



BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES

Tuesday, May 28, 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, 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), Mike Carson (Chief Financial Officer), Mary Jane Farrish (Superintendent of Instruction), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), Shawn Lehman (Superintendent of Instruction), Janice McCoy (Superintendent of Human Resources), Peter Symmonds (Superintendent of Learning Support Services), Eric Hardie (Superintendent of Instruction), Jennifer Perry (Principal), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Karyn Carty Ostafichuk, (Manager of Planning), Joan Oracheski (Manager of Research, Evaluation & Analytics Division), Sandy Owens (Interim Manager, Business & Learning Technologies), Diane Pernari-Hergert (Manager of Communications & Information Services), Sharlene Hunter (Communications Coordinator), Amanda Rock (Committee Coordinator)

1. Call to Order -- Chair of the Board

Chair Scott called the public meeting to order at 7:06 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 Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,
THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

3. Report from the Board (In Camera)

Trustee Braunovan reported that the Board met in camera earlier this evening and reports and recommends as follows:

3.1 Acquisition of a Student Information System

Moved by Trustee Campbell

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

THAT the Board authorize staff to proceed as directed in Board in camera with respect to the acquisition of a student information system.

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

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

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

4. Briefing from the Chair of the Board

Chair Scott advised that the OCDSB Volunteer Appreciation Reception and Community Recognition Awards will take place at the Confederation Education Centre located at 1635 Woodroffe Avenue on 13 June 2019 at 6:00 p.m. She invited everyone to celebrate the contributions of all our volunteers and at the District's annual appreciation event.

Chair Scott advised that the District is seeking feedback on the new OCDSB draft strategic plan. The District's new plan is about building a culture of innovation, a culture of caring and a culture of social responsibility. It recognizes culture as a driver of change. The community is welcome to share their thoughts by 07 June 2019.

Chair Scott advised that the Canada Green Building Council and the Canada Coalition for Green Schools are looking for schools that are weaving sustainability education into their curriculum and bringing programs and activities to students that encourage awareness about the environment. The winning school will receive \$2,000 in prize money to use for a green activity and the coveted title of Greenest School in Canada. The deadline to apply is 15 June 2019.

5. Briefing from the Director

Director Williams-Taylor advised that the 2018-2019 School Year Calendar has been approved by the Ministry of Education. School year calendars are distributed to all students at the beginning of each school year. The school year calendar lists school holidays and other important dates.

Director Williams-Taylor advised that staff will present the 2019-2020 Staff Recommended Budget at the Committee of the Whole Budget meeting on Wednesday 29 May beginning at 7:00 p.m. Community members who would like to make a delegation were encouraged to attend. Staff will be accepting requests for four minute delegations until 4:00 p.m. on 29 May 2019. Delegations registering just prior to the start of the meeting will be granted up to 2 minutes to speak. Delegations will also be heard at the Committee of the Whole Budget meetings on 03 June and 10 June 2019.

Director Williams-Taylor advised that the 14th Annual Student Recognition Awards will take place on 30 May 2019. Secondary students will be recognized for their will to succeed, their dedication to finish what they started, and their commitment to achieve their personal best. This year's winners will be posted on the District's website.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations.

7. Matters for Action

7.1 Confirmation of Board Minutes, 23 April 2019

Moved by Trustee Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Boothby,

THAT the Board minutes, dated 23 April 2019, be confirmed.

Trustee Boothby requested that item 8.1, Report from the OPSBA Representatives, clarify that "it is the Board's intention to rewrite the motion".

Moved by Trustee Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Boothby,

THAT the Board minutes, dated 23 April 2019, be confirmed, as amended.

Carried

7.2 Confirmation of Special Board Minutes, 7 May 2019

Moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Jennekens,

THAT the Special Board minutes, dated 07 May 2019, be confirmed.

Carried

7.3 Business Arising from Board Minutes

There was no business arising from the 23 April 2019 Board and 07 May 2019 Special Board minutes.

7.4 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Report, 7 May 2019

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Blackburn,

THAT the Committee of the Whole report, dated 07 May 2019, be received.

Carried

The recommendation to approve the revisions to P.073.GOV Board Member Code of Conduct was dealt with at the Special Board meeting of 7 May 2019.

