



BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES

Tuesday, March 26, 2019, 7:30 pm
Board Room
Administration Building
133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, Ontario

Trustees: Donna Blackburn, Christine Boothby (electronic communication), Erica Braunovan, Rob Campbell, Chris Ellis, Lyra Evans, Mark Fisher, Wendy Hough, Jennifer Jennekens, Keith Penny, Sandra Schwartz, Lynn Scott, Isaac Glassman (Student Trustee)

Staff: Camille Williams-Taylor (Director of Education), Brett Reynolds (Associate Director), Dorothy Baker (Superintendent of Curriculum), Mike Carson (Chief Financial Officer), Janice McCoy (Superintendent of Human Resources), Peter Symmonds (Superintendent of Learning Support Services), Olga Grigoriev (Superintendent of Instruction), Kevin Gardner (Manager of Financial Services), Stacey Kay (Manager of Field Services), Pamela LeMaistre (Manager of Human Resources), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Karyn Carty-Ostafichuk, (Manager of Planning), Diane Pernari-Hergert (Manager of Communications & Information Services), Charles D'Aoust (Coordinator, Budget Services), Teri Adamthwaite (Coordinator of Financial Reporting), Sharlene Hunter (Communications Coordinator), John MacKinnon (Audio-Visual Technician), Amanda Rock (Board/Committee Coordinator).

1. Call to Order -- Chair of the Board

Chair Scott called the public meeting to order at 8:22 p.m. She acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on unceded Algonquin Territory and thanked the Algonquin Nations for hosting the meeting on their land.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Penny, seconded by Trustee Jennekens,
THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

3. Report from the Board (In Camera)

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

4. Briefing from the Chair of the Board

Chair Scott advised that the deadline for nominations for the OCDSB Community Member Recognition Awards is 4:00 p.m. on 29 March 2019. She asked that consideration be given to nominating a volunteer in a school or the community who makes a difference. The awards will be presented in June.

Chair Scott advised that the Ministry of Education will continue consultation with stakeholders on class sizes and hiring practices. The government has prepared consultation guides to assist stakeholders in providing input on the implementation of the proposed changes as well as an opportunity for stakeholders to put forward alternative approaches. Trustees were encouraged to submit feedback to assist the Advocacy Committee in drafting the Board's submission. The deadline for the Board's submission is 31 May 2019.

Chair Scott also advised that the Ministry of Education announced a number of curriculum modernizing initiatives including the expansion of broadband technology, increased e-learning programming, and restrictions on cell phone use in schools. The Ministry has signaled a number of changes in funding for Grants for Special Needs (GSNs). The Ministry has indicated that funding announcement details will be available by the end of April 2019.

Chair Scott announced that Trustee Keith Penny has retired from his "day job". On behalf of the Board of Trustees, she congratulated Trustee Penny and wished him well in his retirement.

5. Briefing from the Director

Director Williams-Taylor advised that 02 April 2019 is World Autism Awareness Day. The goal of the day is to help in the building of stronger, more inclusive communities for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). One of the ways in which OCDSB schools will be celebrating this day is by participating in the 'Raise the Flag' campaign, in collaboration with Autism Ontario. The ASD team will be hosting another Parent Information Night (open to all parents), 23 April 2019 at 6:00 pm at Sir Robert Borden High School. Dr. Jonathan Weiss from York University will be the keynote speaker and will address mental health and well-being in regards to students with ASD. The ASD team will also be present to provide mini workshops for parents regarding supports and services within the District.

Director Williams-Taylor advised that Superintendent MacDonald will be retired as of 29 March 2019. On behalf of the OCDSB, Director Williams-Taylor wished her well in her retirement.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations.

7. Matters for Action

7.1 Confirmation of Board Minutes, 26 February 2019

Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the 26 February 2019 Board minutes be confirmed.

Trustee Lyra Evans advised that she nominated Trustee Boothby to be a member of the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct committee rather than Trustee Boothby nominating Trustee Lyra Evans.

Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the 26 February 2019 Board minutes be confirmed, as amended.

