



BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES

**Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 7:00 pm
Board Room
Administration Building
133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, Ontario**

- Trustees: Donna Blackburn, Christine Boothby, Erica Braunovan, Rob Campbell, Chris Ellis, Lyra Evans, 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), Mary Jane Farrish (Superintendent of Instruction), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), Janice McCoy (Superintendent of Human Resources), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Karyn Carty Ostafichuk, (Manager of Planning), Diane Pernari-Hergert (Manager of Communications & Information Services), Sharlene Hunter (Communications Coordinator), Susan Baker (Senior Board Coordinator), John MacKinnon, Audio-Visual Technician
1. Call to Order -- Chair of the Board
Chair Scott called the public meeting to order at 7:03 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 Blackburn, 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 Acting Vice-Chair Ellis reported that there were no recommendations.
 4. Briefing from the Chair of the Board

Chair Scott advised that Bill 100, Protecting What Matters Most Act (Budget Measures), was introduced to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario on 11 April 2019 to implement the government's budget. Proposed changes to the *Education Act* include a section prohibiting a board from having an in-year deficit. Traditionally, school boards have been able to carry a 1% budget deficit without Ministry approval. More details will be available through the release of the GSNs at the end of April.

Chair Scott noted that, due to the timing of the release of the Grants for Student Needs, the OCDSB has delayed the presentation of the staff-recommended 2019-2020 budget to Wednesday, 29 May 2019.

Chair Scott advised that the government has announced the creation of a task force to review all aspects of education, including school board operations, while respecting the four publicly funded education systems in Ontario. It has been suggested that the focus of the task force would be administrative operations but no details have been released.

5. Briefing from the Director

Director Williams-Taylor advised that the next event in the OCDSB Speaker Series is called "When Technology Takes Over: Navigating Through the Teen Years". This session will take place on Thursday, 2 May 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Sir Robert Borden High School and will offer parents practical strategies to encourage healthy use of technology by teens. The session will be led by Liz Parsons and Matt Young, both of whom are Youth Service Managers for Rideauwood Addiction & Family Services.

Director Williams-Taylor advised that the OCDSB is committed to creating inclusive, safe and caring environments. As part of this commitment, along with direction from the Ministry, OCDSB schools administer school climate surveys to students at least once every two years. The purpose of a school climate survey is to better understand students' perceptions about bullying, safety at school, and student engagement. Students who are in grades four to twelve will complete the OurSCHOOL Survey online at school between 23 April and 10 May 2019. Parents can advise the school if they prefer their child not to participate.

Director Williams-Taylor noted that the past weekend was Easter and this week is Passover. On behalf of the District, Director Williams-Taylor extended warm wishes to all who are celebrating.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations.

7. Matters for Action

7.1 Confirmation of Board Minutes, 26 March 2019

Moved by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,

THAT the minutes of the Board meeting, dated 26 March 2019, be confirmed.

Carried

7.2 Business Arising from Board Minutes

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

7.3 Receipt of Special Committee of the Whole Report, 26 March 2019

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the Special Committee of the Whole Report, dated 26 March 2019, be received.

Carried

The recommendation on academic staffing was dealt with at the Board meeting of 26 March 2019.

7.4 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Report, 2 April 2019

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,

THAT the Committee of the Whole report, dated 02 April 2019, be received.

Carried

Chair Scott advised that Memo 19-060, Employees with Zero Sick Days Reported in 2018-2019, was provided for information.

7.4.a Base Rates for Third-Party Providers

Moved by Trustee Blackburn

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

THAT Board approve an increase to the base rate charges to \$10.62 per square foot for non-profit agencies leasing space in District facilities, effective 1 September 2019.

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 (11)

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

7.5 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Report, 16 April 2019

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Boothby,

THAT the Committee of the Whole report, dated 16 April 2019, be received.

Carried

7.5.a Purchase of New Portable Classrooms

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 purchase of up to 20 new modular portable classrooms, at a budgeted total cost of \$3,129,200 (excluding HST), be approved and funded from Capital Reserves, subject to Ministry approval.