7.5 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Partial Report, 21 May 2019

Moved by Trustee Jennekens, seconded by Trustee Penny,

THAT the Committee of the Whole partial report, dated 2 May 2019, be received.

Carried

7.5.a Elementary English with Core French Program

Moved by Trustee Campbell

Seconded by Trustee Jennekens

A. THAT staff prepare a report for Board discussion in early fall 2019 comparing the current and projected student enrolment numbers of the elementary English Core French programs with the elementary Early and Middle French Immersion programs, including:

- i. Enrolment for special education (non-gifted), English language learners (ELL), and SES, all disaggregated by grade, division, and program colocation nature; and**
- ii. Contribution rates to high school pathways, disaggregated by program colocation nature**

B. THAT this report additionally identify:

- i. Any key operational, financial, pedagogical, community-impacting, or other strategic advantages and/or disadvantages related to its findings; and**

- ii. **Any major programming, accommodations, policy, resourcing, and/or other strategic changes which might be expected to significantly and reliably address any concerns identified.**

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

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

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Braunovan (1)

Carried

7.6 Receipt of Committee of the Whole Budget Report, 16 April 2019

Moved by Trustee Penny, seconded by Trustee Boothby,

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

Carried

There were no recommendations in the report.

7.7 Receipt of Advocacy Strategy Committee Report, 17 April 2019

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the Advocacy Strategy Committee report, dated 17 April 2019, be received.

Carried

There were no recommendations in the report.

7.8 Receipt of Advocacy Strategy Committee Report, 22 May 2019

Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT the Advocacy Strategy Committee report, dated 22 May 2019, be received.

Carried

7.8.a Feedback to Ministry of Education on School Board Hiring Practices and Class Sizes

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

**Moved by Trustee Braunovan, seconded by Trustee Campbell,
THAT the Board adopt the Rules of Committee.**

Carried

Trustee Campbell noted that there may be options to explore with regard to school organization and class size flexibility but expressed concern that the District did not consider a class size cap as a possible response to question two of the Class Size Consultation Questions - Grades 1-8.

Superintendent McCoy noted the following:

- The District has considered certain class sizes unacceptable in the past;
- Individual districts may exercise discretion when deciding their class size caps, based on different programs and other criteria; and
- An average class size across the District may be explored locally by the OCDSB.

During discussion of the response, a number of amendments were proposed as follows:

Trustee Penny recalled that the Advocacy Strategy Committee was considering funding for class sizes rather than class size caps. He noted that class size caps should be fully funded which isn't currently being done. Trustee Campbell noted that the District advocates for full funding for a number of Ministry initiatives. Trustee Boothby noted that the Ministry of Education's class size key goals were noted by the Board and stressed that they should be documented in the feedback provided to the government.

An amendment moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the key goals of the Ministry of Education's Class Size Consultation Guide be inserted into the beginning of the narrative sections of each of the Class size and Hiring Practices responses from the District.

Trustee Boothby noted the Ministry of Education's class size key goals as:

- Student achievement;
- Protecting front line staff;

- Fiscal responsibility; and
- Evidence-based decision making.

Trustee Boothby noted that the Ministry's key goals should be clearly linked to the District's responses/feedback. She noted that the key goals are helpful should the government have queries about the District's submission.

Trustee Braunovan noted that the Board should be mindful of the word count of its submission. In response to a query from Trustee Boothby, Executive Officer Giroux shared that the Ministry's class size key goals can be referenced in the submission cover letter.

An amendment moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the key goals of the Ministry of Education's Class Size Consultation Guide be inserted into the beginning of the narrative sections of each of the Class size and Hiring Practices responses from the District.

Carried, friendly

Trustee Lyra Evans commented that students who did not grow up using technology may face challenges while completing e-learning courses. She explained that new Canadian families may not have had access to technology prior to, and since arriving in Canada.

Trustee Schwartz queried whether the language used in the last bullet to question two of Class Size Consultation Questions - Grades 9-12 fully captures how funding models will support students engaging in the e-learning model.

Trustee Ellis queried whether the Advocacy Strategy Committee considered including non-profit as deliverables in the e-learning model. Director Williams-Taylor advised that the idea had not been contemplated but could be researched.

