



## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PUBLIC REPORT PUBLIC

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

- Trustees Present: Erica Braunovan, Donna Blackburn, Christine Boothby, Rob Campbell, Chris Ellis, Lyra Evans, Wendy Hough, Jennifer Jennekens, Keith Penny, Lynn Scott, Isaac Glassman (Student Trustee)
- Staff Present: Camille Williams-Taylor (Director of Education), Brett Reynolds (Associate Director), Dorothy Baker (Superintendent of Curriculum), Mary Jane Farrish (Superintendent of Instruction), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), Janice McCoy (Superintendent of Human Resources), Peter Symmonds (Superintendent of Learning Support Services), Halcian Joseph-Clost (Strategic Analyst), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Diane Pernari-Hergert (Manager of Communications & Information Services), Sharlene Hunter (Communications Coordinator), Dave Loftus (Audio/Visual Technician), Amanda Rock (Board/Committee Coordinator)
- Non-Voting Representatives Present: Brent Smith, Ottawa-Carleton Elementary Operations Committee (OCEOC); Christine Moulaison, Ottawa-Carleton Assembly of School Councils (OCASC); Steve Spidell, Ottawa-Carleton Secondary School Administrators Network (OCSSAN) and Harvey Brown, Advisory Committee on Equity (ACE).

### 1. Call to Order - Vice-Chair of the Board

Vice-Chair Braunovan called the meeting to order at 7:40 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 Agenda

**Moved by Trustee Lyra Evans,**

**THAT the agenda be approved.**

**Carried**

3. Briefing from the Chair of the Board

Chair Scott advised that 06-10 May 2019 is Mental Health Week. This is a Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) annual event to promote mental health as a sense of well-being that involves feeling connected, strong relationships, a sense of purpose and knowing how to cope with feelings of stress. Many of the District's schools host mental health events over the course of the year. During Mental Health Week, the District is highlighting what mental health means by providing resources to schools to communicate positive messages. In addition, the four local school boards are partnering with Ottawa Public Health to locally promote mental health through social media messaging. Information about building and maintaining mental health as well as where to find help when support is needed is available on the OCDSB website.

Chair Scott advised that later on in the meeting staff would present the draft strategic plan for 2019 to 2023. This draft plan was developed based the input received from the community and the OCDSB Board members, and over the next month, the District will be inviting its stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft plan. The final draft will be presented to the Committee of the Whole on 18 June 2019.

4. Briefing from the Director

Director Williams-Taylor advised that A Date with Diversity 2019 will take place on 14 May 2019 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Canterbury High School. The theme for the evening is: Journeying from Diversity to Equity. Please register on the District's website to attend.

Director Williams-Taylor noted that 06-10 May 2019 is Education Week. It is celebrated by school boards and schools across the province each year during the first full week in May. It is a time for students, teachers and parents to celebrate teaching excellence and student achievement. This year, the theme is "Education that works for you". The District's schools have many activities planned to celebrate student learning, including class discussions, assemblies, guest speakers and more. Parents are advised to visit school websites and/or newsletters for more information about events at their child's school.

Director Williams-Taylor advised that on 06 May 2019 she announced and congratulated the winners of this year's Director's Awards. These awards are presented every year to staff members for their efforts to ensure the District's students are reaching their full potential. This year, the Director's Award recipients were nominated in the following categories: Director's Citation, Excellence in Equity, Health & Safety, Innovation, Mentoring, Ronald K. Lynch Memorial, and the Technology Excellence Awards.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

6. Report from Statutory and Other Committees

6.1 Special Education Advisory Committee Report, 10 April 2019

Moved by Trustee Boothby,

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee Report date 10 April 2019 be received.

Trustee Boothby requested a number of minor changes to the report.

**Moved by Trustee Boothby,**

**THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee Report date 10 April 2019 be received, as amended.**

**Carried**

6.2 Indigenous Education Advisory Council, 18 April 2019

**Moved by Trustee Hough,**

**THAT the Indigenous Education Advisory Council report dated 18 April 2019 be received.**

**Carried**

6.3 Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Committee, 23 April 2019

**Moved by Trustee Blackburn,**

**THAT the Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Committee report dated 23 April 2019 be received.**

**Carried**

a. Revisions to Code of Conduct

Moved by Trustee Boothby,

A. THAT the revisions to P.073.GOV, attached as Appendix A to Report 19-050, be approved as amended, effective immediately following the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner (Attached as Appendix A); and

B. THAT the role of the Ad Hoc Committee be expanded to include the development of a policy and a request for proposal to support the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner.

Report 19-054 was provided as supplemental information on revisions to P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct.

The following was noted during the discussion:

- All Districts are required to review their Code of Conduct policy by 15 May 2019;
- The Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Committee reports have been presented to Committee of the Whole;
- The current policy will remain in place should the Board of Trustees not support the recommendation;
- The proposed policy revisions specify the roles and responsibilities of the IC, including advising Board members on conflicts of interest;
- Clause 4.31 specifies that the respondent to a complaint may not vote and/or influence the vote; and
- An IC may request a meeting with the complainant or respondent; however, they can choose not to meet with the IC.

An amendment moved by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT clause 4.15 be revised to insert “and if required with” before “the complainant”.

Trustee Scott stated that the intention of a complaint is to bring an allegation to the attention of the respondent. A face-to-face meeting may not be the only way to find resolutions to a complaint. She noted that clause 4.15 specifies that the process is open.

An amendment moved by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT clause 4.15 be revised to insert “and if required with” before “the complainant”.

