

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 Wednesday, March 9, 2016, at 19:30 hours.

Members present:

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

Student Trustees:

Kaustav Chaudhuri, Student Trustee South
Arunoshi Singh, Student Trustee North

Administration:

Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services
Shelley Bortolotto, Assistant Director, Human Resources Support Services
Ted Byers, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services
Paul Da Silva, Acting Superintendent of Education
Jeff deFreitas, Coordinating Superintendent
Wendy Dowling, Superintendent of Education, Early Years
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
Jaspal Gill, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Adrian Graham, Superintendent of Education
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent of Education
Adam Hughes, Chief Information Officer
Michael Logue, Superintendent of Education
Hazel Mason, Superintendent of Education
Pertia Minott, Superintendent of Education
Scott Moreash, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
Janice Mueller, Executive Assistant
David Neale, Controller, Corporate Support Services
Patricia Noble, Superintendent of Education
Tony Pontes, Director of Education
Jamie Robertson, Acting Superintendent of Education
Carol Speers, Superintendent of Education, Alternative Programs
Gale Solomon-Henry, Superintendent of Education
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education
Joe Weinberg, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
Brian Woodland, Director, Communications and Community Relations Support Services
Randy Wright, Controller, Planning and Accommodation Support Services

Lorelei Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. Open Session

The Open Session commenced with the acknowledgement that the meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, and the singing of O' Canada.

2. Approval of Agenda

Item 10.1, Inspire Hope: Update on Welcoming Refugees from Syria and Beyond, was circulated.

Resolution No. 16-64 moved by Robert Crocker
seconded by Harkirat Singh

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

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

3. Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, February 23, 2016

Resolution No. 16-65 moved by Carrie Andrews
seconded by Stan Cameron

Resolved that, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held February 23, 2016, 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.16-66 moved by Brad MacDonald
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the following items, be received:

1. Retirements

Angela Allman-Fenty	Arthur Dube	Zaida Saith
Sharon Berg	Paul Favaro	Gottfried Schwarzer
Joseph Bloom	Elisa Fu	Ann Sills
Jo-Anne Butler	Cheryl Henry	Deborah Vieira
Sandy Campbell	Donna Languedoc	Susan Wilson Herman
Harry Chamourian	Jo-Anne Osterbauer	
Susan Cousins	Bonnie Purdy	

2. Good News – Ontario Association of School Social Workers (OASW) - School Social Work Achievement Award (Martha Brunet)

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Chair McDougald referred to item 7.1, Retirements, and commented on the retirement of Paul Favaro, Chief Research Officer. She congratulated Paul Favaro on 27 years of service with Peel DSB. Chair McDougald thanked him for his work and commitment, and extended good wishes for his retirement.

Referring to Item 7.2, Good News, Chair McDougald congratulated Martha Brunet, on receiving the School Social Work Achievement Award from the OASW.

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Resolution No.16-66 carried

8. Esker Lake Public School Holding at the Former Alloa Public School Commencing September 2017

The report containing the recommendation to accommodate K–Grade 5 students from Esker Lake Public School at the former Alloa Public School site, commencing September 2017 was reviewed. Vice-Chair Nurse expressed appreciation for the proposal and commended the work of the principal and superintendent of education involved. Responding to a query, Controller of Planning and Accommodation Support Services, Randy Wright, advised that communication to the public will begin in the next 30 days, and 12 months' notice will be given to Family Day Care to relocate to temporary accommodation.

8. Esker Lake Public School Holding at the Former Alloa Public School Commencing September 2017 (Continued)

Resolution No. 16-67

moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Carrie Andrews

Resolved, that the Kindergarten to Grade 5 students from Esker Lake Public School be accommodated at the former Alloa Public School site commencing September 2017.
(APPENDIX I)

..... carried

9. Inspire Hope: Ensuring a Warm Welcome and Successful School Experience for Refugees from Syria and Beyond

Director of Communications and Community Relations Support Services, Brian Woodland, recalled that a report was brought to the Board in December 2015, and he provided updated information on work done over the past few weeks. He stated that approximately 290 students from refugee families have registered at the We Welcome the World Centres (WWWC), and he advised that the housing issue is not finalized and approximately 50 new registrations are expected per week over the next few months. He reported that most of the students are registered in Thornwood, Thorn Lodge, Dixie, and Silver Creek Public Schools and have been warmly welcomed by staff and students. Brian Woodland advised that expenses continue to be tracked closely in view of potential funding from the Ministry of Education, federal government partners, and Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC). In terms of community supports, he spoke of clothing donations, supplies for families, backpacks for students, partnerships with United Way and other community agencies, sourcing of community talents, and requests for contributions from computer technology providers. Brian Woodland added that English language skills among refugee families are virtually non-existent, and some children have little or no experience of a school setting. Picture dictionaries have been distributed, information sessions and adult education programs are being held for parents and older siblings, and free counselling sessions for families have been arranged.

Brian Woodland responded to trustees' questions of clarification regarding: community resources for mental health and counselling services for refugee parents; data by school board on the number of refugee students registered is not available and projections may not be precise as families who are still temporarily housed in Toronto hotels have not registered in schools; how a student who has no English language skills can be integrated into the regular school system; English as a Second Language (ESL) resources for students. A student trustee advised that the Peel Student President's Council is coordinating a program in some schools to organize backpacks with school supplies, which will be run after March Break. He asked whether the Board can assist with obtaining backpacks to ensure that refugee students have the tools to study. He indicated that corporate sponsorships for school supplies from Staples and Wal-Mart have been requested and confirmation is awaited. Chair McDougald thanked Brian Woodland and staff in various departments for their work to support the success of these students.

