

PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of the Physical Planning and Building 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, October 2, 2012 at 18:00 hours.

Members present:

David Green, Chair
Steve Kavanagh
Sue Lawton
Harinder Malhi
Janet McDougald (18:20)
Jeff White (18:05)

Also present:

Meredith Johnson
Suzanne Nurse

Member absent (apologies received):

Beryl Ford

Administration:

Jaspal Gill, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
(Acting Executive Member)
Christine Beal, Controller, Finance Support Services
Ina Fournier, Superintendent of Education
Carla Kisko, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Scott Moreash, Coordinating Superintendent
David Neale, Controller, Transportation and Corporate Support Services

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. Approval of Agenda

Item 9.3, Report on Tender and Borrowing By-law: Brameast #4 Public School, was added to the agenda.

PB-71, moved by Harinder Malhi, that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

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

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**3. Joint Meeting of the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee and Physical Planning and Building Committee, June 13, 2012
Minutes of the Physical Planning and Building Committee Meeting,
September 5, 2012**

PB-72, moved by Sue Lawton:

1. That, the Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Instructional Programs / Curriculum Committee and Physical Planning and Building Committee, held June 13, 2012, be approved;
2. That, the Minutes of the Physical Planning and Building Committee Meeting, held September 5, 2012, be approved.

..... carried

4. Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) Minutes, June 15, 2012

The minutes of the STOPR Governance Committee were perused, and a trustee asked about the route for the three Peel schools which were to receive integrated transportation. Controller of Transportation and Corporate Support Services, David Neale, reported that coterminous board representatives on STOPR were not ready to move forward with implementing integrated busing on this route as there was insufficient notice to the community. Peel DSB will not be in a position to achieve savings expected from this integration, but Controller Neale reported that the Board may save costs with some single routes.

PB-73, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the Minutes of the Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) meeting, held June 15, 2012, be received.

..... carried

5. Enrolment Cap at Beryl Ford Public School (K-Grade 8) and Re-direction to Fairlawn Public School (James Grieve Holding School)

Planning Officer, Philip Souza, briefly reviewed the administrative recommendation to cap enrolment at Beryl Ford Public School at 45 classes, or the approximate equivalent enrolment of 1,004 students. He noted that, based on revised projections, enrolment at the school is expected to grow to 955 students in 2012-2013. However, if enrolment grows beyond the cap, students will be directed to James Grieve Public School for the remainder of the school year.

The administration responded to trustees' questions of clarification. Philip Souza clarified that staff were allocated at the start of the school year based on 955 student enrolment, and that there are ten portables at the Beryl Ford Public School site. In response to a question, Associate Director of Operational Support Services, Carla Kisko, reported that the enrolment at Fairlawn Public School is projected at 667, which closely matches current enrolment.

5. Enrolment Cap at Beryl Ford Public School (K-Grade 8) and Re-direction to Fairlawn Public School (James Grieve Holding School) (Continued)

Associate Director Kisko indicated that enrolment growth is anticipated to continue, but this has been factored into projections for recommending the cap at Beryl Ford Public School. The Ministry Rated Capacity at James Grieve Public School is 811, and enrolment is 677. The James Grieve Public School site is large and can accommodate portables if enrolment far exceeds projections. Associate Director Kisko noted that, with current projections, there is space at Beryl Ford and Fairlawn Public Schools. In reply to a trustee's comment, she confirmed that new house closings in the community until December 2012 have been included in the projections.

In response to another trustee' question, Associate Director Kisko confirmed that Beryl Ford Public School has Full Day Kindergarten. The trustee commented that the school is overcrowded in its first year of operation, and he asked why the school is organized as a K-Grade 8 school. Associate Director Kisko responded that the organization of the school was an administrative decision that was supported by the community which appreciated that the students would remain at the same elementary school. She advised that, in that community and in growth areas, attempts are being made to provide K-Grade 8 schools. She added that Brameast #4 Public School will also be a K-Grade 8 school. With regard to capacity, she stated that enrolment will be within capacity in the next few years.

A trustee reported that the enrolment at Castlemore Public School has decreased, and she asked whether students would be redirected back to the school. Associate Director Kisko clarified that enrolment is lower due to the direction of students to James Grieve Public School, and no redirection of the students back to Castlemore Public School is proposed. However, if students move into the Castlemore Public School boundary, they will be directed to the school. The current enrolment will be verified.

PB-74, moved by Harinder Malhi, that the Physical Planning and Building Committee recommends to the Board:

That, a cap of 45 classes (or the approximate equivalent enrolment of 1,004 students) at Beryl Ford Public School for the 2012-2013 school year, be approved (APPENDIX I).

