



BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES

Thursday, April 25, 2024, 7:00 pm
Board Room
Administration Building
133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, Ontario

- Trustees: Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell (electronic communication), Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson (electronic communication), Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens (electronic communication), Nili Kaplan-Myrth (electronic communication), Matthew Lee (electronic communication), Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash (electronic communication), Amanda Presley (electronic communication), Lynn Scott
- Staff: Pino Buffone (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), Pamela LeMaistre (General Manager, Human Resources), Sandy Owens (General Manager, Business & Learning Technologies), Nicole Guthrie (General Manager, Board Services), Michael Guilbault (Content Creator, Digital Multimedia Technician), Kathy Mak (Board/Committee Coordinator)
- Guests: Diana Mills (PIC), Calla Barnett (PIC)

1. Call to Order -- Chair of the Board
Chair Scott called the public meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. Acknowledgement of Territorial Lands
Chair Scott acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on unceded Algonquin Homelands and thanked the Algonquin Nations for their stewardship of these lands since time immemorial.
3. Declarations of Interest
No declarations of interest were filed.
4. Report from In Camera Session

The Board met in camera this evening and Vice-Chair Milburn reported that there were no recommendations.

5. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Aziz, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

6. Presentation

6.1 Parent Involvement Committee

Diana Mills and Calla Barnett from the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) provided a presentation on the work of the PIC over the 2023-2024 school year.

During the presentation and in response to queries, the following information was noted:

- It was noted that half of the PIC membership is comprised of new members;
- Diana Mills suggested that PIC be able to participate in the Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grant application;
- In past years, PIC has hosted a parent conference with morning sessions allocated for families and the afternoon for parent councils where legal questions can be answered. PIC members expressed interest in having similar events organized with the incorporation of student councils;
- Director Buffone noted that the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) budget is set annually and there is some predictability for the budget to allow prior planning on how to utilize it. He added that the District needs to balance having quality work done with the frequency of meetings and has to consider the work life balance in place for staff;
- Executive Officer Giroux noted that there are opportunities for more traditional parent engagement such as school councils and the parent conference. If additional PIC meetings were to be considered, it would have to be balanced amongst all of the advisory committees;
- Chair Scott urged PIC to collaborate and create connections with school councils as this is a part of the mandate within the context of the regulation establishing PICs; and

- Director Buffone noted that the OCDSB will proactively coordinate a work plan for the budget so there can be greater involvement from PIC in the process and this issue will be followed up with Superintendent Duah at a future date.

7. Briefing from the Chair of the Board

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

- The District has extended the consultation period for students and families to share their experiences and feedback regarding the elementary program structure;
- Details for the trustee zone and school meetings will be provided in the upcoming months. This will be an opportunity for the public to learn more about the review and will provide opportunities for public input; and
- The OCDSB Engage platform will provide a number of areas for input including the Board Member and Student Trustee Expenses and Support Services policy, prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Mature Students policy; and the 2024-2025 annual operating budget.

8. Briefing from the Director

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

- The District is nearly halfway through the survey period for our 2024 Student Survey;
- The OCDSB will be hosting a virtual speaker series event with Gaelin Elmore on 22 May 2024 as he discuss how belonging led him to join the National Football League before becoming a motivational speaker;
- The Learning Support Service team will be hosting an event to help secondary students with disabilities navigate and succeed in the workplace on 2 May 2024;
- The Bill Mason Outdoor Education Center will be holding its annual Open Trails Day on 4 May 2024; and
- Report cards will be emailed to families and eligible students on 29 April 2024 and information for non-semestered schools was sent out to families last week.

9. Delegations

There were no delegations.

10. Confirmation of Board Minutes

10.1 26 March 2024

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,
THAT the Board Minutes, dated 26 March 2024, be confirmed.**

Carried

10.2 2 April 2024, Special Board

Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,
THAT the Special Board Minutes, dated 2 April 2024, be confirmed.

Chair Scott requested that the number "4" be deleted and the word "coterminous" on page 3 be replaced with the word "OPSBA."

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,
THAT the Special Board Minutes, dated 2 April 2024, be confirmed,
as amended.**

Carried

11. Business Arising from Board Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

12. Matters for Action

12.1 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Report

12.1.a 2 April 2024

Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,
THAT the Committee of the Whole report, dated 2 April 2024, be confirmed.

Trustee Lyra Evans requested that the first sentence on page 10 under item 12 referencing the Adult Learning program, be removed.

**Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,
THAT the Committee of the Whole report, dated 2 April 2024,
be confirmed, as amended.**

Carried

12.1.a.a Approval of Elementary Program Review

Moved by Donna Blackburn

Seconded by Cathryne Milburn

THAT an Elementary Program Review be undertaken, as outlined in Report 24-052, beginning in April 2024 with the intent of implementation beginning in September 2025.

