



SPECIAL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

8:00 pm

Board Room

Administration Building

133 Greenbank Road

Ottawa, Ontario

Trustees Present: Donna Blackburn, Christine Boothby, Erica Braunovan, 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), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), Janice McCoy (Superintendent of Human Resources), Peter Symmonds (Superintendent of Learning Support Services), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Diane Pernari-Hergert (Manager of Communications & Information Services), Sharlene Hunter (Communications Coordinator), Amanda Rock (Committee Coordinator)

Guests Present: Dave Loftus (Audio/Visual Technician);

1. Call to Order -- Chair of the Board

Chair Scott called the public meeting to order at 9:27 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 Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Campbell,

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

3. Report from Committee of the Whole, 7 May 2019 (Oral)

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

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

Moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Braunovan,

1. 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; and
2. 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.

Trustee Boothby advised the most significant changes to the Board Member Code of Conduct relate to the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner (IC). She noted that the Ministry of Education has directed school boards to develop or review their codes of conduct for trustees prior to 15 May 2019.

Trustee Campbell noted that sections 4.29 b) and 4.31 restrict the ability of the respondent to participate in discussions or influence the vote after the final report of the Integrity Commissioner is received. He suggested that section 4.31 may be unfair to the respondent and queried whether these sections are required by legislation.

An amendment moved by Trustee Campbell, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,

THAT section 4.31 be removed from Policy P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct.

Trustee Campbell noted that student trustees may participate in deliberations but may not vote. He expressed the view that the respondent should also have the ability to participate in deliberations.

In response to query, Executive Officer advised that the Education Act (section 218.3 (12)) prohibits the respondent from voting. The remaining Board Members are required to consider the information in the final report when voting on the decision of the breach or sanction. Section 4.31 is intended to protect the integrity of the voting process. She noted that staff will seek clarity from legal counsel prior to implementing the revised Code of Conduct.

Trustee Blackburn noted that the complainant is free to influence the vote and the respondent should have the same opportunity.

Trustee Campbell submitted that clause 4.31 is offensive. He suggested that it targets only one of the two parties to a complaint and presumes the respondent is guilty.

An amendment moved by Trustee Campbell, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,

THAT section 4.31 be removed from Policy P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct.

Carried

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

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Hough, Jennekens, and Penny (8)

AGAINST: Trustee Lyra Evans (1)

ABSTENTION: Trustee Lynn Scott (1)

Moved by Trustee Boothby

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

1. **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**
2. **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.**

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

FOR: Trustees Blackburn, Boothby, Braunovan, Campbell, Ellis, Hough, Jennekens, Penny, and Scott (9)

AGAINST: Trustee Ellis (1)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

4. Matters for Information

There were no matters for information.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Lynn Scott, Chair of the Board