cause it to be set apart from other Peel schools. While the community may want recognition of the work done at the school, she commented that the proposed change to the school may not be the most beneficial from a system point of view. It was noted that more information can be provided to trustees at the Committee of the Whole Board meeting, including inviting the superintendent of education and principal to speak about the work done at the school.

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PB-53 carried

** Note: Due to Resolution No. 13-147 passed at the June 11, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board, this recommendation was not considered.

8. Terms of Reference - Physical Planning and Building Committee

Controller Wright reviewed the proposed changes to the Physical Planning and Building Committee Terms of Reference, stating that the changes reflect the current responsibilities of the Committee, and will align the Terms of Reference with the Broader Public Sector Procurement Directives.

PB-54, moved by Harinder Malhi, that the Physical Planning and Building Committee and the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee recommends to the Board:

That, the revised Terms of Reference for the Physical Planning and Building Committee, be approved. (APPENDIX II)

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9. Recommendations of the Regional Learning Choices Programs Steering Committee

Superintendent of Education and Chair of the Regional Learning Choices Programs Steering Committee, Carol Speers, reported that the administrative recommendations relate to the implementation of three new programs in secondary and elementary schools in September 2014. She indicated that these programs add to the six regional programs approved for implementation in September 2013.

Providing information on the proposed International Baccalaureate program at Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School were Principal Sherry Dalcin, Vice-Principal Brian Malott, Head of Guidance, Adrian Koene, and Head of School Success, Kelly Kahlon. Details about the program, rationale for offering it at the school, program pathways, and staff who have indicated that they will be involved with the program, as outlined in the report, were presented. Information on partnerships, certificates and training, projected student enrolment, and application criteria was highlighted. It was noted that the total program start up funds requested from the Board is \$75,700.

Speaking on the proposal for the Arts and Technology Regional Program at Morning Star Middle School were Principal Dawn Addison, ISSP-Technology Lead Jozanne Walker-Battick, Guidance Counsellor, Lauren Beckford, Grade 7 teacher, Teralyn Phipps, Teacher Librarian, Kevin White, School Success Literacy Numeracy Coach, Jasmine Mann, and ISSP Lead Teacher, Shanta Antoine. The focus on creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and communication, along with the use of technology, was highlighted through two video presentation. Information provided, included: vision for the program; program specifics; benefits to students enrolling in the program; school team; opportunities for experiential learning and partnerships; projected student enrolment; application criteria; program fees. It was noted that the capital cost for the program is \$35,300 over two years. In reply to a trustee's question, Superintendent Moynihan confirmed that students with demonstrated financial need will be supported in terms of the program fees. Board Chair McDougald stated that the availability of financial assistance for students in need should be clearly communicated to students and parents, so that there is equity of access to the program. Responding to another question, Superintendent Moynihan indicated that the preference is for a single intake year, unless there are extenuating circumstances for a student to enter the program in a different grade.

**9. Recommendations of the Regional Learning Choices Programs Steering Committee
(Continued)**

Principal Catherine Unelli, teachers Chris Livingstone, Dave Pertin, and Patti Galifi, Literacy Numeracy Coach, Laura Badovinac, and ICOM Teacher Brian Waltman, presented the highlights of the A.I.M. – Actively In Motion proposal for Royal Orchard Middle School. It was noted that the A.I.M. program is focused on delivering a quality program that increases students’ skill development and active involvement in athletic fitness, wellness, leadership development, student motivation and engagement in the learning process. Key features and components, and the rationale for the program were provided, along with details regarding daily physical activity, community partnerships, certification and training, and leadership opportunities. The school team, projected student enrolment, application criteria and fee were highlighted, and it was noted that capital funding of \$26,000 is required for the A.I.M. program.

Superintendent Moynihan noted that details regarding catchment areas for the three programs are included in the report. In reply to a trustee’s question, it was clarified that the request is for one-time capital funding, and no further capital funding will be required for these programs.

PB-55, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the Physical Planning and Building Committee and the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee recommends to the Board:

- i) That, the following Regional Learning Choices Programs, be approved:
 - a) Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School will begin to offer a Regional Learning Choices Program, the International Baccalaureate Program, with the proposed catchment area*, beginning September 2014.
 - b) Morning Star Middle School will begin to offer a Regional Learning Choices Program, the Arts and Technology Regional Program, with the proposed catchment area*, beginning September 2014.
 - b) Royal Orchard Middle School will begin to offer a Regional Learning Choices Program, the Actively in Motion Program (A.I.M.), with the proposed catchment area*, beginning September 2014.
- ii) That, the total start-up costs for these programs, in the amount of \$137,000, be covered through the Board’s uncommitted Working Fund Reserves.

*Note: All boundary changes associated with the proposed Regional Learning Choices Programs’ locations will be included in the Annual Planning Document. (APPENDIX III)

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10. Application Status Update

Paul Mountford, Intermediate Planning Officer, briefly reviewed the list of six development applications considered by Board staff for May 2013, and he provided an explanation of how the anticipated yield is calculated for a subdivision.

PB-56, moved by Stan Cameron, that the report on the Application Status Update, be received.

