

May 28, 2013
Regular Meeting of the Board:nf

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, May 28, 2013 at 19:30 hours.

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair	Sue Lawton
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair	Brad MacDonald
Stan Cameron	Harinder Malhi
Beryl Ford	Jeff White
Meredith Johnson	Rick Williams
Steve Kavanagh	

Member absent:

David Green

Administration:

Christine Beal, Controller, Finance Support Services
Dawn Beckett-Morton, Director, Human Resources Support Services
Pertia Bent, Superintendent of Education
Shelley Bortolotto, Assistant Director, Human Resources Support Services
Jan Courtin, Superintendent of Education
Wendy Dowling, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
Ina Fournier, Superintendent of Education
Jaspal Gill, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent of Education
Mark Keating, Chief Information Officer
Carla Kisko, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Hazel Mason, Superintendent of Education
Scott Moreash, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
David Neale, Controller, Transportation and Corporate Support Services
Patricia Noble, Superintendent of Education
Tony Pontes, Director of Education
Jerry Powidajko, Superintendent, Leadership Development and School Support Services
Patricia Rossall, Superintendent of Education, Alternative Programs
Louise Sirisko, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services
Marion Smith, Executive Assistant
Shirley-Ann Teal, Coordinating Superintendent
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education
Brian Woodland, Director, Communications and Community Relations Support Services
Randy Wright, Controller, Planning and Accommodation Support Services

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

5. Written Questions

There were no written questions.

6. Petition

Trustee Kavanagh submitted a petition signed by 120 parents of the Hickory Wood Public School community regarding changing the format of the Readiness Centre at Hickory Wood Public School, whereby the Centre will lose its teacher. Chair McDougald stated that a response will be provided at the next Regular Meeting of the Board, on June 11, 2013.

7. Notice of Motion

Trustee Cameron submitted the following Notice of Motion:

“Whereas, the safety of children is of primary importance, and

Whereas, busing has historically been provided to Caledon East Public School students living north of Larry Street, and

Whereas, sidewalks have been in place on Airport Road, the road STOPR uses to measure walking distances, since 1995, and

Whereas, there is considerable anxiety among parents regarding the safety of students from the community walking to school due to withdrawal of busing, effective September 2013, and

Whereas, STOPR staff have been unable to answer the community's questions and concerns about why this walking route to Caledon East Public School has been, and is currently identified on their public computer system, as a “hazard”, and

Whereas, the response to the delegation, included in tonight's agenda, supports the removal of busing for Caledon East Public School students living north of Larry Street,

Therefore be it resolved that, an exception be made to Policy #39 – Transportation as it pertains to eligibility, to reinstate busing for students living north of Larry Street and attending Caledon East Public School, effective September 2013.”

8. Special Section for Receipt

Resolution No. 13-127 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Jeff White

Resolved, that the following items, be received:

1. Retirements

Meredith Bamford	Beverley McKean	Carol Sturup
Adrienne Comrie	Ajodhiya Sankar	Mary Tracy
Janice Ford	Debbie Sharp Ramsay	Prafulla Vyas
Marylou Hayden	Christine Simpson	
Ron Jasuik	Merrill Sooley	

2. Good News (Peel DSB winners of the French Public Speaking Competition)

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Chair McDougald referred to the retirement of Penny Gingell, Superintendent of Education, which was received at the May 14, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board. Chair McDougald highlighted Superintendent Gingell's 30-year career with the Peel DSB, as a teacher, vice-principal, principal, and for the past eight years as a superintendent of education. Superintendent Gingell was also the superintendent for the accommodation review process, and Chair McDougald expressed appreciation for her leadership and hard work during the review process. On behalf of the Board, Chair McDougald thanked Superintendent Gingell for her work and contribution to students, parents, communities and staff, and she wished her well in retirement.

Referring to Item 7.2, Good News, Chair McDougald congratulated Peel students, Liam Bekirsky, Jounaid Lyaghfour, and Vivian Peng, who had won awards at the "Le concours/festival d'art oratoire", an annual French public-speaking event for students in Grades 4-12 who are studying French as a second language in Ontario Schools.