Carried

7.2 Business Arising from Board Minutes

There was no business arising from the 26 February 2019 Board minutes.

7.3 Unfinished Business from Board Meeting of 26 February 2019

There was no unfinished business from the Board meeting of 26 February 2019.

7.3.a Adoption of Education Development Charges By-Law

CFO Carson advised that the approval of the Education Development Charges (EDC) By-law was deferred to this evening's meeting, pending receipt of Ministerial approval. This approval has now been received.

Moved by Trustee Schwartz

Seconded by Trustee Blackburn

1. THAT the Board confirm that an additional public meeting under 257.63 (3) of the Education Act is not required prior to the adoption of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board's Education Development Charges By-law No. 01-2019;

2. THAT the Board approve the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board's Education Development Charges

Background Study, dated 18 December 2018, for the purpose of adopting the Board's Education Development Charges By-law No. 01- 2019;

- 3. THAT the Board set the following rates of \$723.00 per new residential dwelling unit and \$0.52 per new square foot of non-residential gross floor area; and**
- 4. THAT the Board approve the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board Education Development Charges By-law No. 01-2019 (attached as Appendix C to COW Report 19 February 2019, as amended) effective, 1 April 2019, and authorize staff to undertake steps regarding its implementation and administration, subject to Ministerial approval. (Attached as Appendix A)**

A recorded vote was held and was carried unanimously by those present:

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Evans, Fisher, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz and Scott (12)

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

7.4 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Report, 5 March 2019

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Jennekens,

THAT the Committee of Whole report, dated 05 March 2019, be received.

Trustee Boothby requested that a sentence summarizing the academic staffing discussion include more information with regard to staffing being based on retirements and leaves.

Trustee Boothby also requested separate votes for the recommendations in the Committee of the Whole report, dated 05 March 2019.

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Jennekens,

THAT the Committee of Whole report, dated 05 March 2019, be received, as amended.

Carried

7.4.a Cap on Trustee Carryforwards

Moved by Trustee Blackburn

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

THAT clause 2.13 of P.005.GOV Board Member Expenses and Support Services be amended to read:

The Board may authorize, before 31 August in any year, a carryforward of unspent funds, not to exceed \$2,500, in Board members' individual accounts under this policy upon submission of written requests from individual trustees outlining the rationale for such carryforward, save that, in an election year, any such funds carried forward must be used prior to the end of the Board's term of office.

A recorded vote was held and was carried on the following division:

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Braunovan, Campbell, Evans, Fisher, Hough, Jennekens, Schwartz, and Scott (9)

AGAINST: Trustees Ellis, Boothby, Penny (3)

ABSTENTION: (0)

Carried

7.4.b Letter to Ministers Thompson and MacLeod re Service to Students with Autism

This item was non-consent and when dealt with later in the meeting the following was noted:

Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Braunovan,

THAT the Chair of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board write a letter to Minister Thompson, Ministry of Education, and Minister MacLeod, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services:

A. To endorse the position of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) regarding the impact of the planned changes to the Ontario Autism Program on school boards as expressed in the letter dated 26 February 2019;

B. To request that the Ministers reconsider the planned changes to the Ontario Autism Program with respect to the impact these

changes will have on the ability of school boards to meet the needs of students with autism; and

C. To advocate that both Ministers meet with OPSBA representatives to discuss the impact of the changes on school boards and the ability of school boards to provide service to students with autism.

In addition, the following amendment was deferred to this evening's meeting pending further consideration by staff:

D. THAT the District track attendance changes for students with ASD from 01 April 2019 to end of 2018-19 school year and report by 24 September 2019.

In response to queries, the following information was provided:

- The District recognizes data collection will be required to serve its students;
- Memo 19-043 is a reflection of the data that may be gathered over a period of time; and
- Trustees will be kept apprised of updated information as the District collects data.

With the consent of the Board, Trustee Ellis withdrew his amendment to add PART D to the motion.