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11. English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD) Program – Report 3: Student and Parent Perceptions

Superintendent Moynihan stated that the above-noted report is the third in a series of reports arising from the review of the English as a Second Language program in Peel, and highlights the students' and parents' perception of the ESL/ELD programs. Chief of Research and Evaluation, Paul Favaro, stated that the research question that guided the data collection process asked key stakeholders about their perceptions regarding the Board's ESL/ELD program. The evaluation dimensions were outlined, and he noted that 20 focus groups with English Language Learners (ELLs), and 117 ELLs participated. There were 10 focus groups and 16 interviews with parents of ELLs. Paul Favaro described the five major themes and the 17 sub-themes that resulted from a content analysis of the focus group and interview discussions.

Research Officer, Elana Gray highlighted the perceptions of students about the program, including: students enjoyed the opportunity to expand their English language knowledge; positive experience; one on one support was beneficial; teachers were caring, inclusive and engaging. She stated that students' perceptions about the withdrawal model were that the smaller group set up was beneficial. Further perceptions with regard to the program were: language rich environment; clear instructional approaches; teachers reviewed learning materials and answered questions at length and with detail; students enjoyed activities, particularly the games and activities that expanded their vocabulary; activities were culturally diverse. Elana Gray noted that students appreciated the support they received from teachers and peers.

Elana Gray outlined the challenges reported by students and parents on the withdrawal model, including: students missed important information and content by being taken out of their classrooms, and were falling behind in relation to their peers; classes were small and crowded; program focused on basic learning skills; parents would like to see more individualized attention and higher expectations for ELL students; parents wanted more intensive support during the early stage; some parents felt that there was not enough homework, while others reported too much homework; social stigmatization because of ELL designation. Parents indicated that they wanted more information about ESL and ELL programs and designations, including stages of second language acquisition. They expressed a preference for increased home-school communication regarding student progress.

11. English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD) Program – Report 3: Student and Parent Perceptions (Continued)

Paul Favaro reported that parents and students perceive that Peel is doing good work in supporting the success of ELLs. He stated that there is room for improvement, which is highlighted in the recommendations of this report, including: develop guidelines and support materials to assist schools; continue to implement culturally responsive practices and rich tasks; prevent stigmatization with awareness of concerns, and address these concerns through the School Success Plan; replication of videos in key languages to be added to the scope of the ELL Advantage project.

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PB-57, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the meeting continue beyond 20:30 hours.

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PB-58, moved by David Green, that the report re English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD) Program – Report 3: Student and Parent Perceptions, be received.

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12. Tender Activity Report

In reply to a trustee's question as to the reason for only one bid submitted on the tender for the Kitchen Hood Semi Annual Inspection and Cleaning, despite 17 parties who were interested, David Neale, Controller of Corporate Support Services, confirmed that staff are reviewing whether the specifics on the tender were too narrow.

PB-59, moved by Jeff White, that the Tender Activity Report, April 26, 2013 to May 24, 2013, be received.

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13. Memorandum from the Ministry of Education on Graduation Rate at the School Board Level

Superintendent Moynihan stated that the memorandum provides some information on how the Ministry will be calculating graduation rates. A presentation to the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee in this regard will be planned for the Fall. He clarified that the Ministry currently calculates the provincial graduation rates for a five-year cohort, but may propose calculations of rates for a four-year cohort. In reply to a question, he indicated that the 34 credit limit is not considered for this graduation rate calculation.

13. Memorandum from the Ministry of Education on Graduation Rate at the School Board Level (Continued)

PB-60, moved by Janet McDougald, that the Memorandum from the Ministry of Education on Graduation Rate at the School Board Level, be received.

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14. Question Period

Harinder Malhi asked about the costs to move a portable and prepare it for student occupancy. Controller Wright stated that the costs are approximately \$40,000 for restoration of old site, preparing the new site, electrical hook-ups, etc. Trustee Malhi indicated that there are accommodation pressures and portables at Carberry Public School. She asked whether students can be redirected to James Potter Public School, as the school has space. She stated that Beryl Ford Public School is the holding school for some students who may have to remain at the school for a long time, as their new school is expected to be overenrolled. Controller Wright responded that these issues can be discussed during the Annual Planning Document process.

15. Public Question Period

There were no questions.

16. In Committee Session

PB-61, moved by Meredith Johnson, that the Committee move into In Committee Session (20:40 hours).

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On a motion by Trustee Lawton, the Committee moved back into Open Session (21:15 hours.)

17. Adoption of the In Committee Report

PB-62, moved by Meredith Johnson, that the report of the In Committee Session re: South of Highway 401 Secondary School Accommodation Review – Status Update; Tender Activity Report for April 26, 2013 to May 24, 2013; Streetsville Secondary School – Grant of Easement to City of Mississauga; Building Condition Projects: Huttonville Public School, Streetsville Secondary School, and The Woodlands; Eastbourne Public School – Transfer of Daylight Triangle to the City of Brampton; Solar Panels – Update (oral report), and Question Period, be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

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18. Adjournment

PB-63, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the meeting adjourn (21:20 hours).

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..... Chair Secretary