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Resolution No. 13-127 carried

9. Response to Delegation by Imran Ali re Phasing Out the French Immersion (FI) Program at David Suzuki Secondary School

Resolution No. 13-128 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Steve Kavanagh

Resolved, that the Response to Delegation by Imran Ali re Phasing Out the French Immersion Program at David Suzuki Secondary School (Regular Meeting of the Board, May 14, 2013), be received.

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10. Response to Delegation by Gail Brathwaite re Phasing Out the French Immersion Program at David Suzuki Secondary School

At the Regular Meeting of the Board, held May 14, 2013, Gail Brathwaite delegated the Board on behalf of parents of students regarding the stress to children caused by the boundary change that will move the Grade 9 FI program from David Suzuki Secondary School to Brampton Centennial Secondary School.

Resolution No. 13-129 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Steve Kavanagh

Resolved, that the Response to Delegation by Gail Brathwaite re Phasing Out the French Immersion Program at David Suzuki Secondary School, be received.

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11. Response to Delegation by Kay Tull Robinson re the French Immersion Program at Brampton Centennial Secondary School

Resolution No. 13-130 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Steve Kavanagh

Resolved, that the Response to Delegation by Kay Tull Robinson re the French Immersion Program at Brampton Centennial Secondary School (Regular Meeting of the Board, May 14, 2013), be received.

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12. Response to Delegation by Swagata Roy re Cancellation of Busing to Barondale Public School

At the Regular Meeting of the Board, held May 14, 2013, Swagata Roy delegated the Board on behalf of the parents of students who will no longer be bused to Barondale Public School.

Resolution No. 13-131 moved by Beryl Ford
seconded by Harinder Malhi

Resolved, that the Response to Delegation by Swagata Roy re Cancellation of Busing to Barondale Public School, be received.

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A trustee indicated that he has concerns about the potential removal of crossing guards by the City of Mississauga at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Grand Highland Road. He stated that Kennedy Road is a heavily travelled road with busy intersections in the area, and that he will be delegating the City's Traffic Safety Council to request permanent crossing guards at the intersection. He confirmed that he will report back to the Board on the City's response to his delegation.

Resolution No. 13-131 carried

13. Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee, May 7, 2013

At a meeting of the Physical Planning and Building Committee, held May 7, 2013, there were no recommendations to the Board.

Resolution No. 13-132 moved by Harinder Malhi
seconded by Sue Lawton

Resolved, that the information about the Physical Planning and Building Committee's receipt of the following items, be received:

1. Reports / Information Received

Schedule of Physical Planning and Building Committee Meetings (2013-2014); Building Condition Reports: Huttonville Public School, Streetsville Secondary School, and The Woodlands Secondary School; Portable Vandal Screen for Portables - Update; Application Status Update; Tender Activity Report, March 19, 2013 to April 26, 2013; Vandalism Report, March 2013; Mount Pleasant Village - Winner of the 2012 Ontario Builders Awards.

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14. Terms of Reference – Committee of the Whole Board

As part of the Board's regular review of the Peel DSB By-laws, all committees of the Board are asked to review and make any necessary changes to their Terms of Reference. No changes were recommended.

Resolution No. 13-133 moved by Meredith Johnson
seconded by Steve Kavanagh

Resolved, that the Terms of Reference – Committee of the Whole Board, be received.

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15. Peel District School Board Policy #68 – Criminal Record Checks

Policy #68 was last revised in 2006. Since then, there have been significant changes to the process for Criminal Record Checks, and revisions to the policy are proposed to ensure that it reflects and supports current practice.

Resolution No. 13-134 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Meredith Johnson

Resolved, that Peel District School Board Policy #68 – Criminal Record Checks, be approved (APPENDIX I).

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16. Report Card for Student Success – 2013 – 2017

Director of Education, Tony Pontes, explained that the above-noted report highlights the changes to the Report Card for Student Success for the next four years, 2013 – 2017. He stated that the current four-year cycle is coming to an end, and the report reflects the revisions to system projects based on feedback from the senior leadership team and trustees. The Report Card for Student Success has seven key goals, and the purpose of the goals is to support the system which supports student success, confidence and hope. Director Pontes reviewed PowerPoint slides, providing detailed information on each goal and highlighting changes that have been made. He provided the rationale for deleting the goal of “School Success Plan”, and he noted that the changes to the Report Card for Student Success include updating some of the key projects, measures and targets that drive the goals. He reminded trustees that the purpose of the Report Card for Student Success is to analyze trends in improvement over a 4-5 year period.