Moved by Trustee Blackburn

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

THAT the Chair of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board write a letter to Minister Thompson, Ministry of Education, and Minister MacLeod, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services:

A. To endorse the position of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) regarding the impact of the planned changes to the Ontario Autism Program on school boards as expressed in the letter dated 26 February 2019;

B. To request that the Ministers reconsider the planned changes to the Ontario Autism Program with respect to the impact these changes will have on the ability of school boards to meet the needs of students with autism; and

C. To advocate that both Ministers meet with OPSBA representatives to discuss the impact of the changes on school boards and the ability of school boards to provide service to students with autism.

A recorded vote was held and was carried unanimously by those present:

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Evans, Fisher, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz and Scott (12)

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

7.5 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Report, 19 March 2019

Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,

THAT the Committee of the Whole report, dated 19 March 2019, be received.

Carried

7.5.a Elmdale Public School Construction Project Funding Approval

Moved by Trustee Braunovan

Seconded by Trustee Blackburn

A. THAT funding for the addition project for Elmdale Public School consist of Capital Priorities funding; School Condition Improvement funding; Facilities Renewal Program funding; and Temporary Accommodation funding, for a total budget of \$12,250,000.

B. THAT staff be authorized to proceed to tender with the project once Ministry approval is obtained; and

C. THAT the Chair and Director be given authority to award the contracts to the successful bidder(s) so long as they are within the approved project budget.

A recorded vote was held and was carried unanimously by those present:

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Evans, Fisher, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz, and Scott (12)

AGAINST: (0)

ABSTENTION: (0)

Carried

7.6 Receipt of Special Committee of the Whole Report, 26 March 2019 (Oral)

Vice-Chair Braunovan advised that the Committee of the Whole met earlier this evening and reports as follows:

7.6.a 2019-2020 Academic Staffing

Moved by Trustee Blackburn

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

THAT Board approve academic staffing levels, including elementary teachers, secondary teachers, principals and vice-principals, for the 2019-2020 school year as outlined in Appendix A, B and C to Report No. 19-037. (Attached as Appendix B)

A recorded vote was held and was carried unanimously by those present:

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Evans, Fisher, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz, and Scott (12)

AGAINST: (0)

ABSTENTION: (0)

Carried

7.7 Receipt of Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Committee Report, 7 March 2019

Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,

THAT the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Committee report, dated 07 March 2019, be received.

Carried

7.7.a Revisions to Policy P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct

Moved by Trustee Penny, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,

This item was non-consent and when dealt with later in the meeting, the following was noted:

THAT revisions to Policy P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct move forward with a view to appointing an integrity commissioner.

Trustee Penny encouraged his colleagues to vote in favour of this motion to appoint an integrity commissioner (IC).

Trustee Campbell expressed the view that there are not enough compelling reasons to appoint an IC. He submitted that the involvement of an integrity commissioner to ensure neutrality was the only compelling rationale. He queried if there are any other compelling reasons.

Trustee Lyra Evans commented that the Board has not had a discussion on the appointment of an IC at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Trustee Ellis queried what the implications were should the motion pass this evening. Trustee Scott advised that it would be tasking the committee to bring forward their recommendation. The appointment of an IC is much broader than amendments to policy. She noted that the policy will help the work and function of an IC should the Board approve the motion. Director Williams-Taylor also advised that there is a significant amount of research required to pursue an appointment of an IC.

Trustee Blackburn reminded her colleagues that there are five trustee members of the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct committee who supported the recommendation at the 07 March 2019 meeting. She expressed the opinion that all trustees should have a view to appoint an IC if fairness and objectivity within the Board is important to them.

Moved by Trustee Penny

Seconded by Trustee Blackburn

THAT revisions to Policy P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct move forward with a view to appointing an integrity commissioner.