Trustee Lyra Evans advised that she would abstain from voting because, in her opinion, it is unwise to purchase additional portable classrooms when they are not being used in a temporary manner. She submitted that the Board should spend its money and efforts on acquiring additional permanent space.

Trustee Schwartz expressed concern about the type of portables being purchased. She submitted that there are more sustainable options available at a higher cost and modular classrooms are more energy efficient over the life of the portable classroom. She advised that she would support the motion; however, she would appreciate more information on additional options the next time the Board is asked to approve the purchase of portable classrooms.

Trustee Blackburn noted that the recommendation from staff was based on the limitations of the relevant legislation.

Moved by Trustee Blackburn

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

THAT the purchase of up to 20 new modular portable classrooms, at a budgeted total cost of \$3,129,200

(excluding HST), be approved and funded from Capital Reserves, subject to Ministry approval.

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

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

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Trustee Lyra Evans (1)

Carried

7.5.b Re-establish the Ad Hoc Advocacy Committee as a Special Purpose Committee

Trustee Boothby, moved the recommendation in substitution for Trustee Scott.

Moved by Trustee Boothby

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

- 1. THAT the current Ad Hoc Committee to Develop an Advocacy Strategy be reconstituted as a Special Purpose committee to be known as the Advocacy Strategy Committee;**
- 2. THAT the membership of the Advocacy Strategy Committee comprise the chair and vice-chair of the board (ex officio) and up to four additional trustees;**
- 3. THAT the mandate of the Advocacy Strategy Committee be**
 - i. to develop an annual advocacy strategy for board approval;**
 - ii. to develop advocacy positions for board approval; and**
 - iii. to advise and support the chair on specific advocacy issues and key messaging as needed and in a timely way;**
- 4. THAT the Advocacy Strategy Committee meet at least once annually and on an as-required basis at the call of**

the Chair of the committee or at the request of the chair of the board; and

5. THAT the current members of the Ad Hoc Committee to Develop an Advocacy Strategy appointed on 3 December 2018 be confirmed as members of the new Advocacy Strategy Committee for the term ending 30 November 2019.

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

FOR: Trustees Boothby, Braunovan, Blackburn, Campbell, Ellis, Lyra Evans, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz and Scott (11)

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

7.5.c Support for Mental Health through an Equity Lens

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

Moved by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Braunovan,

1. THAT the Board direct staff to explore and report on funding to support mental health through an equity lens, especially for students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, Inuit and for male students of African descent; and
2. THAT the Board direct staff to evaluate, through an equity lens, barriers to access mental health services within the OCDSB, especially for students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, Inuit and for male students of African descent.

Trustee Ellis advised that Part 1 of this recommendation originated from the Advisory Committee on Equity who wished to gain an understanding of mental health services and funding that may be available for certain groups of students. He noted that there is a perception that there are more mental health issues among these specific groups of students. Trustee Ellis noted that Part 2 of the recommendation was added at the Committee of the Whole meeting on 16 April 2019.

Trustee Braunovan expressed the opinion that the motion is unclear and that additional clarity is required before directing staff to undertake an evaluation of mental health services in the District.

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Campbell,

THAT the motion be referred to staff to provide additional information, including consultation with the Advisory Committee on Equity, prior to presentation at the Board meeting in September 2019.

Trustee Blackburn and Trustee Lyra Evans expressed the view that the motion requires further discussion with the Advisory Committee on Equity.

Student Trustee Glassman noted that, without a specific methodology for seeking input, it would be difficult for marginalized groups of students to talk about mental health issues.

In response to a request for staff comment, Director Williams-Taylor noted that, if the motion to refer is carried, further consultation would take place with the Advisory Committee on Equity. In addition, staff will present an update on the mental health and addiction strategy to the Committee of the Whole.

Moved by Trustee Braunovan

Seconded by Trustee Campbell

THAT the following motion be referred to staff to provide additional information, including consultation with the Advisory Committee on Equity, prior to presentation at the Board meeting in September 2019.

