

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 Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 19:40 hours.

Members present:

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

Student Trustees present:

Amanpreet Chonkrian, Student Trustee North
Laura Oris-Naidenova, Student Trustee South

Administration:

Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services
Dawn Beckett-Morton, Director, Human Resources Support Services
Liz Cook, Superintendent of Education
Paul Da Silva, Superintendent of Education
Jeff deFreitas, Superintendent of Education
Lawrence De Maeyer, Acting Superintendent of Education
Wendy Dowling, Associate Director, School Support Services
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education, Alternative Programs
Jaspal Gill, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Adrian Graham, Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction Support Services
Poleen Grewal, Associate Director, Instructional and Equity Support Services
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent, Leadership Development and School Support Services
John Hartzema, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
Nina Jaiswal, Superintendent of Education
Peter Joshua, Director of Education
Michael Logue, Superintendent of Education
Matthew McCutcheon, Superintendent of Education
Janice Mueller, Executive Assistant
Patricia Noble, Superintendent of Education
Carla Pereira, Director, Communications and Community Relations Support Services
Jamie Robertson, Superintendent of Education
Gale Solomon-Henry, Superintendent of Education
Joy Uniack, Superintendent, Social/Emotional Learning and Early Years
Thomas Tsung, Controller, Corporate Support Services
Darren Van Hooydonk, Superintendent of Education
Randy Wright, Controller, Planning and Accommodation Support Services

Marina Amin, Board Reporter

1. Open Session

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

2. Approval of Agenda

The following changes were made to the agenda:

- Item 7.1 Request to Delegate: Pam Wilkinson re Flying Flags of Canada and Ontario Only at Peel District School Board Schools
- Item 9.3 Notice of Motion: Trustee Dakroub re the establishment of a Trustee Labour Advisory Committee (withdrawn)

Resolution No. 18-185 moved by Robert Crocker
seconded by Carrie Andrews

..... 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, August 28, 2018

Resolution No. 18-186 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by David Green

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held August 28, 2018, be approved.

..... carried

5. Written Questions

Trustee Singh submitted the following written questions:

- 1. Is swimming included in the curriculum? If not, is there any reason as to why not?
- 2. Is there an opportunity to learn swimming in our schools? Is it paid?

6. Notices of Motion and Petitions

There were no notices of motion or petitions.

7. Special Section for Receipt

Resolution No.18-187 moved by Sue Lawton
seconded by Rick Williams

Resolved, that the following items, be received:

1. Retirements

John Blakeley
Samuel Diljohn
Linda Edwards

Diana Engel
Catherine Joynt-Taylor
Adriana Marton

Janis Stoddart

..... carried

8. Delegation by Pam Wilkinson re Flying Flags of Canada and Ontario Only at Peel District School Board Schools

Pam Wilkinson delegated from notes which were later provided to the administration. As part of her delegation, she read a petition from 3000 community members stating their objection to Peel DSB changing its flag flying policy to permit other flags being flown at schools. The delegation expressed positive comments about the diversity that exists in Peel, but expressed concern that, while there is value in diversity, there can also be the risk of conflict arising from opposing factions on matters of culture, race and religion. She commented that the decision to fly flags that represent factions in the community is divisive, and stated her opinion that the Peel DSB needs to maintain a position of neutrality on topics of polarization. She remarked that flags can also be dividing symbols when they are other than the flags of the nation, and expressed the opinion that the Pride flag stands in opposition to other groups. The delegation requested the Board to consider the voices of all community members and asked the Board to reconsider its decision to fly flags other than the Canadian and Ontario flags. Chair McDougald advised the delegation that a response will be brought to the next Regular Meeting of the Board.