A recorded vote was held and was carried on the following division:

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Ellis, Fisher, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz, and Scott (10)

AGAINST: Trustee Evans (1)

ABSTENTION: Trustee Campbell (1)

Carried

7.8 Notice of Motion, OPSBA Policy Resolution, Trustee Boothby

Notice of motion having been given, Trustee Boothby moved as follows:

Moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Braunovan,

Whereas, the Provincial government has announced a significant funding change for the provision of Autism services for children of school age;

Whereas, under the previous funding provisions, children with autism were receiving Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) and Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) services through service providers chosen by the parent, with one of the goals being helping children with autism to be school ready and able to access education;

Whereas, it is believed the children with autism needing the highest level of supports, including IBI and ABA therapies, were not entering the school system full-time, until these therapies had a chance to allow these children to be school ready for learning;

Whereas, the majority of the children with autism needing the highest levels of IBI and ABA therapies are candidates for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) fully self-contained classrooms with a student to staff ratio of 2:1, and a class maximum size of 6 students;

Whereas, in one Board in Eastern Ontario, the number of children with autism entering schools in the Board September 2019, without having received the intensive IBI and ABA therapies, their profile would have entitled them to under the former funding rules, was 25 students, or more than 4 ASD fully self-contained classrooms;

Whereas the targeted Provincial funding for specific autism programs such as the “Art of Play,” “Art of Conversation,” and “PEERS” were reported to have positive impacts on educational and well-being of children with autism;

Whereas, the targeted Provincial funding used for hiring BCBAs (Board Certified Behaviour Analysts) and RBTs (Registered Behavioural Technicians) has resulted in better understanding of the needed supports and delivery of such supports for children with autism, as well as a significant uptake in the number of staff wishing to receive RBT training, thereby increasing overall staff capacity;

Whereas, the targeted Provincial funding for designated IBI and ABA school space, has resulted in better collaboration between school staff and community therapists, and all partners working in common ways on common goals;

Whereas, PPM 140, contains the following obligations:

- School boards must offer students with ASD special education programs and services, including, where appropriate, special education programs using ABA methods;
- Principals are required to ensure that ABA methods are incorporated into the IEPs of students with ASD, where appropriate;
- The program selected must be based on relevant assessment information that identifies the student's skills and needs, instructional level, and learning style/modalities, and must incorporate relevant ABA methods, where appropriate; and

Whereas, the newly unfunded therapies will result in school boards needing to provide significant supports in order for children with autism to be able to meaningfully access education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT OPSBA recommend, in order for children with autism to meaningfully access education, the Ministry of Education as a priority, provide funding to be used exclusively for autism supports in schools, with the following elements:

A. Funding for staffing, including an Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Coordinator for each District and retrofitting of designated space in schools where individual and group Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) and ABA therapies can be delivered by community therapists;

B. Funding for a minimum of 1 Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA) for each board with fully self-contained Autism Spectrum

Disorder (ASD) classrooms, and additional BCBA's for boards serving the highest number of children with autism, based on a formula of: boards with fewer than 1000 children with autism - 1 BCBA and boards with greater than 1000 children with autism - 2 or more BCBA's, maintaining a near similar ratio of 1:1000;

C. Funding to allow staff, including teachers, early childhood educators, and educational assistants, to undertake training to become Registered Behavioural Technicians (RBTs), such that each board serving children with autism, will achieve staffing of RBTs based on a formula of: boards with fewer than 1000 children with autism - 20 RBT, and boards with greater than 1000 children with autism 30 or more RBTs, maintaining a near similar ratio of 20:1000;

D. Funding for a centrally assigned educator to support students with autism, with respect to educational programming, Individual Education Plans (IEPs), transition planning, etc.;

E. Funding for professional support staff (i.e., Speech and Language Pathology, Psychology) to support programs and services in support of students with autism;

F. Funding for additional educational assistants to support students with ASD who remain in regular classroom setting and for each new ASD fully self-contained classroom boards will have to open to support children with autism who will be entering the school system full-time without first having intensive IBI and ABA therapies; and

G. Funding to continue targeted autism programs such as "Art of Play", "Art of Conversation" and "PEERS".

Trustee Boothby highlighted the following successes within the District:

- The province has invested in pilot programs over the years which addressed specific needs for children autism;
- Providing dedicated spaces within schools for children with autism to receive Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) and Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) from professional staff;
- The pilot program provided the District with Board-Certified behavioural analysts; and
- The District has been able to train several EAs as behavioural analysts.