Moved by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Braunovan,

- 1. THAT the Board direct staff to explore and report on funding to support mental health through an equity lens, especially for students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, Inuit and for male students of African descent.**
- 2. THAT the Board direct staff to evaluate, through an equity lens, barriers to access mental health services within the OCDSB, especially for students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, Inuit and for male students of African descent.**

Carried

7.6 Receipt of Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Committee Report, 1 April 2019

Moved by Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Jennekens,

THAT the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Committee Report, dated 01 April 2019, be received.

Carried

There were no recommendations in the report.

7.7 Report 19-049, SEAC Policy Revision - Appointment of Association and Associated Representatives (M. Giroux ext. 8310)

Your Committee had before it Report 19-049 seeking approval for revisions to policy P.019.GOV Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) to include VIEWS for the Visually Impaired (VIEWS) as well as to confirm the appointment of a member and alternate representing the association on SEAC.

Executive Officer Giroux noted that the term of appointment ends on 14 November 2022, rather than 30 November as stated in Part B of the motion in the staff report.

Trustee Boothby noted that SEAC has been seeking additional community members and VIEWS would be a welcome addition to the committee.

Moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,

1. THAT Views for the Visually Impaired be approved as a member of the Special Education Advisory Committee under the local association category, and that Board Policy P.019.GOV, Special Education Advisory Committee, be revised accordingly; and
2. THAT Lisa Paterick be appointed as the regular member representing VIEWS for the Visually Impaired on the Special Education Advisory Committee and Johnna MacCormick as the alternate member for the term ending 14 November 2022.

Trustee Blackburn noted that SEAC will benefit from broad input from community groups. She expressed the hope that additional groups would come forward and seek representation on SEAC.

Moved by Trustee Boothby

Seconded by Trustee Blackburn

1. **THAT Views for the Visually Impaired be approved as a member of the Special Education Advisory Committee under the local**

association category, and that Board Policy P.019.GOV, Special Education Advisory Committee, be revised accordingly; and

- 2. THAT Lisa Paterick be appointed as the regular member representing VIEWS for the Visually Impaired on the Special Education Advisory Committee and Johnna MacCormick as the alternate member for the term ending 14 November 2022.**

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

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Lyra Evans, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, Schwartz, and Scott (11)

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

8. Matters for Discussion

8.1 Report from OPSBA Representatives (if required)

Trustee Boothby reported that the OPSBA Executive Council is reviewing policy resolutions put forward by member school boards, including the motion from the OCDSB on the provision of funding for autism supports in schools. Trustee Boothby advised that the OPSBA Executive Council liked the content of the Board's motion; however, they have some concerns about the scalability of it for smaller school boards. It is their intention to rewrite the motion to retain all of the "whereas" clauses, rewrite some parts of the motion to be more action-oriented, and place some other parts of the motion in abeyance pending conversation with the Ministry of Education. Trustee Boothby advised that the changes will be made in consultation with Trustees Penny and Scott, Superintendent Symmonds, and former Vice-Principal, Learning Support Services, Jenny Dewan.

Chair Scott noted that it is not unusual for OPSBA to modify language in policy resolutions provided the intent of the resolution remains intact.

In response to Trustee Lyra Evans' query about the possibility of the provincial government amalgamating school boards, Trustee Boothby advised that she would check with OPSBA to determine if they have a position on the matter, and circulate a response to all trustees.

9. Matters for Information

There were no matters for information.

10. New Business -- Information and Inquiries

10.1 Letter to Ministers Thompson and MacLeod, 8 March 2019

Trustee Blackburn queried whether the Chair has received a response to her letter to Ministers Thompson and MacLeod dated 8 March 2019 in which she requests a meeting with Minister MacLeod to discuss the impact of changes to the Ontario Autism Program. Chair Scott advised that she has not yet received a response from either Minister, and that she would follow up with a second request for a meeting.

10.2 Wellness Symposium at Lisgar Collegiate Institute

Student Trustee Glassman reported that Lisgar Collegiate Institute recently hosted a full-day wellness symposium on student well-being and mental health. Students selected from over 60 sessions, including yoga, cooking, meditation, sports, bike repair, etc. Student Trustee Glassman expressed the view that this day was a perfect embodiment of everything the Board stands for pertaining to mental health and well-being. He invited trustees to speak to him for more information about the event.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Lynn Scott, Chair of the Board