..... carried

6. Capital Project Delays

Associate Director Kisko reviewed the report, explaining that Fletcher's Meadow #7 Public School and Springdale 703 Public School are in areas that need Full Day Kindergarten (FDK). Noting that, unless the Ministry addresses capital needs and funding is provided in a timely manner, full implementation of FDK is at risk.

(Continued overleaf)

6. Capital Project Delays (Continued)

With regard to Fletcher's Meadow #7 Public School, funding approval from the Ministry has been obtained for the new school. However, an early challenge had been with respect to site acquisition, including an unexpectedly lengthy process to expropriate land, that has just been completed. Associate Director Kisko explained that the Board must now rezone the property, which can take a number of months. She advised that, as a result, construction cannot commence at the site, and the school is being identified as a delayed project. She noted that Fletcher's Meadow #7 Public School is a Year 5 FDK site, but due to growth pressures, the school had been proposed for delivery in 2013.

Regarding Springdale 703 Public School, Associate Director Kisko advised that the Ministry has not yet approved capital funding for the project. She noted that the site acquisition process was lengthy but, without capital funding being secured, delivery of the school for September 2013 is unfeasible. Stating that the school is assigned for Year 5 FDK implementation, she indicated that delivery of the school will most likely be for 2014.

Referring to the report, Carla Kisko described the contingency plans developed, which will also address enrolment growth pressures. She spoke about portable accommodations at some schools, and that Springdale Public School be reorganized as a K-Grade 6 school for September 2013. She noted that the contingency plans will also be highlighted in the Annual Planning Document.

A trustee remarked that commitments were made to communities that the schools will be delivered in 2013, and she asked about a plan to communicate the delays to parents. She also asked whether staff were not aware that the site would be delayed because of rezoning requirements. Associate Director Kisko explained that the delay is caused primarily because of the lengthy site acquisition process rather than due to rezoning. She stated that site acquisition is particularly challenging in some areas, and that the City has indicated that the rezoning process will take approximately 8 months. She acknowledged the need to advise the communities about the project delays. Further questions of clarification were responded to by the administration, including: review of school organization will be undertaken through the Annual Planning Document; portables at Springdale Public School and Carberry Public School; location of Springdale 703 Public School. Associate Director advised that new schools have been approved for these communities only due to FDK implementation as, otherwise, enrolment growth would have been addressed through existing schools. She noted that construction is being delayed for capital funding reasons, but FDK implementation in these communities is on schedule, in Year 5.

PB-75, moved by Janet McDougald, that the report re Capital Project Delays, be received.

..... carried

7. Report on Tender and Borrowing By-law – Brameast #4 Public School

PB-76, moved by Harinder Malhi, that the Physical Planning and Building Committee recommends to the Board:

- a) That, the tender, in the amount of \$11,886,470 including HST, for the construction of Brameast #4 Public School, be awarded to Remo General Contracting Limited (APPENDIX II).
- b) That, a resolution enacting the Borrowing By-law, as follows, be approved:

Whereas, the Peel District School Board (hereinafter called the Board) deems it necessary to undertake the following project, namely the construction of the Brameast #4 Public School, at an estimated cost of \$12,758,762,

Therefore be it resolved and be enacted as a by-law of the Board that, the foregoing project be authorized and approved and be financed through the Ontario Financing Authority (OFA) unless the Board can demonstrate it can obtain a loan with a better interest rate from another regulated financial institution or a municipality.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2012.

Janet McDougald
Chair

Tony Pontes
Secretary

..... carried

8. Tender Activity Report

In reply to a trustee's question, Controller Neale will advise regarding details about the damage to asphalt due to fire at Meadowvale Secondary School.

PB-77, moved by Meredith Johnson, that the Tender Activity Report for August 22, 2012 to September 21, 2012, be received.

..... carried

9. Vandalism Report

PB-78, moved by Meredith Johnson, that the Vandalism Reports for June 2012 to August 2012, and the Summary Report for September 2011 – August 2012, be received.

..... carried

10. Storm Water Charges – Update from Council of Senior Business Officials

Associate Director Kisko explained that the City of Mississauga is charging storm water management fees to all property owners, including school boards. She referred to the letter attached to the above-noted report, which is the Ministry's response to requests for clarification from the Waterloo Region and Waterloo Catholic DSBs regarding municipalities levying storm water charges on school boards. The Ministry's letter highlights that Section 58 of the Education Act likely provides school boards with an exemption to storm water fees imposed under the Municipal Act. Carla Kisko confirmed that Peel DSB is taking the same position on the charges, and that the response from the Ministry will be shared with City of Mississauga, who continue to impose storm water charges on the Board. She clarified that, going forward, municipal fees will be examined carefully to ensure that the storm water charges are not being included in other fees.