An amendment moved by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT the words "federations and unions" be added after "local boards" to bullet two of question three to the Class Size Consultation Questions – Grades 9-12.

Trustee Ellis noted that developing a Ministry Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) that sets out guiding principles for hiring, including equity, fairness, and transparency directly affects federations and unions and they should be consulted. Trustee

Blackburn reflected that the District will be affected by the government's consulting decisions and that the response to alternative approaches to achieve the government's goal should not be amended. Trustee Penny recalled that the issue was previously discussed with significant impacts and suggested that negotiations with federations and unions may not be the best alternative approach. Trustee Lyra Evans noted that there is a difference between consultation and negotiation and that the government should be consulting with all of its strategic stakeholders. Trustee Ellis highlighted that the development of a PPM will affect educators and administrators directly and the Board should encourage the province to consult with them. He urged his colleagues to support the amendment.

An amendment moved by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT the words “federations and unions” be added after “local boards” to bullet two of question three to the Class Size Consultation Questions – Grades 9-12

Carried, friendly

An amendment moved by Trustee Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT the words “and must be accompanied by sufficient and full funding for boards to provide technological resources for all students” be added to the sixth bullet of question two to the Class Size Consultation Questions – Grades 9-12.

Trustee Schwartz reflected that the District does not know the parameters of the e-learning model and the response should highlight to the Ministry that sufficient and full funding is required to provide students with computers, laptops, and other technological resources for them to succeed in the e-learning courses.

An amendment moved by Trustee Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans,

THAT the words “and must be accompanied by sufficient and full funding for boards to provide technological resources for all students” be added to the sixth bullet of question two to the Class Size Consultation Questions – Grades 9-12.

Carried

An amendment by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Ellis,

THAT the words "especially for students, such as some new Canadians, who did not grow up with technology or with limited access to technology" be added to the second bullet of question two to the Class Size Consultation Questions - Grades 9-12.

Director Williams-Taylor cautioned that the wording used in the amendment makes a presumptuous statement about new Canadians. There may new Canadians who are very familiar with technology and the perception of such statements may not be well received by new Canadian communities.

Trustee Lyra Evans expressed the view that the District should highlight that there may be some new Canadians that may not have not grown up with technology and e-learning courses may be difficult to complete. Trustee Hough suggested that the words "such as some new Canadians" be removed from the amendment.

A sub-amendment moved by Trustee Hough, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,

THAT "such as some new Canadians" be removed from the amendment.

Carried, friendly

Trustee Jennekens suggested "the OCDSB will take steps to ensure that all students have access to technological equipment" to simplify the amendment. Trustee Scott reminded the members that the amendment is about identifying students who find it difficult to access technology to complete e-learning courses.

Trustee Schwartz suggested that the amendment should be to the third bullet of question two adding the words "and students who do not have access technology". Trustee Scott called a recess for three minutes for the Board to brainstorm wording. She called the meeting back to order at 8:15 p.m.

Trustee Lyra Evans requested permission to withdraw the amendment. With consent of the Board, the amendment was withdrawn.

An amendment moved by Trustee Lyra Evans, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,

THAT the words "who did not grow up with technology and students" be added before "with limited access to technology or the internet will face significant barriers to their learning within the E-learning model" to bullet four of question two to the Class Size Consultation Questions – Grades 9-12.

Carried, friendly

Trustee Braunovan assumed the Chair when Trustee Scott wished to speak.

An amendment moved by Trustee Scott, seconded Trustee Blackburn,

THAT the words “even those who are highly motivated” be added to the end of bullet three of question two to the Class Size Consultation Questions – Grades 9-12.

Carried, friendly

Trustee Scott resumed the Chair.

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

THAT the words “potentially requiring a fifth year to fulfill prerequisites” be added to the end of bullet four to question one of the Class Size Consultation Questions – Grades 9-12.

Carried, friendly

Moved by Trustee Ellis,

THAT the Board end the Rules of Committee.

Carried

Moved by Trustee Hough

Seconded by Trustee Braunovan

THAT the OCDSB feedback on the Ministry of Education's School Board Hiring Practices Consultation Guide and the Class Size Consultation Guide be approved, as amended. (Attached as Appendices A and B)

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

7.9 Receipt of Ad Hoc Committee for the Board and Director Evaluation Process, 22 May 2019

Moved by Trustee Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the Ad Hoc Committee for the Board and Director Evaluation Process report, dated 22 May 2019, be received.