9. Inspire Hope: Ensuring a Warm Welcome and Successful School Experience for Refugees from Syria and Beyond (Continued)

Resolution No. 16-68 moved by Nokha Dakroub
seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the report re Inspire Hope: Ensuring a Warm Welcome and Successful School Experience for Refugees from Syria and Beyond, be received.

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10. Reports from Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Resolution No. 16-69 moved by Rick Williams
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the following report, be received:

- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 28, No. 4

..... carried

11. Reports from Trustee Representatives on Councils/Associations

Trustee Green provided an update report from a meeting which was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Education, Early Years department and the Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA) Policy Development Work Team to discuss school board policy to ensure before and/or after school programs for students 6-12 years of age, implementation of proposed policies, and funding. There was also discussion on mental health as a significant issue in many school boards and the need to move from collaboration to action.

12. Comments or Questions from Board Members

Trustee Dakroub reported on a school visit along with an MP, and new eye-based technology being used in schools which enables use of computers with eye movements. She commented on how this technology is useful for people with disabilities who cannot use a keyboard or mouse, and indicated that the MP also tried out the technology and enjoyed the school tour. Chair McDougald suggested that this technology be demonstrated to SEAC members at a Special Education Advisory Committee meeting.

12. Comments or Questions from Board Members (Continued)

Trustee Cameron referred to Item 11, Debenture Financing – New Pupil Places, in the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of February 23, 2016 (Item 4 of these Minutes). He inquired about the administration fee of 0.025%, amounting to \$ 153,595.11 over the 25 year loan term and asked whether there is any benefit to the Board for paying the administrative fee. Controller of Finance Support Services, Tania Alatishe-Charles stated that the amount of \$ 42,512,090 is money that is received for using Board funds, and the administrative fee is paid to the Ontario Financing Authority (OFA). Associate Director of Operational Support Services, Jaspal Gill, explained that the OFA finances long term loans to public bodies, and school boards are required to use only the OFA for debenture financing, for which a fee is charged. He added that the school board will be fully funded by the Ministry of Education for long term borrowing, including the administrative fee.

Vice-Chair Nurse congratulated Cawthra Park Secondary School as champions at the Annual Peel Mock Trial Tournament held on March 4, 2016, at the A. Grenville and William Davis Courthouse in Brampton. She thanked staff for their work and colleagues who attended the event to support the Grades 11 and 12 students. Letters of appreciation were sent to the law societies and associations involved.

Trustee McDonald inquired about expanding the SciTech regional program within schools and in other schools. Chair McDougald stated that applications for Regional Learning Choices programs are currently suspended and that this is a discussion item for the Regional Learning Choices Steering Committee. She suggested that the subject can be raised at an Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee meeting for a discussion in the Fall.

Trustee McDonald asked whether there are plans for more balanced calendar year schools. Chair McDougald explained that balanced calendar is usually implemented in new elementary schools and that a previous report did not show academic benefit compared to the regular calendar schools. The trustee recalled that her discussion with the principal of Ray Lawson Public School indicated that achievement was higher. Director of Education, Tony Pontes, stated that the report was done 2 or 3 years ago from a broad survey carried out by Peel's research department, and the findings did not show a significant difference in learning achievement compared to regular calendar schools. Chair McDougald commented that the subject can be reviewed.

Trustee Williams recalled the recent Canada's Outstanding Principals Award event attended by him and Trustees McDonald and Green. He noted that out of thousands of principals across the country, three were selected from Peel DSB, and he congratulated Principals Dawn Addison, Cathy Standring, and Dave Yaciuk.

Trustee Singh thanked staff for their work on the French Immersion and Regional Learning Choices Programs and noted that there were no issues in the community.

Chair McDougald congratulated Sue McMillan, former Head of Guidance at Clarkson Secondary School, as recipient of the Helen Des Roches Starfish Award.

March 9, 2016
Regular Meeting of the Board:lf

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN IN COMMITTEE SESSION – MARCH 9, 2016

Members present:

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

Student Trustees:

Kaustav Chaudhuri, Student Trustee South
Arunoshi Singh, Student Trustee North

Part A

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda be approved.

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), February 23, 2016

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), held February 23, 2016, be approved.

3. The Woodlands School and Streetsville Secondary School Renovations and Addition

That, the recommendation contained in the report be approved. (Appendix I, as attached to the Minutes)

4. Tribune Drive Public School – Transfer of Easement to Hydro One Brampton

That, the transfer of a permanent easement of approximately 58.5 m² (629.69 ft²) at Tribune Drive Public School to Hydro One Brampton for underground cables and a transformer, be approved. (Appendix II, as attached to the Minutes)

5. Countryside Village Public School – Transfer of Easement to Hydro One Brampton

That, the transfer of a permanent easement of approximately 57.5 m² (618.92 ft²) at Countryside Village Public School to Hydro One Brampton for underground cables and a transformer, be approved. (Appendix III, as attached to the Minutes)

6. Email System Update

That, the oral update report re Email System, be received.

7. Director's Report

1. Mileage Forms

That, the Director's Report re Mileage Forms (oral), be received.

Part B (Not including Student Trustees)

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda as amended, be approved.

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), February 23, 2016

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), held February 23, 2016, be approved.

3. Resignations

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

4. Retirements

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

March 9, 2016
Regular Meeting of the Board:lf

5. Elementary Vice-Principal Assignments

That, the following elementary principal assignments, effective March 21, 2016, be received:

Jill Pattison from Vice-Principal at Sir John A. MacDonald Senior Public School to Vice-Principal at Cherrytree Public School

Vida Gardener from Vice-Principal at Cherrytree Public School to Vice-Principal at Sir John A. MacDonald Senior Public School

6. SouthFields Village #2 Public School Site

That, the recommendation contained in the report regarding the SouthFields Village #2 Public School site, be approved. (Appendix I, as attached to the Minutes)