

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 Monday, September 21, 2015 at 19:35 hours.

Members present:

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

Trustee absent: (apologies received)

Brad MacDonald

Student Trustees:

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

Administration:

Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services
Dawn Beckett-Morton, Director, Human Resources Support Services
Shelley Bortolotto, Assistant Director, Human Resources Support Services
Ted Byers, Superintendent of Education
Jeff deFreitas, Coordinating Superintendent
Wendy Dowling, Superintendent of Education, Early Years
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
Ina Fournier, Superintendent of Education
Jaspal Gill, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Adrian Graham, Superintendent of Education
Poleen Grewal, Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction Support Services
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent of Education
Mark Keating, Chief Information Officer
Michael Logue, Superintendent of Education
Pertia Minott, Superintendent of Education
Scott Moreash, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
Shawn Moynihan, Superintendent of Education
Janice Mueller, Executive Assistant
David Neale, Controller, 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
Shirley-Ann Teal, Acting Superintendent of Special Education Support Services
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education

4. Special Presentation re Peel DSB's 2015 United Way Campaign

John Staba, Principal of Stephen Lewis Secondary School and Chair of the United Way Campaign Committee, introduced Aileen Padua, Principal of Credit Valley Public School and Vice-Chair of the Committee. He extended regrets from Hazel Mason, Superintendent of Education and United Way Campaign Liaison, who was unable to be present. He acknowledged the presence of United Way of Peel Region personnel, Shelley White, CEO, Raj Chandegra, Manager, and Pam Tomasevic, Liaison. The work of Carla Pereira, Manager of Communications, and Avishka Juta, Communications Assistant, on the campaign was also acknowledged.

John Staba stated that the Board has a long history of supporting the work of United Way of Peel Region, and that the support provided by United Way agencies to parents and children in Peel makes an enormous difference in their lives. He reported that this year's campaign will be launched on October 15, 2015 with a 'Toonie Blitz'. Flexibility to hold the event will be provided to schools in case there are conflicting priorities. Campaign materials will be sent to schools, and the campaign will run until November 13, 2015. Online donations through a Chiclet on the Board's website can be made at any time, and improvements to contribution methods have been introduced. John Staba advised that last year's United Way fundraising totaled \$247,000, and this year's goal is \$300,000. A video, 'Spare Change Real Change' was viewed by trustees. Aileen Padua highlighted the awards that will be presented: three employee awards consisting of recognition, silver and gold awards; highest fundraiser among elementary schools, secondary schools and Field Offices; student leadership award for the best student campaign; Harold Brathwaite Award to the school exemplifying the true spirit of giving through the inclusion of stakeholders.

Shelley White spoke of the lengthy partnership with the Board, and the work of United Way which has helped to create a better future for children. She commented that donations help to ensure that students who experience poverty, mental illness or violence, meet the challenges in their lives and survive and thrive. Shelley White especially thanked Trustee Green for his work with children through the Free For All Foundation, and recognized the work of former Associate Director of Instructional Support Services, Pam Tomasevic. Raj Chandegra expressed pleasure to once again work with the Board. Speaking of the importance of the campaign to the Peel community, Chair McDougald, made reference to the long tradition of trustees contributing towards the campaign, and, on behalf of the Board, thanked the United Way Campaign Committee.

5. Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, September 1, 2015

Resolution No. 15-182 moved by Carrie Andrews
seconded by Sue Lawton

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held September 1, 2015,
be approved.

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7. Written Questions

There were no written questions.

8. Notices of Motion and Petitions

There were no notices of motion or petitions.

