



## BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 7:00 pm**  
**Board Room**  
**Administration Building**  
**133 Greenbank Road**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

Trustees Alysha Aziz (Trustee), Justine Bell (electronic communication), Donna Blackburn (Trustee), Donna Dickson (Trustee), Lyra Evans (Trustee), Jennifer Jennekens (Trustee), Nili Kaplan-Myrth (Trustee), Matthew Lee (Trustee), Cathryne Milburn (Trustee), Suzanne Nash (Trustee), Amanda Presley (Trustee), Lynn Scott (Trustee), Emma Hong (Student Trustee), Malaika Kamanzi (Student Trustee)

Staff Pino Buffone (Director of Education), Brett Reynolds (Associate Director of Education), James Proulx (Executive Officer, Information Technology and Digital Transformation), Michèle Giroux (Executive Officer of Corporate Services), Paula Hall (Superintendent of People, Culture and Leadership), Richard Sinclair (General Counsel), Mary Jane Farrish (Superintendent of Instruction), Peter Symmonds (Superintendent of Learning Support Services), Diane Pernari (General Manager of Communications & Information Services), Sandy Owens (General Manager, Business & Learning Technologies), Michael Guilbault (Content Creator, Digital Multimedia Technician), Nicole Guthrie (Manager, Board Services), Mellissa Applewaihe, (Board/Committee Coordinator)

1. Opening - Monique Manatch

Monique Manatch, Traditional Knowledge Keeper, Barriere Lake provided opening remarks, reflections and prayers.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Director Buffone acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on unceded Algonquin Homelands and thanked the Algonquin Nations for hosting the meeting on their land.

3. O Canada

Performed by the A. Lorne Cassidy Elementary School Grade 6 Middle Immersion Class.

4. Call to Order - Director of Education and Secretary of the Board

Director Buffone called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

5. Approval of the Agenda

**Moved by Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Dickson,**

**THAT the agenda be approved.**

**Carried**

6. Director's Annual Report to the Community

Director Buffone advised that Executive Officer Giroux and her team had provided a link to the Director's Annual Report which is available online and includes updated information on the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.

7. Appointment of Election Assistants

Director Buffone advised that Executive Officer Giroux and Associate Director Reynolds were the appointed election assistants for all elections held during the meeting.

8. Election of the Chair of the Board

Director Buffone outlined the nomination and voting processes.

Director Buffone called for nominations for Chair of the Board.

Trustee Nash, seconded by Trustee Dickson, nominated Trustee Scott.

Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Aziz, nominated Trustee Evans.

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Jennekens,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

Following an election using card ranking under the bridge convention, Director Buffone declared Trustee Scott Chair of the Board.

\*\*\*The meeting went into recess at 7:34 p.m.\*\*\*

\*\*\*The meeting resumed at 7:39 p.m.\*\*\*

9. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Board

Chair Scott expressed thanks to Trustees Lyra Evans and Bell for their leadership and service over the past year.

Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, nominated Trustee Milburn.

Trustee Nash, seconded by Trustee Dickson, nominated Trustee Jennekens.

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Lee,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

A second ballot was held between Trustee Milburn and Trustee Jennekens.

Following an election, Chair Scott declared Trustee Milburn the Vice-Chair of the Board.

10. Election or Appoinment of the Chair of Committee of the Whole, Budget

Trustee Nash, seconded by Trustee Jennekens, nominated Trustee Lee.

Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, nominated Trustee Lyra Evans.

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Presley,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

Following an election using card ranking under the bridge convention, Chair Scott declared Trustee Lyra Evans Chair of the Committee of the Whole Budget.

11. Election or Appointment of Trustee Members to Statutory Committees

11.1 Audit Committee (2 members)

Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, nominated Trustee Lyra Evans.

Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Jennekens, nominated Trustee Blackburn.

Trustee Lyra Evans withdrew her nomination.

**Moved by Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Dickson,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Blackburn, member of the Audit Committee for a two year term.

Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Aziz, nominated Trustee Lyra Evans.

**Moved by Trustee Milburn seconded by Trustee Presley,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Lyra Evans, member of the Audit Committee for a one year term.

11.2 Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) (1 member, 1 alternate)

Trustee Nash, seconded by Trustee Jennekens, nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Dickson,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Nash member of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC).

Trustee Jennekens, seconded by Trustee Presley, nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Aziz,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Jennekens the alternate member of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC).

11.3 Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL) (1 member, 1 alternate)

Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Dickson, nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Dickson,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Lyra Evans member of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL).

Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Milburn, nominated Trustee Presley.

**Moved by Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Presley alternate member of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL).

12. Election or Appointment of Trustee Members to Ad Hoc Committees

12.1 Ad Hoc Committee for Board Self-Evaluation Process and Director Performance Evaluation Process (3 members)

Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Presley, nominated Trustee Bell.

Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Milburn, nominated herself.

Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Presley, nominated Trustee Lee.

Trustee Lee declined the nomination.

Trustee Nash seconded by Trustee Dickson, nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustees Bell, Aziz and Nash, members of the Ad Hoc Committee for Board Self-Evaluation Process & Director Performance Evaluation Process.

12.2 Community Member Recognition Awards Selection Ad Hoc Committee (up to 3 members)

Trustee Jennekens, seconded by Trustee Aziz, nominated Trustee Dickson.

Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Nash, nominated Trustee Jennekens.