For (12): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Nili Kaplan-Myrth, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

Carried (12 to 0)

12.1.b 16 April 2024

Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Aziz,

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

Carried

12.2 Receipt of Ad Hoc Policy Committee Report

12.2.a 4 April 2024

Moved by Trustee Milburn, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT the Ad Hoc Policy Committee report, dated 4 April 2024, be received.

Carried

12.2.a.a Approval of New Policy P.143.GOV Risk Management

Moved by Donna Blackburn

Seconded by Cathryne Milburn

THAT the proposed Policy P.143.GOV Risk Management, attached as Appendix A to Report 24-013, be approved. (Attached as Appendix A)

For (12): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Nili Kaplan-Myrth, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

Carried (12 to 0)

12.2.a.b Approval of New Policy P.149.GOV Pregnancy and Parental Leave

Moved by Donna Blackburn

Seconded by Cathryne Milburn

THAT the new Policy P.149.GOV Pregnancy and Parental Leave (Board Members), attached as Appendix A to Report 24-050, be approved, as amended. (Attached as Appendix B)

For (12): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Nili Kaplan-Myrth, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

Carried (12 to 0)

12.2.a.c Approval of Revisions to Policy P.024.HR, Employee Conflict of Interest

Moved by Lyra Evans

Seconded by Cathryne Milburn

THAT the proposed revisions to Policy P.024.HR Employee Conflict of Interest, attached as Appendix A to Report 24-046 be approved. (Attached as Appendix C)

For (12): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Nili Kaplan-Myrth, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

Carried (12 to 0)

12.2.a.d Approval of Changes to the Student Transfer Appeal Process

This was a non-consent item and was dealt with later in the meeting under agenda item 12.3.

12.2.a.d.a Supplemental Information, Memo 24-027 Amendments to Policy P.077.PLG Designated Schools/Student Transfers

Memorandum 24-027, Amendments to Policy P.077.PLG Designated Schools/Student Transfers, was provided for information.

12.3 Non-Consent Items

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

- A. THAT Policy P.126.SCO Appeal Hearing Panel (Student Transfers), attached as Appendix A to Report 24-051, be rescinded; and
- B. THAT the revisions to Policy P.077.PLG Designated Schools/Student Transfers, attached as Appendix B to Report 24-051, be approved, as amended.

An Amendment moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Milburn,

THAT section 3.3.c and 3.3.d of Policy P.077.PLG Designated Schools/Student Transfers be revised to replace the word “suspension” with “expulsion” and include “for safety reasons, in accordance with PR.521.SCO Safe schools”.

Carried, friendly

Moved by Nili Kaplan-Myrth

Seconded by Cathryne Milburn

- A. THAT Policy P.126.SCO Appeal Hearing Panel (Student Transfers), attached as Appendix A to Report 24-051, be rescinded (Attached as Appendix D); and**
- B. THAT the revisions to Policy P.077.PLG Designated Schools/Student Transfers, attached as Appendix B to Report 24-051, be approved as amended (Attached as Appendix E).**

For (12): Alysha Aziz, Justine Bell, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Lyra Evans, Jennifer Jennekens, Nili Kaplan-Myrth, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

Carried (12 to 0)

12.4 Report 24-025, Extension of Integrity Commissioner Contract (M. Giroux)

The Board had before it Report 24-025, seeking to provide an update on the legislation regarding Integrity Commissioners (IC) and to authorize an extension to the current IC contract.

During the discussion and in response to queries, the following information was noted:

- Trustee Jennekens noted that the IC plays a significant role in providing advice, education and complaint resolution for the Board;
- Trustee Lyra Evans expressed concern in extending the contract as there is a Request for Proposal (RFP) and a process to appoint a new commissioner; and
- Trustee Dickson noted that waiting to appoint an IC rather than extending the current contract will result in delays and mistrust from the community. She suggested that the Board should have an IC in place until the Ministry can provide a pre-approved list of ICs.

Moved by Jennifer Jennekens

Seconded by Cathryne Milburn

THAT the Board appoint Suzanne Craig (SC Consulting) as the Integrity Commissioner effective 25 April 2024 for a period of up to one year.

For (9): Alysha Aziz, Donna Blackburn, Donna Dickson, Jennifer Jennekens, Matthew Lee, Cathryne Milburn, Suzanne Nash, Amanda Presley, and Lynn Scott

Against (2): Lyra Evans, and Nili Kaplan-Myrth

Abstain (1): Justine Bell

Carried (9 to 2)

13. Matters for Discussion

13.1 Report from OSTA Representatives (If Required)

There was no report from OSTA.

13.2 Report from OPSBA Representatives (if required)

It was noted that Trustee Jennekens and Trustee Scott will be attending the Board of Directors meeting in Toronto on 26 April 2024 with a presentation from the Leadership of Ontario Student Trustee Association. Trustee Jenneken noted that a report will be provided at a future date.

14. Board Work Plan

The Board Work Plan was provided for information.

15. Matters for Information

There were no matters for information.

16. New Business - Information and Inquiries

There was no new business.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Lyra Evans, Chair of the Board