9. Special Section for Receipt

Resolution No. 15-183 moved by David Green
seconded by Harkirat Singh

Resolved, that the following items, be received:

1. Retirements

Asuncion Fuentes	Richard Newton	Monica Voelkner
Rob Heeney	Anna Valerio	Yvonne Woloszanskyj

2. Good News (Hubert Brard, Instructional Coordinator, The Arts and Health and Physical Education, recipient of the Rose Theatre Brampton's 2015 Arts Educator of the Year Award)

3. Letter from the Minister of Education in response to the Chair's letter regarding the lack of clarity around Section 221(2) of the Education Act

4. Letter to the Mayor of the Town of Caledon re busing of Caledon East Public School students

5. Teacher Recognition Day in Peel – October 5, 2015

6. Letter to Prime Minister Stephen J. Harper re support to increase the number of Syrian refugees to Canada

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9. Special Section for Receipt (Continued)

Chair McDougald thanked Manager of Communications, Carla Pereira, for her work on the letter to the Mayor of Caledon, Item 9.4. Chair McDougald stated that the letter outlines the history regarding the issue of busing Caledon East Public School students which, she hoped, will be clear to the Mayor and Councillors of Caledon. Referring to Item 9.5, Teacher Recognition Day in Peel, a trustee expressed appreciation for the work done by teachers for the students, and encouraged other trustees to visit schools to thank teachers for their work.

With regard to Item 9.6, another trustee noted that the letter to the Prime Minister will lend the Board's voice to the issue of Syrian refugees. The trustee stated that she was pleased to be a member of a Board of Trustees who is not afraid to take a stand on issues. Chair McDougald thanked Brian Woodland, Director of Communications and Community Relations Support Services, for drafting the letter which, she noted, affirms the views of the Board and highlights the work done with newcomers at the We Welcome the World Centres to ensure their smooth entry into the community and schools.

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Resolution No. 15-183

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10. Delegation by Sarah Brun re Transportation Policies of the Peel DSB

A copy of her speaking notes was provided by Sarah Brun to the administration. She indicated that the subject of her delegation was the Peel DSB transportation policies in general and her situation in particular. With regard to Peel's student busing system, she expressed her opinion that the distance eligibility criteria is not fair and based on criteria that are accounting thresholds. This, she claimed, results in taxpaying families being excluded from a system they are funding and need. She reported that her child, attending a Grade 7 special education class, is deemed ineligible for busing as the distance from their residence to school is calculated by the Board as 3.16 kms, which is just below the eligibility criteria of 3.2 kms. She spoke of safety, time and security concerns that she has with regard to allowing her child to walk to school and, therefore, she has had to take him to school each day. Due to the different school timings of another sibling, the child is late to school each day, which has had an impact on him.

Sarah Brun commented that the distance of 3.2 kms could not be considered a walking distance, and she suggested that the criteria be set at reasonable distances. She stated her view that the purpose of transportation funding is not met and the real needs of the community should be reviewed regarding timing of school opening and closing. Suggestions offered by her included: user-paid busing; withdraw transportation for secondary school students; collaborate with municipalities for reduced public transit rates for students. The delegation requested the Board to provide information on the structure of the transportation system, cost breakdown of busing, amounts specifically enveloped for transportation and the number of Peel DSB students transported. She also asked that her child be considered eligible for transportation, and the actions which are being taken or will be taken to better serve the needs of the community relating to busing.

12. Ontario Public School Boards' Association Membership Fee: 2015-2016

Chair McDougald noted that the report includes the invoice for the 2015-2016 membership fee of \$263,445.94 (including HST) as well as an outline of the work done by OPSBA for school boards, and savings that school boards can benefit from through their membership on OPSBA. In reply to a trustee's query on savings in energy costs, Controller of Facilities and Environmental Support Services, Joe Weinberg, explained that OPSBA, through the Ontario Education Services Corporation, makes recommendations to the Ontario Energy Board on energy rates. He stated that, as a result of their intervention status, OPSBA confirms that savings are available for all school boards.

Resolution No. 15-185 moved by David Green
seconded by Rick Williams

Resolved, that the amount of \$263,445.94 (including HST) be paid to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, as membership fee for 2015–2016 (APPENDIX I).

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13. September Enrolment Report

Controller of Planning and Accommodation Support Services, Randy Wright, reviewed elementary and secondary enrolment as of September 18, 2015. He reported that the Board had 111,367 elementary students, which represents a decline of 737 students or -0.65% in the rate of growth. Corresponding statistics for the secondary panel were 41,125 secondary student enrolment, with a decline of 796 students or -1.89% in the rate of growth. He noted that enrolment statistics for the previous four years are also provided in the report.