Trustee Nash, seconded by Trustee Jennekens, nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Milburn,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustees Dickson, Jennekens, and Nash, members of the Community Member Recognition Awards Selection Ad Hoc Committee.

12.3 Ad Hoc Policy Review Committee (4 members)

Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, seconded by Trustee Aziz, nominated herself.

Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Presley, nominated Trustee Lyra Evans.

Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Presley, nominated Trustee Milburn.

Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Nash, nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Jennekens, seconded by Trustee Aziz,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustees Kaplan-Myrth, Lyra Evans, Milburn and Blackburn, members of the Ad Hoc Policy Review Committee.

13. Election or Appointment of Trustees to Special Purpose Committees

13.1 Advocacy Strategy Committee (up to 4 members)

Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Milburn, nominated Trustee Aziz.

Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Dickson, nominated herself.

Trustee Dickson, seconded by Trustee Presley, nominated Trustee Kaplan-Myrth.

Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustees Aziz, Lyra Evans, Presley and Kaplan-Myrth, members of the Advocacy Strategy Committee.

13.2 Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) (1 member, 2 alternates)

Trustee Dickson, seconded by Trustee Nash, nominated herself.

Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Jennekens, nominated herself.

Trustee Lyra Evans seconded by Trustee Milburn nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

A second ballot was held between Trustees Dickson, Blackburn and Lyra Evans.

A third ballot was held between Trustees Dickson and Lyra Evans.

Following an election, Chair Scott declared Trustee Lyra Evans member of the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) for a two-year term ending 15 November 2025.

Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Nash, nominated Trustee Dickson.

Trustee Dickson declined the nomination.

Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Lee, nominated Trustee Blackburn.

Trustee Jennekens, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans nominated herself.

**Moved by Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Lee,  
THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustees Jennekens and Blackburn, alternate members of the Board of Directors of the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority.

13.3 Ottawa-Carleton Education Network (OCENET) (2 members)

Trustee Bell, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, nominated Trustee Aziz.

Trustee Aziz declined the nomination.

Trustee Nash, seconded by Trustee Jennekens, nominated herself.

Trustee Lee, seconded by Trustee Aziz, nominated himself.

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,  
THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustees Nash and Lee, members of the Ottawa-Carleton Education Network (OCENET).

14. Election or Appointment of Trustee Member and Alternate for Agenda Planning (1 member, 1 alternate)

Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, seconded by Trustee Presley, nominated Trustee Bell.

Trustee Jennekens, seconded by Trustee Dickson, nominated Trustee Nash.

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Milburn,  
THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

Following an election, Chair Scott declared Trustee Bell as the member who will attend agenda planning meetings for a one-year term.

Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, nominated Trustee Nash.

**Moved by Trustee Presley, seconded by Trustee Dickson,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Nash as the alternate member who will attend agenda planning meetings.

15. Election or Appointment of Trustee Mentor for Student Trustees (1 member)

Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth, nominated Trustee Presley.

**Moved by Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

By acclamation, Chair Scott declared Trustee Presley the trustee mentor for Student Trustees.

16. Selection of Trustee Non-voting Volunteers for Other OCDSB Committees Including Advisory Committees

Chair Scott called for volunteers to serve as non-voting members on other OCDSB committees, including advisory committees.

16.1 Student Senate (2)

Trustee Nash volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Student Senate.

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Lee,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

Trustee Presley volunteered to be the non-voting alternate delegate for the Student Senate.

**Moved by Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**



Trustee Nash was declared the non-voting trustee delegate and Trustee Presley was declared the non-voting alternate delegate for the Student Senate.

16.2 Arts Advisory Committee (1 or more)

Trustee Nash volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Advisory Committee on the Arts.

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Kaplan-Myrth,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

Trustee Nash was declared the non-voting trustee delegate for the Advisory Committee on the Arts.

16.3 Alternative Schools Advisory Committee (ASAC) (1 or more)

Trustee Presley volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Alternative Schools Advisory Committee (ASAC).

**Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Milburn,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

Trustee Presley was declared the non-voting trustee delegate for the Alternative Schools Advisory Committee.

16.4 Advisory Committee on Equity (ACE) (up to 2)

Trustee Kaplan-Myrth volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Advisory Committee on Equity (ACE).

Trustee Dickson volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Advisory Committee on Equity (ACE).

Trustee Aziz volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Advisory Committee on Equity (ACE).

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Presley,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

Following an election, Chair Scott declared Trustees Dickson and Kaplan-Myrth, the non-voting trustee delegates for the Advisory Committee on Equity.

16.5 Indigenous Education Council (IEC)\* (1)

Trustee Bell volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Indigenous Education Council.

Trustee Dickson volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Indigenous Education Council.

Trustee Presley volunteered to be the non-voting delegate for the Indigenous Education Council.

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Aziz,**

**THAT nominations be closed.**

**Carried**

The Indigenous Education Council (IEC), will confirm the trustee volunteer at the 14 December 2023 IEC meeting.

17. Motion to Destroy Ballots

**Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,**

**THAT all paper and electronic ballots for all elections held during the meeting be destroyed.**

**Carried**

18. Closing

Chair Scott noted that unfortunately, knowledge keeper Monique Manatch, could not provide a closing for the meeting. She expressed her respect and appreciation that Ms. Manatch had attempted to accommodate the closing in her busy schedule.

19. Adjournment

Chair Scott declared the meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

---

Lynn Scott, Chair of the Board