Trustee Campbell recalled the discussion at the meeting with regard to a sequencing concern between the staff and Board workplans. He added that there was a consensus that the structural issue would be dealt with through an ongoing dialogue and expressed concern that this was not fully captured in the report.

Moved by Trustee Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Hough,

THAT the 22 May 2019 Ad Hoc Committee for the Board and Director Evaluation Process minutes be received, as amended.

Carried

7.9.a Evaluation process, job description and performance assessment guide for the 2019-2020 evaluation of Director of Education

Moved by Trustee Braunovan

Seconded by Trustee Schwartz

THAT the evaluation process, job description and performance assessment guide to be used for the 2019-2020 evaluation of the Director of Education as outlined in Report 19-058, be approved. (Attached as Appendix C)

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

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

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Nil (0)

Carried

7.10 Report 19-056, Appointments to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) for 07 July 2019 to July 2020 (M. Giroux, ext 8310)

Your Committee had before it Report 19-056 to confirm the appointments to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) for the period of 07 July 2019 to 07 July 2020.

Executive Officer Giroux noted the requirement to confirm the following OSPBA appointments:

- Two directors to the Board of Directors;
- Two alternate directors to the Board of Directors;
- A voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the Eastern Regional Council Meetings; and
- A voting delegate and alternate voting delegate for the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Braunovan, nominated Trustee Boothby. Trustee Boothby accepted the nomination.

Trustee Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Hough, nominated Trustee Penny. Trustee Penny accepted the nomination.

Moved by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,

THAT nominations be closed.

Carried

Trustees Boothby and Penny were acclaimed as the two directors to the OPSBA Board of Directors, voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the Eastern Regional Council Meetings, and voting delegate and alternate voting delegate for the 2020 Annual General Meeting for the period of 07 July 2019 to 07 July 2020.

Trustee Penny, seconded by Trustee Blackburn, nominated Trustee Jennekens. Trustee Jennekens accepted the nomination.

Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Penny, nominated Trustee Braunovan. Trustee Braunovan declined the nomination.

Trustee Hough, seconded by Trustee Penny, nominated Trustee Blackburn. Trustee Blackburn accepted the nomination.

Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Lyra Evans, nominated himself.

Moved by Trustee Boothby, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,

THAT nominations be closed.

Carried

Following an election, Chair Scott declared Trustees Blackburn and Jennekens as alternates to the OPSBA Board of Directors for the period of 07 July 2019 to 07 July 2020.

Moved by Trustee Schwartz

Seconded by Trustee Evans

A. THAT Trustees Boothby and Penny be appointed as the two directors to the OPSBA Board of Directors, the voting and alternate delegates for the Eastern Regional Council meetings, and the voting and alternate delegates for the OPSBA Annual General meeting for the period 7 July 2019 to 7 July 2020; and

B. THAT Trustees Blackburn and Jennekens be appointed as the two alternate directors to the OPSBA Board of Directors for the period 7 July 2019 to 7 July 2020.

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

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

AGAINST: Nil (0)

ABSTENTION: Trustee Braunovan (1)

Carried

8. Matters for Discussion

8.1 Report 19-065, Eastern Area Accommodation Review: Monitoring Impact on Student Achievement and Well-being (M. Giroux, ext 8310)

Your Committee had before it Report 19-065 providing information on student achievement and well-being resulting from the closure of Rideau High School (HS) and redirection of students to Gloucester High School (HS), effective September 2017.

Executive Officer Giroux highlighted the following information in the report:

- In depth monitoring has highlighted the impact of the transition decisions with respect to the closure of Rideau High School and relocation of students to Gloucester High School;
- The monitoring and analysis of transition decisions is in its second year of a three year Board motion;

- The analysis of the transition decisions include quantitative data, a presentation, and qualitative reflections from students and staff;
- The goals of the accommodation review include more equitable access to program offerings, greater consistency in school size, enriched program offering wherever possible, enhanced capacity to deliver special education programs using the geographical model; alignment of schools to support the Secondary School Program Framework, and optimization of available resources; and
- Concerns from the community included the impact on enrolment, market share, student participation in extra-curricular activities and part-time employment, the potential loss of funding that was specific to one school site, and the possibility of the loss of the Indigenous Lodge.