Resolution No. 15-186 moved by Rick Williams
seconded by Nokha Dakroub

Resolved, that the September Enrolment Report, be received.

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14. Elementary French Immersion and Extended French Registration Update

Associate Director of Instructional Support Services, Scott Moreash, reported that the review of French Immersion (FI) program that was undertaken in 2012 resulted in recommendations dealing with the registration and randomized selection processes to ensure that FI in Peel remains a high quality program. A key recommendation was enrolment cap on Grade 1 FI at 25% of the overall Grade 1 enrolment. He indicated that the above-noted update report provides system enrolment data on FI registration at Grade 1 and Extended French registration at Grade 7.

14. Elementary French Immersion and Extended French Registration Update (Continued)

Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Support Services, Poleen Grewal, indicated that 43 schools are offering the FI program this year, for a total of 151 classes. As of September 10, 2015, enrolment was 2,810 students and there was a waitlist of 420 students. From the waitlist, 185 students were accommodated in the program, 118 of them at their home school, and the remaining students at the nearest FI school.

Superintendent Grewal noted that there are 235 students remaining on the waitlist, compared to 308 students last year. She advised about the possibility of students attending the nearest FI school being able to return to the home FI school, primarily due to a 12% attrition rate from Grade 1 to Grade 2 FI, as well as the flexibility in the number of classes in each school within the requirement of 25% of the overall Grade 1 enrolment. Regarding next steps, Superintendent Grewal explained that, in accordance with the operating procedure, the FI registration process will be reviewed in 2017, and a report will be brought to trustees with input from administrators and parents. She indicated that all students who registered for the Extended French program were accommodated in the four schools.

Trustees' questions of clarification were responded to by the administration. Responses included: the number of students remaining on the waitlist includes those who had not applied in time; students who do not wish to return to the home FI school may continue at the nearest FI school; retention rates will be examined during the next review; all details regarding the FI program, including movement on the waitlist are communicated to parents at the information night; following the randomized selection process, parents receive a letter about whether their child has been admitted into the program, or is on the waitlist, and at which time the waitlist is closed; as of September 14, 2015, students who were not offered spaces at the nearest FI school will not be accommodated in FI. Replying to a student trustee's question as to whether information is collected regarding the reasons for the attrition, Superintendent Grewal confirmed that FI principals meet and discuss the reasons, which primarily are difficulty in learning a second language, and maintaining peer relationships.

A trustee suggested that a middle school FI program be considered, similar to that of the Toronto DSB. Chair McDougald speculated on the potential for increasing the FI enrolment cap beyond 25% since there may be a decline in FI enrolment because of the possibility of decline in overall enrolment and, therefore, there may be teachers available. Associate Director Moreash confirmed that this issue has been identified by the administration. He noted, however, that the decline in FI student enrolment has been less than that for the regular program.

Resolution No. 15-187

moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the update report re Elementary French Immersion and Extended French Registration, be received.

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15. Reports from Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Resolution No. 15-188 moved by Nokha Dakroub
seconded by Rick Williams

Resolved, that the following reports, be received:

- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 27, No. 24
- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 27, No. 25
- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 27, No. 26

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16. Reports from Trustee Representatives on Councils/Associations

Trustee Green reported that, at the OPSBA's 2015 Education Program/Policy Development Joint Meeting, the Director of the Early Years Program from the Ministry was present. The Ministry is looking at the recreation aspect, and the before and after school programs, to ensure that these are implemented and funded adequately. Trustee Green indicated that Ministry staff had also discussed reviewing the issue of trustees using their standing on school boards as a stepping stone to broader political careers.

17. Question or Comments from Trustees

Chair McDougald announced that Mark Keating, Chief Information Officer, had given notice of his resignation. On behalf of the Board, she thanked him for his work and contribution to Peel, especially on the 21st Century Teaching and Learning initiative. She wished him well in his next assignment. Director of Education, Tony Pontes, expressed appreciation for Mark Keating's leadership, and commented on his spirit of innovation and strong sense of service. Trustee McDonald and Trustee Cameron also thanked and congratulated Mark Keating.