With regard to the goal of “Set High Expectations”, Director Pontes noted that EQAO results and graduation rate are the indicators, and annual increases in EQAO results and graduation rates are the targets. Outlining EQAO results over the past five years, he reviewed increases in Grade 3 reading, writing, and mathematics, and Grade 6 reading and writing. He stated that the significant increase in the graduation rate is a testament to the good work done by staff, and that the two areas of focus in the strategic plan will be the five year decrease in Grade 6 mathematics results, and the flat-lining of OSSLT results. Projects for 2013-2017 under this goal were explained. Referring to “Positive Relationships”, Director Pontes indicated that the goal is to encourage positive board / staff and school / community relationships. He noted that the indicator is staff absenteeism and, while there is some improvement, a small upward trend is being noticed, and staff are looking into the reasons. He noted that, under this goal, a communication plan will be developed and implemented to support The Journey Ahead, that will clearly highlight Peel’s diverse, and talented workforce. Another project is to implement a strategic program to increase student enrolment and retention.

Reviewing the goal of ‘Achieve Equity’ for students and staff, Director Pontes stated that the resolution of human rights-related complaints internally is the target. Noting that currently there are very few complaints with the Human Rights Tribunal, he highlighted the projects under the goal, including investigate the use of a voluntary staff census; create a status report on the Board’s Equity and Inclusive Education Policy; implement a voluntary, confidential, self-identification policy for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students; implement the Board’s Mental Health strategy. Regarding “Effective Use of Technology”, Director Pontes spoke of moving towards increasing use of technology to support 21st Century teaching. He thanked trustees for their support of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), and he noted that the projects for 2013-2017 include installing and supporting wireless technology by the Fall, enabling the BYOD page and collaborative applications, and providing online professional development for staff regarding technology.

Director Pontes highlighted the new target of staff job satisfaction for the goal of “Attract, Develop and Retain Staff”. He stated that a survey will be piloted to obtain viewpoints from staff about their work and the Board. The projects under the goal relate to the implementation of The Journey Ahead Action Plan, expansion of leadership development strategy for operational / business staff, and creation and implementation of a leadership development project for racialized persons, including mentoring.

16. Report Card for Student Success – 2013 – 2017 (Continued)

Referring to the goal of “Safe and Appropriate Places to Learn and Work”, Director Pontes noted that the indicators are percentage of students suspended, and enrolment versus capacity. The targets for each indicator were reviewed, and the four projects for 2013-2017 are: full implementation of Bill 13 – Accepting Schools Act; comprehensive review of enrolment trends in secondary schools south of the 401; comprehensive review of the French Immersion programs in secondary school; full implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten in a fiscally responsible manner.

Referring to the “Use Resources Effectively” goal, Director Pontes expressed concern about the considerable lack of funding which makes it challenging to implement some of the projects under this goal. He stated that, although there are the Hubs and Readiness Centres and the Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, additional funding needs to be allotted to schools with high Social Risk Index and low EQAO scores. He stated that trustees have also spoken of the need for targeted action towards developing partnerships, given the funding deficit. In concluding his presentation, Director Pontes advised that the projects outlined in the Report Card for Student Success align with the budget.

Resolution No. 13-135 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Beryl Ford

Resolved, that the Report Card for Student Success – 2013 – 2017, be received.

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17. Presentation re Budget 2013 – 2014

Chair McDougald stated that staff, employee groups, and the senior leadership team have worked diligently on Budget 2013-2014, and their input has been valuable. She noted that trustees have worked as a team and have discussed the needs and priorities, and that the Budget 2013-2014 presentation is one of the final steps in the budget development process. Remarking that the budget exercise was easier in times of increasing enrolment, surplus and savings, Chair McDougald explained that this year, due to significant restrictions in funding, the budget exercise has been challenging.