Trustee Penny noted that the motion requests that OPSBA have a discussion with the Ministry. It is important that children with autism have meaningful access to public education.

In response to a query from Trustee Penny, Superintendent Symmonds noted the following:

- The District will be able to better meet the needs of students with autism should the motion pass;
- Students' involvement with IBI and ABA therapies have had a positive impact on their learning experience;
- There are designated spaces in schools to deliver IBI and ABA therapies;
- Fifty of the District's EAs have been trained in the registered behaviour technician course;
- The Art of Conversation and the Art of Play are evidence-based programs to help students with autism develop skills;
- The Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relationship Skills (PEERS) is a program for high school students with autism and originates from the University of Central Los Angeles (UCLA); and
- The District has used autism-focused training days as a tool to help educators integrate the above-noted programs in their classrooms.

Superintendent Symmonds noted that there are many benefits in continuing the Art of Play, Art of Conversation and PEERS programs should the government provide the funding to the District.

Trustee Penny noted that the reason for the specificity of the motion is because OPSBA has favoured more specific policy recommendations in previous years.

Moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Braunovan,

THAT OPSBA recommend, in order for children with autism to meaningfully access education, the Ministry of Education as a priority, provide funding to be used exclusively for autism supports in schools, with the following elements:

A. Funding for staffing, including an Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Coordinator for each District and retrofitting of designated space in schools where individual and group Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) and ABA therapies can be delivered by community therapists;

B. Funding for a minimum of 1 Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA) for each board with fully self-contained Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) classrooms, and additional BCBAs for boards serving the highest number of children with autism, based on a formula of: boards with fewer than 1000 children with autism - 1 BCBA and boards with greater than

1000 children with autism - 2 or more BCBAs, maintaining a near similar ratio of 1:1000;

C. Funding to allow staff, including teachers, early childhood educators, and educational assistants, to undertake training to become Registered Behavioural Technicians (RBTs), such that each board serving children with autism, will achieve staffing of RBTs based on a formula of: boards with fewer than 1000 children with autism - 20 RBT, and boards with greater than 1000 children with autism 30 or more RBTs, maintaining a near similar ratio of 20:1000;

D. Funding for a centrally assigned educator to support students with autism, with respect to educational programming, Individual Education Plans (IEPs), transition planning, etc.;

E. Funding for professional support staff (i.e., Speech and Language Pathology, Psychology) to support programs and services in support of students with autism;

F. Funding for additional educational assistants to support students with ASD who remain in regular classroom setting and for each new ASD fully self-contained classroom boards will have to open to support children with autism who will be entering the school system full-time without first having intensive IBI and ABA therapies; and

G. Funding to continue targeted autism programs such as “Art of Play”, “Art of Conversation” and “PEERS”.

A recorded vote was held and was carried unanimously by those present:

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Evans, Fisher, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz, and Scott (12)

AGAINST: (0)

ABSTENTION: (0)

8. Matters for Discussion

8.1 Report from OPSBA Representatives (if required)

There was no OPSBA update.

9. Matters for Information

There were no matters for information.

10. New Business -- Information and Inquiries

Student Trustee Glassman invited staff and trustees to participate in secondary school "walk-outs" on 04 April 2019 at 1:00 or 1:15 p.m with regard to the recent Ministry announcements about education funding policy.

Trustee Campbell queried when trustees could expect a report with regard to the delegation of equity activists that met with Director Williams-Taylor and Chair Scott around equity issues. Director Williams-Taylor advised that the meeting established a relationship of collaboration and a number of issues were raised as potential areas of action. Students who attended the 2019 Black Youth Conference also made recommendations that may inform the District's strategic plan. Director Williams-Taylor confirmed that she will not be creating a list of submissions.

Trustee Lyra Evans advised that she would attend the student-led "walk-outs" on 04 April 2019. She encouraged colleagues to show their support as well.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Lynn Scott, Chair of the Board