9. Notice of Motion: Trustee Nurse re Hiring of an Integrity Commissioner for the Peel District School Board

Resolution No. 18-188 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Rick Williams

Whereas, elected officials must maintain high standards of ethical behaviour, as outlined in their Code of Conduct, in order to be an effective and credible governing body; and

Whereas, the cities of Mississauga and Brampton, the town of Caledon, as well as other school boards, employ the services of an Integrity Commissioner to both advise elected officials on their obligations and responsibilities under their Code of Conduct, and investigate complaints on alleged breaches of their Code of Conduct;

9. Notice of Motion: Trustee Nurse re Hiring of an Integrity Commissioner for the Peel District School Board (Continued)

Therefore be it resolved, that the Peel District School Board begin the process of hiring an Integrity Commissioner with the intended engagement date of no later than December 31, 2018.

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The mover of the motion stated that the constituents' perception of ethical decision-making is critical to the Board's reputation and level of public trust. Noting that the Board strives to operate at a high level of integrity and ethical standard, Vice-Chair Nurse stated that establishing the office of the Integrity Commissioner set a higher level of accountability and transparency. She advised that some other school boards and the Region of Peel use the services of an Integrity Commissioner in an advisory, investigative, and educational capacity, so that elected officials continue learning about best practice and effective governance. She noted that the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner will not prevent Peel from effectively delivering the best educational outcomes for students and the community.

Trustees speaking in support of the motion commented that hiring an Integrity Commissioner will ensure a clear and unbiased perspective, maintain the integrity of the Board to continue the good work being done to support student success, and help maintain transparency and adherence to the Code of Conduct. Responding to trustee questions, Vice-Chair Nurse confirmed that trustees will be involved in all aspects of the hiring process, and that the Integrity Commissioner will operate independently and will not be an employee of the Peel District School Board. Chair McDougald reminded trustees about the Trustee Information Session scheduled for October 1, 2018, at which time an external facilitator will review the Code of Conduct, and the services of the Integrity Commissioner in this regard. The mover of the motion thanked trustees for their comments noting that, with the hiring of an Integrity Commissioner, the community will appreciate the Board's efforts towards accountability and transparency.

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Resolution No. 18-188 carried

10. Peel Principals and Vice-Principals' Day

Resolution No. 18-189 moved by Sue Lawton
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the Board declare the second Wednesday of October as Peel Principals and Vice-Principals' Day. This year, Peel Principals and Vice-Principals' Day will be celebrated on October 10, 2018. (APPENDIX I)

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11. September Elementary Enrolment Report

Controller of Planning and Accommodation Support Services, Randy Wright, reported on elementary enrolment of 114,771 students as of September 10, 2018. He noted that this represents a growth of 897 elementary students from the first week of school in September 2017 to the first week of school in September 2018. Controller Wright stated that the Board may recall an elementary enrolment growth of 742 students last year, which compares favourably to growth this year at the rate of 0.79% against last year of 0.66%. Controller Wright advised that first week September elementary enrolment data will be verified and a written report brought back to the Regular Meeting of the Board on September 24, 2018.

Resolution No. 18-190 moved by Robert Crocker
seconded by Harkirat Singh

Resolved, that the oral report re September Elementary Enrolment, be received.

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12. Letter to Parents re Peel District School Board Staff Duty to Report to Children's Aid Society

Resolution No. 18-191 moved by Carrie Andrews
seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the Letter to Parents re Peel District School Board Staff Duty to Report to the Children's Aid Society, be received.

..... carried

13. Response to Trustee McDonald's Question re Vice-Principal, Teaching Assistant and Behavioural Teaching Assistant Allocations

Trustee McDonald expressed appreciation for the work of the administration in responding to her question. She voiced her concerns about the safety and mental wellbeing of vice-principals, teaching assistants, and behavioural teaching assistants.

Resolution No. 18-192 moved by Kathy McDonald
seconded by Nokha Dakroub

Resolved, that the response to Trustee McDonald's question re Vice-Principal, Teaching Assistant and Behavioural Teaching Assistant Allocations (August 28, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board), be received.