Associate Director of Operational Support Services, Carla Kisko, expressed appreciation to Christine Beal, Controller of Finance Support Services, and Brian Hester, Finance Manager, for their significant work on the budget. Providing background information, Associate Director Kisko spoke of the work of the Budget Development Committee, and she thanked trustees for their time and commitment to the process. She stated that this budget has been one of the more difficult to balance because labour discussions at the Ministry are still ongoing. As a result, the presentation today is of a balanced budget, taking into consideration elements known to the Board at this time. She advised that the revised budget estimates which will be provided to the Ministry in December 2013 will include matters that may come up through the labour discussions at a later date.

(Continued overleaf)

17. Presentation re Budget 2013-2014 (Continued)

Reviewing the PowerPoint presentation, Associate Director Kisko noted that Peel has experienced growth in the past and, for the first time in 17 years, for 2013-2014, a decrease in enrolment of 178 students is being projected. She stated that grants are driven by student enrolment, and budgets are easier to balance in times of growth. She reviewed highlights of provincial funding in 2013-2014, including: grant reduction to teacher, principal and vice-principal salary benchmarks of 1.5% for 3 unpaid days; benchmark reduction in elementary professional development grant and secondary program teacher grant totaling \$3.5 million; increment on 97th day recognized for classroom teachers; total net grant reduction of \$4.7 million in school operations; Peel's annual increase of \$12 million from the final year phase-in of Learning Opportunities Grant (LOG) and ESL increases.

Associate Director Kisko highlighted the budget development approach, and explained the areas of increase and reductions. Noting that the budget for special education is estimated at \$14.2 million over the envelope, she stated that Peel's High Needs Amount is the lowest per pupil in the Province and the formula uses old data from the 2003-2004 claims process, which has affected the ability of the Board to address the gap. Reviewing the information on Transportation, Carla Kisko acknowledged the work of Transportation department in finding efficiencies in routing as well as in operator contracts. She noted that, a few years ago, the gap in transportation funding was \$7 million, which has now been eliminated. Information on the 2013-2014 operating expenditures, staffing costs, and non-staff costs was reviewed, and Associate Director Kisko noted that education being people-oriented, a significant proportion of the expenditure is on salaries and benefits.

Referring to the table showing a comparison of the percentage of provincial enrolment versus the share in funding among large urban boards, Carla Kisko noted that Peel's enrolment is 7.8% of provincial enrolment, but the funding share is 7.1%, a difference of -0.7%, the highest among large urban boards. The comparison of per pupil funding also demonstrates that Peel DSB receives one of the lowest per pupil funding amounts in the Province. Associate Director Kisko explained the budget risks, including: impact of continuing labour discussions; projected enrolment decrease may be understated; receipt of adequate funding for FDK capital and new schools; provincial budget austerity to continue. She then reviewed the items for future budget consideration, stating that these had been discussed by trustees. She advised that reductions in courier service can be implemented within the year; however, she remarked that the Board should be more strategic about the areas of reduction. She confirmed that the administration will consider opportunities to deliver professional development more efficiently, and that corporate partnership opportunities will be explored in a more concerted manner.

Chair McDougald thanked Associate Director Kisko for the presentation, and she noted that many of the trustees' comments and discussions have been reflected in today's presentation. She stated that, one of the issues trustees had discussed, which is not included in the presentation for future budget consideration and may be difficult to implement, is to consider a process where staff can evaluate the many initiatives and demands from the Ministry and the community and concentrate only on those that support positive outcomes in terms of student achievement. She indicated that the information contained in the report presents a good framework to continue to maintain the focus on students and the classroom.

17. Presentation re Budget 2013 – 2014 (Continued)

Resolution No. 13-136 moved by Steve Kavanagh
seconded by Beryl Ford

Resolved, that the Presentation re Budget 2013 – 2014, be received.

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18. Reports from Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Resolution No. 13-137 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Sue Lawton

Resolved, that the following reports, be received:

- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 25, No. 18
- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 25, No. 19

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19. Further Business

1. Toronto DSB Notice of Motion re Hiring Processes Without Using Regulation 274 Seniority Rules

Chair McDougald stated that the Toronto DSB notice of motion mirrors the serious concerns that Peel DSB trustees have regarding Regulation 274 in relation to hiring of teachers, and the ability to hire the best teaching staff for Peel schools. She acknowledged the perceptions with regard to hiring teachers, which has resulted in Peel's The Journey Ahead Action Plan, and the Province's response through Regulation 274. She advised that the Toronto DSB trustee had requested that the notice of motion be brought to Peel trustees' attention as it offers boards a choice to adopt a hiring process different from that legislated through Regulation 274. The alternate process would address concerns regarding nepotism, but the Toronto DSB trustee is apprehensive about the short timeframe to influence the Ministry.