Defeated

Executive Officer Giroux clarified that school boards are required to review Policy P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct every four years.

Trustee Blackburn stressed that, in the interest in fairness, it is essential to appoint an IC. She noted that the policy has the power to take away a board member's vote. She also expressed the view that the respondent and complainant should be equals in a complaint process.

In response to queries, the following information was provided:

- The policy applies to all members of the Board, including student trustees;

- Some organizations may choose their IC to be their media spokesperson; and
- The District is currently reviewing the roles and responsibilities of an IC, should the Board appoint one.

Trustee Ellis expressed concern over supporting the recommendation and queried the need for an IC.

Executive Officer Giroux noted that:

- The IC role will be a contract position;
- Part B of the motion will address the kind of mechanisms and obligations of an IC;
- An IC will be beneficial as a neutral third-party to resolve disputes; and
- Appointing an IC on a contract basis is relatively inexpensive in comparison to the cost of previous board member conflicts.

Trustee Scott urged her colleagues to support the recommendation in order to have further discussion. Executive Officer Giroux clarified that the recommendation is not to decide if board members support having an IC. Should the recommendation carry, the Board would be moving forward with the intent to further investigate the role of the IC and that a recommendation does not need to be finalized until September 2019.

Trustee Blackburn echoed that the committee will continue to be thorough in its work.

Trustee Lyra Evans encouraged her colleagues to consider cost-sharing the IC with other school boards.

**Moved by** Trustee Boothby

**A. THAT the revisions to P.073.GOV, attached as Appendix A to Report 19-050, be approved as amended, effective immediately following the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner (Attached as Appendix A); and**

**B. THAT the role of the Ad Hoc Committee be expanded to include the development of a policy and a request for proposal to support the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner.**

**Carried**

7. Matters for Discussion:

7.1 Report 19-053, Report on the 2019-2023 Draft Strategic Plan (M. Giroux, ext. 8310)

Your Committee had before it Report 19-053 to present the Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2023 to the community for feedback.

Executive Officer Giroux noted the following with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation:

- The District has moved through several stages to create the Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2023;
- The results of the consultation plan have informed the Board of Trustees and senior staff;
- The intent of the pre-consultation stage was to receive input on how to engage more people and to inform the idea exchange;
- The parent participation in the Idea Exchange was evenly divided between the elementary and secondary school panels;
- There were over 6,000 participants in the Idea Exchange;
- Community feedback will be received between 07 May and 07 June 2019;
- Senior staff and trustees have had fulsome discussions with regard to the architecture, targets, and measures of the Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2023;
- Further research has been conducted for the key areas of focus;
- A Glossary of Terms and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been developed; and
- The Strategic Plan 2019-2023 will be presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting of 18 June 2019.
- The theme of the Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2023 is "Education must not simply teach work - it must teach life" - W.E.B. Dubois

Executive Officer Giroux shared the following strategic objectives:

- Culture of Innovation;
- Culture of Caring; and
- Culture of Social Responsibility

Executive Officer Giroux highlighted the following:

- KPIs will allow the District to have specific measures;

- New measures being introduced by the District may involve it creating new tools to measure its progress; and
- A need for additional professional development (PD) sessions has been identified regarding the implementation plan of the Strategic Plan 2019-2023.

During the ensuing discussion, the following was noted:

- There may be a need to add more community feedback questions;
- The District is seeking feedback on the Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2023 based on questions that focus on accountability and monitoring;
- There should be consistency on how to reach outcomes of strategic objectives; and
- The school utilization rate may be categorized under the environmental and/or financial stewardship areas of focus.
- Student Trustee Glassman noted that English as a Second Language (ESL) students are more likely to read the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan if it is available in their primary language. He suggested that the final Strategic Plan 2019-2023 be translated to Mandarin and Arabic. Executive Officer Giroux agreed that staff can translate the final version of the document.
- The language used in the feedback questions may need to be more concise;
- The operational plan is missing from the draft strategic plan for community feedback; and
- The Viscount Public School parent council highlighted to Trustee Lyra that environmental issues should be highlighted in the strategic plan.

a. 2019-2023 Draft Strategic Plan

The 2019-2023 Draft Strategic Plan was provided for information.

8. Information Items:

8.1 Report from OPSBA

Trustee Boothby provided her notes from the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Board of Directors' meeting of 03-04 May 2019.

Trustee Penny advised that the District's policy resolution was discussed and endorsed by the OPSBA executive. The policy resolution will be presented at the OPSBA AGM.

8.2 New Ministry Initiatives Update (if required)

There were no new Ministry updates.

8.3 OSTA Update - Board of Directors, 25 March 2019

The minutes from the OSTA meeting of 25 March 2019 were provided for review.

9. New Business - Information and Inquiries

Student Trustee Glassman advised that the Ontario Student Trustees Association (OSTA) released a vision document with 35 recommendations and noted that he will share it with the Board.

Trustee Blackburn queried whether the Chair had received a response to her letter to Ministers MacLeod and Thompson regarding the changes to the Ontario Autism Program. Chair Scott advised that she has not yet received a response.

Trustee Jennekens shared that Vimy Ridge Public School will be hosting an art gallery show and Castor Valley Elementary School is hosting an event that focuses on their participation in the "Listen Up" initiative. They will be showcasing their talents on 09 May 2019.

Trustee Scott advised that Stonecrest Elementary School is celebrating its 20th anniversary at 12:30 p.m. on 09 May 2019. All are welcome to attend.

Trustee Penny added that Fallingbrook Elementary School is celebrating their 30th anniversary on 09 May 2019.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

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Erica Braunovan, Chair