PB-79, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the report re Storm Water Charges – Update from Council of Senior Business Officials, be received.

..... carried

11. Question Period

Trustee Malhi asked for a status report on the Fairlawn Public School tender, and Associate Director Kisko confirmed that this will be brought forward shortly.

Trustee Malhi asked about plans for James Grieve Public School. Associate Director Kisko advised that the school is expected to be the holding site for Brameast #5.

Trustee Malhi indicated that the Transportation department has been reviewing how communications are sent to parents regarding cancellation of busing. When busing is being provided as a temporary measure, she suggested that letters be sent to parents at the start of each school year indicating that this is a temporary service, especially when such service is being provided for 6-7 years.

Trustee Johnson reported on comments at the Mississauga Traffic Safety Council meeting that condominiums will be built within the boundary of Janet I. McDougald Public School, and that student yield is expected.

Trustee Nurse requested a status update report on the new Alloa school, asking whether it is on schedule. Dave Dundas, Project Coordinator, reported that the geotechnical investigation, and expropriation of the site is complete. The purchase and sale agreement is being finalized, and architectural designs are being developed. Dave Dundas indicated that pre-consultation meetings with the Town of Caledon are scheduled, and that the property does not require rezoning. He stated that delivery of the school is expected to be for September 2013.

Trustee Nurse reported on new home development around Mount Pleasant Public School which could increase enrolment to the maximum capacity, and she asked whether a holding school is available. Advising that the information will be made available through the Annual Planning Document, Associate Director Kisko explained that Mount Pleasant Public School will have space depending upon the estimates of home closures and student yields. She added that Mount Pleasant Public School #2 is targeted for a 2014 delivery, if funding is received.

11. Question Period (Continued)

Trustee Nurse referred to the Vandalism Reports (Item 9 of these Minutes), and she commented on the frequency of vandalism incidents at Somerset Drive Public School during June, July and August. Controller Neale stated that caretaking staff have been vigilant in reporting incidents, which will be reviewed with the Board's Security and Risk Management staff.

Chair Green asked whether the Fletcher's Meadow Public School property is part of the cemetery, and whether the site is large enough for a school and potentially, portables. Carla Kisko confirmed that the property is part of a cemetery, and is 10 acres, which is larger than the usual size of elementary school sites. She further confirmed that a creek at the end of the property does not raise any safety concerns.

12. Public Question Period

Navneet Bedi, whose children attend Fairlawn Public School, expressed concern about the direction of students from Beryl Ford Public School to James Grieve Public School. He stated that his community had been provided assurances from staff that James Grieve Public School was an appropriate school site, with a good quality of education. Associate Director Kisko provided clarification. Navneet Bedi commented on the accommodation pressures in the first year of Beryl Ford Public School, the enrolment projections made by Board staff compared to actual enrolment, and the projections for Castlemore and Mount Royal Public Schools, which are also facing accommodation pressures. Chair Green and Associate Director Kisko responded. In reply to a comment, Navneet Bedi spoke about multiple families living in one home, explaining that this is cultural issue. He remarked, however, that the Board has experience in dealing with this issue, which should be used in projecting enrolment numbers. He indicated that a significant number of homes in these areas are new homes, which most likely do not have basement apartments. Navneet Bedi reported on his meetings with City of Brampton staff, who had indicated that their home closing statistics are accurate. City staff had commented that, based on this data, schools are being built under capacity. City Planning staff indicate that information and data has been communicated to Peel DSB staff. Explaining that the community has approached the MPP, and that the community continues to support the Board, Navneet Bedi requested Board staff to communicate with City staff to ensure that projections are accurate. Chair Green responded.

13. In Committee Session

PB-80, moved by Steve Kavanagh, that the Committee move into In Committee Session (19:10 hours).

..... carried

The Committee moved back into Open Session on a motion by Trustee White at 19:35 hours.

14. Adoption of the In Committee Report

PB-81, moved by Suzanne Nurse, that the report of the In Committee Session re: Tender Activity Report, August 22, 2012 to September 21, 2012; Report on Tender and Borrowing By-law – Brameast #4 Public School, and Question Period, be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

..... carried

15. Adjournment

PB-82, moved by Sue Lawton, that the meeting adjourn (19:40 hours).

..... carried