



## BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES

**Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 7:30 pm**  
**Board Room**  
**Administration Building**  
**133 Greenbank Road**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**

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

Staff: Pino Buffone (Director of Education), Brett Reynolds (Associate Director of Education), Randy Gerrior (Associate Director, Business Operations), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), James Proulx (Executive Officer, Information Technology and Digital Transformation), Paula Hall (Superintendent of People, Culture and Leadership), Richard Sinclair (General Counsel), Teri Adamthwaite (General Manager, Finance), Stacey Kay (General Manager of Learning Support Services), Pamela LeMaistre (General Manager, Human Resources), Sandy Owens (General Manager, Business & Learning Technologies), Diane Pernari (General Manager of Communications & Information Services), Nicole Guthrie (General Manager, Board Services), Susan Baker (Board/Committee Coordinator), Samuel Roy (Client Services Technology Specialist)

1. Call to Order -- Chair of the Board

Chair Lynn Scott called the public meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Territorial Lands

Chair Lynn Scott acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on unceded Algonquin Homelands and thanked the Algonquin Nations for hosting the meeting on their land.

3. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were filed.

4. Report from In Camera Session

Vice-Chair Milburn reported that an In Camera session was held earlier this evening and reports and recommends as follows:

**Moved by** Lyra Evans

**Seconded by** Cathryne Milburn

**THAT staff proceed as directed in Committee of the Whole in Camera with respect to a Labour Relations matter.**

For (11): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

**Carried (11 to 0)**

**Moved by** Donna Blackburn

**Seconded by** Cathryne Milburn

**THAT the tentative settlement between the OCDSB and OCETFO, which will form a collective agreement dated 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2026 be ratified.**

For (11): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

**Carried (11 to 0)**

**Moved by** Amanda Presley

**Seconded by** Cathryne Milburn

**THAT staff proceed as directed in Committee of the Whole in Camera with respect to a Labour Relations matter**

For (11): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

**Carried (11 to 0)**

**Moved by** Matthew Lee

**Seconded by** Cathryne Milburn

**THAT staff proceed as directed in Committee of the Whole in Camera with respect to a Legal matter.**

For (8): Alysha Aziz, Donna Dickson, Jennifer Jennekens, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

Against (2): Donna Blackburn, and Lyra Evans

Abstain (1): Justine Bell

**Carried (8 to 2)**

5. Approval of the Agenda

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

**THAT the agenda be approved.**

**Carried**

6. Briefing from the Chair of the Board

During the briefing from Chair Scott, the following information was provided:

- On behalf of the Board, Chair Scott presented to the provincial Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs as part of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB)'s efforts to advocate for fair funding for public education in the 2024 Ontario budget. The presentation highlighted the increased costs of special education, mental health supports, student transportation, maintenance and building of schools, cybersecurity, and staff replacement costs;
- The Education Foundation of Ottawa's (EFO's) annual Toonie Tuesday fundraising campaign will take place on 27 February 2024. Funds raised will support the EFO's work to help OCDSB students in need; and
- The OCDSB is seeking an Indigenous Community Member to serve as an alternate member on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC). The alternate Indigenous representative will advocate for the interests of Indigenous students with special education needs. The deadline to apply has been extended to 29 February 2024.

7. Briefing from the Director

During the briefing from Director Buffone, the following information was provided:

- February is Black History Month to celebrate Black culture and history and the significant contributions Black Canadians have made to this country. The OCDSB Family and Community Engagement team will host an event on 24 February 2024 at Longfields-Davidson Heights Secondary School to honour Black excellence;

- Black History Ottawa recently presented their President's Award to the OCDSB at their annual Community Builder Awards ceremony in recognition of the District's involvement with the Ubuntu Collective project. Two awards were granted, one to the District and one to Executive Officer Michele Giroux for her work as chair of the Ubuntu Collective;
- The student transfer application period for both elementary and secondary students is open until 9 February 2024; and
- Glebe Collegiate Institute student, Danella Nduwayo, has been selected from among 5,200 applications to be one of 90 2024 Loran Finalists. National interviews will take place in Toronto in February for a chance to be named one of 36 Loran Scholars. Winners who will receive approximately \$100,000 over four years of undergraduate study.