Trustee McDonald reported that she had attended the United Achievers Award ceremony, and that several trustees were also present. She noted that former student trustee, Paul Okundaye, along with 11 other Peel DSB students, received the Award.

Trustee Cameron commented on hold and secure lockdowns for security reasons at two secondary schools last week. He expressed appreciation for the response from the OPP, Police, and staff, and he remarked that students handled the lockdown peacefully. Trustee Cameron stated that the release times for both schools were delayed. He noted that he received many emails and telephone calls from the community expressing their thanks for the manner in which the situation was handled, and he conveyed his appreciation to staff from the Transportation department and school staff for their efforts.

Chair McDougald welcomed students from the Teaching faculty of Brock University.

18. Public Question Period

There were no questions.

19. Adoption of the In Committee Report

Resolution No. 15-189 moved by David Green
seconded by Harkirat Singh

Resolved, that the report of the In Committee Session regarding: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), held September 1, 2015; Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee) Meeting, held September 9, 2015; Negotiations Update; Elementary French Immersion and Extended French Immersion Registration Update; Transportation Update – September Start-Up; September Enrolment Report; Director’s Report re Governance Workshop (oral); Termination of Teacher; Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), held September 1, 2015; Resignations; Resignation of Chief Information Officer – Mark Keating; Retirements; Superintendent of Education Appointment; Pending Human Rights Complaints, and Question Period, be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

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20. Adjournment

Resolution No. 15-190 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Nokha Dakroub

Resolved, that the meeting adjourn (21:30 hours).

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..... Chair Secretary

September 21, 2015
Regular Meeting of the Board:nf

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN IN COMMITTEE SESSION – SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

Members present:

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

David Green
Sue Lawton
Kathy McDonald (18:05)
Harkirat Singh
Rick Williams

Member absent: (apologies received)

Brad MacDonald

Student Trustee:

Arunoshi Singh, Student Trustee North
Kaustav Chaudhuri, 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), September 1, 2015

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), held September 1, 2015, be approved.

3. Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), September 9, 2015

That, the following recommendations arising from the Physical Planning and Building Committee, (In Committee) meeting, held September 9, 2015, be approved:

1. Ray Lawson Public School – Encroachment Agreement with the City of Brampton

That, the Board allow the City of Brampton to situate a bus pad and shelter partially on Board property, subject to a satisfactory Encroachment Agreement. (Appendix I, as attached to the Minutes)

3. Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), September 9, 2015 (Continued)

2. Reports / Information Received

Alloa Holding School – Mayfield Road Widening; Tender Activity Report for May 22, 2015 to August 19, 2015.

4. Negotiations Update

That, the update report regarding Negotiations, be received.

5. Elementary French Immersion and Extended French Immersion Registration Update

That, the update report regarding Elementary French Immersion and Extended French Immersion Registration, be received.

6. Transportation Update – September Start-Up

That, the update report regarding Transportation – September Start-Up, be received.

7. September Enrolment Report

That, the September Enrolment Report, be received.

8. Director's Report

1. Governance Workshop

That, the Director's Report re the Governance Workshop (oral), be received.

Part B: (Not including student trustees)

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, as amended, be approved .

2. Termination of Teacher

That, the employment of the teacher mentioned in the report be terminated for just cause, effective September 22, 2015.

**3. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B),
September 1, 2015**

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), held September 1, 2015, be approved.

4. Resignations

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

5. Resignation of Chief Information Officer

That, the report regarding Resignation of Chief Information Officer, Mark Keating, be received.

6. Retirements

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

7. Superintendent of Education Appointment

That, the following superintendent of education appointment be approved, effective November 30, 2015:

Jamie Robertson from Manager of Human Resources to Acting Superintendent of Education for the schools in the Mississauga, Rick Hansen and The Woodlands Families of Schools.

8. Pending Human Rights Complaints

That, the report re Pending Human Rights Complaints, be received