..... carried

14. Comments or Questions from Trustees

Student Trustee Chonkrian, expressed anticipation to represent students and be their voice at the Board table as a student trustee. She stated that it is election year and, as decisions are being made about student education, it is important to keep students' interest at the forefront, and ensure that student bodies are well represented. She confirmed that the student trustees will work collaboratively with the Board to ensure success, confidence, and hope for all students.

Trustee Crocker commented on the readiness of schools at the start of every school year to receive students, and he thanked custodians, staff, and teachers for their work in this regard. He noted that parents and families are also well prepared for the first day of school. However, he expressed concern that late bus arrivals have resulted in some parents being late for work. He stated that this is unfair to students who are late for class, some losing instruction time each day. He noted that it is also not fair to teachers who have to change timetables to ensure children are not missing the same unit each day, and for teachers to wait after class to supervise students because the buses are late.

Trustee Dakroub echoed the concerns outlined by Trustee Crocker earlier, and expressed support for the efforts being made to find alternative solutions to the transportation problems.

Chair McDougald advised that the busing issue has been discussed at length by the Board. She noted that it is a complex problem and that staff are working very diligently to find solutions.

Trustee Lawton echoed the sentiments and concerns expressed by Trustee Crocker earlier. She thanked parents for their understanding and patience. Trustee Lawton also thanked the administration for the work being done to find solutions to the transportation problem.

Trustee McDonald supported the concerns expressed by Trustee Crocker. She expressed thanks to the administration for the work done over the summer and to the custodians who do an excellent job. She asked about community hub access to schools, noting that she has received some complaints in this regard. Chair McDougald stated that there has been no change in the process for access of community hubs in school premises, and that the trustee may discuss complaints with the administration.

Trustee Green asked about offering certain sports programs at school, which he has heard cannot be supported due to high risks involved. He requested a response on whether this rule is applicable to organizations that carry a liability insurance.

Trustee Andrews read out a letter of appreciation from a parent to the principal of Williams Parkway Public School.

Trustee Cameron echoed the concerns expressed by Trustee Crocker. He shared a welcoming message at a school and reported positively on the soon to be opened Tony Pontes Public School, which has an enrolment of almost 400 students.

Chair McDougald expressed appreciation for the amazing work being done at Janet I McDougald Public School, and stated that she is honoured to have the school named after her.

15. Public Question Period

Catherine Soplet stated that November 11, 2018, marks 100 years since the Armistice, that ended the Great War – World War I, and she asked what the Peel DSB can do to create a special emphasis on Remembrance Day observances this school year. Chair McDougald responded.

16. Adoption of the In Committee Report

Resolution No. 18-193 moved by Nokha Dakroub
seconded by Rick Williams

Resolved, that the report of the In Committee Session regarding: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), August 28, 2018; Transportation Update; Director’s Report re Fundamentals of Mathematics (oral); Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), August 28, 2018; Resignations; Retirements, and Question Period be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

..... carried

17. Adjournment

Resolution No. 18-194 moved by Brad MacDonald
seconded by Stan Cameron

Resolved, that the meeting adjourn (20:40 hours).

..... carried

September 13, 2018
Regular Meeting of the Board:ma

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN IN COMMITTEE SESSION – SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair
Carrie Andrews
Stan Cameron
Robert Crocker
Nokha Dakroub

David Green
Sue Lawton
Brad MacDonald (electronically)
Kathy McDonald
Harkirat Singh (18:20 hours)
Rick Williams

Student Trustees:

Amanpreet Chonkrian, Student Trustee North
Laura Oris-Naidenova, Student Trustee South

Part A

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, as amended, be approved.

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), August 28, 2018

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), held August 28, 2018, be approved.

3. Transportation Update

That, the update report re Transportation, be received.

4. Director's Report

1. Fundamentals of Mathematics

That, the Director's oral report re Fundamentals on Mathematics, be received.

Part B (Not including Student Trustees)

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda be approved.

September 13, 2018
Regular Meeting of the Board:ma

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), August 28, 2018

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), held August 28, 2018, be approved.

3. Resignations

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

4. Retirements

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