## 8. Delegations

### 8.1 Andrea Chandler, re Zone 9 Representation

Andrea Chandler, a resident of Zone 9, expressed concern about the sanctions imposed on Trustee Kaplan-Myrth for violating the Board's Code of Conduct, as they affect her ability to advocate for her constituents during the time she is prohibited from attending Board and Committee of the Whole meetings. She expressed the opinion that this violates her right to political representation and residents of Zone 9 are disadvantaged compared to residents in other zones. She expressed the opinion that the Code of Conduct is flawed and could be misused in the future to exclude trustees indefinitely.

In response to a request for staff comment, General Counsel Sinclair advised that the Code of Conduct is in line with the *Education Act* which requires school boards to have a Code of Conduct and to include sanctions that may be imposed if a Board member violates the Code. He added that other parliaments also have options to suspend their members for conduct reasons.

## 9. Confirmation of Board Minutes

### 9.1 19 December 2023

**Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Jennekens,  
THAT the Board Minutes, dated 19 December 2023, be confirmed.  
Carried**

### 9.2 16 January 2024, Special Board

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

**THAT the Special Board Minutes, dated 16 January 2024, be confirmed.**

**Carried**

10. Business Arising from Board Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

11. Matters for Action

11.1 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Report

11.1.a 16 January 2024

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Dickson,**

**THAT the Committee of the Whole report, dated 16 January 2024, be received.**

**Carried**

11.1.a.a Approval of New Findlay Creek Elementary School Study

**Moved by** Jennifer Jennekens

**Seconded by** Cathryne Milburn

- A. **THAT the opening grade structure, program offering and attendance boundary for the New Findlay Creek Elementary School be approved according to Appendix E to Report No. 24-004 (Attached as Appendix A);**
- B. **THAT the revised attendance boundary for Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 for Vimy Ridge Public School be approved according to Appendix F to Report No. 24-004, to be implemented upon the opening of the New Findlay Creek Elementary School (Attached as Appendix B);**
- C. **THAT the Grade 7 and 8 attendance boundary for Vimy Ridge Public School be approved as per Appendix G to Report No. 24-004 (Attached as Appendix C);**
- D. **THAT all current Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 students that have been directed to Robert Bateman Public School as a result of the interim measures outlined in Report No. 22-037 be**

redirected to their home school upon opening of the New Findlay Creek Elementary School; and

- E. **THAT current Grade 7 students attending Roberta Bondar Public School, as a result of the interim measures outlined in Report No. 22-037, be given a one-time option to remain at Roberta Bondar Public School or attend Vimy Ridge Public School upon the opening of the New Findlay Creek Elementary School.**

For (11): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

**Carried (11 to 0)**

11.1.b 16 January 2024, Special COW

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Dickson,  
THAT the Special Committee of the Whole report, dated 16 January 2024, be received.**

**Carried**

11.1.c 16 January 2024, Special COW

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Dickson,  
THAT the Special Committee of the Whole report, dated 16 January 2024, be received.**

**Carried**

11.2 Report 24-022 Appointment of an Indigenous Community Representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) (M. Giroux)

The Board had before it Report 24-022 seeking approval of the appointment of a Community Representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

**Moved by** Lyra Evans

**Seconded by** Amanda Presley

**THAT Waneek Horn-Miller be appointed as an Indigenous community representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the term ending 14 November 2026.**

For (11): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

**Carried (11 to 0)**

12. Matters for Discussion

12.1 Report from OPSBA Representatives (if required)

Trustee Jennekens advised that several OCDSB Board members, as well as herself, attended the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Public Education Symposium (PES) in Toronto on 24-25 January 2024. A number of keynote speakers and workshops were offered as well as a panel discussion on school board collaboration with municipalities.

13. Board Work Plan

The Board Work Plan was provided for information.

Trustee Scott noted that the professional development session on equity in data that was scheduled for January 2024 will now take place in late February 2024, and the date of the trustee/senior staff retreat has been changed from April to February 2024. A meeting with community partners will be rescheduled to late April or early May 2024

14. Matters for Information

There were no matters for information.

15. New Business -- Information and Inquiries

There was no new business.

16. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

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Lynn Scott, Chair of the Board