Resolution No. 13-138 moved by Sue Lawton
seconded by Harinder Malhi

Resolved, that the Toronto DSB Notice of Motion re Hiring Processes Without Using Regulation 274 Seniority Rules, be received.

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19. Further Business (Continued)

2. Appointment to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association Board of Directors for June 2013 – June 2014

Chair McDougald referred to the appointments of trustees to the OPSBA Board of Directors for the 2013-2014 period. She advised that Trustee Lawton is declining the appointment of alternate representative and, with the Board's permission, Vice-Chair Nurse has offered to replace Trustee Lawton. Trustees agreed Vice-Chair Nurse will be alternate representative to the OPSBA Board of Directors.

20. Question Period

There were no questions.

21. Public Question Period

Catherine Soplet expressed appreciation to the Board on the Budget 2013-2014 Presentation and the Report Card for Student Success, stating that, in these transitional and transformational times, it is commendable that the Board's has been able to develop a budget taking into consideration the fluid elements. Referring to comments about an austerity budget, she remarked that the Board should be confident moving forward as literacy is very important. She indicated that education is a people business and should be considered an artisan process rather than a corporate process. With regard to partnerships, she asked the Board to consider non-monetary partnerships, such as people spending time in schools. Chair McDougald responded.

22. Adoption of the In Committee Report

Resolution No. 13-139 moved by Jeff White
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the report of the In Committee Session regarding: Minutes of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee) Meeting, May 7, 2013; Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), May 14, 2013; Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), May 7, 2013; Negotiations Update (oral); Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), May 14, 2013; Resignations; Retirements; Discipline Committee of the Board: 2013 – 2014 Meeting Schedule; Terms of Reference: Discipline Committee of the Board, and Superintendent Appointment, be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

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May 28, 2013
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23. Adjournment

Resolution No. 13-140 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Meredith Johnson

Resolved, that the meeting adjourn (20:50 hours).

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..... Chair Secretary

May 28, 2013
Regular Meeting of the Board:nf

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN IN COMMITTEE SESSION – MAY 28, 2013

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair
Stan Cameron
Beryl Ford
Meredith Johnson
Steve Kavanagh

Sue Lawton
Brad MacDonald
Harinder Malhi
Jeff White
Rick Williams

Member absent: (apologies received)

David Green

Part A

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, be approved.

2. Minutes of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), May 7, 2013 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), May 14, 2013

1. That, the Minutes of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), held May 7, 2013, be received;
2. That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee - Part A), held May 14, 2013, be approved;

3. Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), May 7, 2013

That, the information about the Physical Planning and Building Committee's receipt of the following items, be received:

1. Reports / Information Received

Tender Activity Report, March 19, 2013 to April 26, 2013; Cooksville Mobility Hub Discussion; Cash-in-lieu of Parkland Dedication – City of Mississauga (oral); Community Playground Partnership – Munden Park Public School; After Hours Alarm Response; Status Report - Sale of School Sites to Other Institutions

4. Negotiations Update

That, the oral update report regarding Negotiations, 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), May 14, 2013

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), held May 14, 2013, 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. Discipline Committee of the Board: 2013 – 2014 Meeting Schedule

That, the 2013-2014 meeting schedule for the Discipline Committee of the Board, be received.

6. Terms of Reference: Discipline Committee of the Board

That, the Terms of Reference of the Discipline Committee of the Board, be received.

7. Director's Report

1. Superintendent Appointment

That, the following superintendent appointment, effective September 1, 2013, be approved:

Poleen Grewal from Acting Superintendent of Education for the schools in the Meadowvale and Streetsville Families of Schools and West Credit Secondary School to Superintendent of Education for the schools in the Meadowvale and Streetsville Families of Schools and West Credit Secondary School.