Principal Perry highlighted some reflections received from students:

- The video presentation highlights the learning experiences, school activities, and feedback from students when considering amalgamating other schools in the future;
- There are more academic choices and extra-curricular activities at Gloucester HS;
- There were adequate student supports during the transition period;
- Staff have continued to foster a positive school climate to support a smooth transition into the second year of amalgamation;
- Gloucester HS continues to receive additional supports for student achievement and well-being;
- Gloucester HS continues to make physical enhancements to its facility which include food labs, accessible kitchen, greenhouse, picnic tables, outdoor garden, auto shop, music room, and drama studio;
- There are four Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM) and many courses in all pathways to achieve academic excellence at Gloucester HS;
- Over 75 clubs and teams are offered, based on student demand;
- The student voice and leadership opportunities have grown;
- Indigenous students provided feedback about Indigenous displays in Ottawa museums;
- A nurse practitioner is available through the Urban Priorities funding;
- Trustees have participated and helped parent chefs in community partnerships such as the "Soup and Share";

- Gloucester HS has received additional supports for academics and transportation to the school to allow for equity of access;
- Students transitioning from Rideau HS were granted PRESTO passes for ease of access to Gloucester HS;
- Homework Club takes place every night of the week; and
- The Boys and Girls Club offers programming at the school three times per week.

Manager Orcheski noted the following:

- Both school sites were experiencing a decline in enrolment prior to the amalgamation;
- The rate of declining enrolment at Gloucester HS was less than one percent for the 2018-2019 school year;
- There is an increased proportion of students living in the former Rideau HS boundary, a stable proportion of students living within the Gloucester HS boundary, and a slight decline in the proportion of students living outside of either schools' boundary;
- Student mobility has been offset with the enrolment of new students and the student attrition and transfers;
- New students accounted for 34 percent of overall enrolment as of October 2018;
- More than half of the new students are represented from the grade nine cohort and nearly 40 percent are immigrants;
- Attrition, transfers, withdrawals and rates of withdrawal were higher in the former Rideau HS than Gloucester HS;
- Less than six percent (57 students) withdrew from Gloucester HS as of 31 October 2018;
- There have been fewer transfer requests out of Gloucester HS compared to previous years;
- There were 262 Rideau HS students enrolled at Gloucester HS at the end of June 2018. By October 2018, 86 Rideau HS students had graduated, 26 students were not enrolled with the majority transferring to another educational institution, and 152 students remained at Gloucester HS for the current school year;
- Students in the former Gloucester HS boundary had greater access to locally developed and essentials courses, workplace courses, English

as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD) courses;

- Students from both schools have mutually benefited from an overall increase in open, college, and college/university level courses;
- There has been a modest decline of three percent in student achievement and success rates since the Eastern Area Accommodation Review;
- There has been a two percent decline in credit accumulation since the Eastern Area Accommodation Review;
- Staff are working to collect data from the OURschools survey with regard to student well-being; and
- The Parent Survey of 2017-2018 indicated that ratings have increased with regard to perceptions of school inclusivity, welcoming environment, supports for learning and positive behaviour, and school safety.

Superintendent Farrish noted the following next steps:

- Gloucester HS is committed to improve and increase parent/guardian/caregiver engagement and involvement from community and families;
- The school will continue to provide a range of learning and leadership opportunities and spaces while encouraging students to express their voices;
- Analyzing student achievement and well-being data from OURSchools student survey;
- Creating opportunities for more formal dialogue to understand experiences of those impacted by the transition; and
- Committed to welcome guests to visit the school.

During discussion of the report, the following points were noted:

- Trustee Blackburn noted her recent attendance at the OPSBA Eastern Regional meeting at Gloucester HS where she met some individuals who expressed concern over the amalgamation of Gloucester and Rideau high schools. She expressed the view that the Board should agree that the consolidation of both schools was a success and queried how the continued focus on the consolidation of both school was impacting the students. Principal Perry explained that students are approachable and happy to help the District in its analysis of the

consolidation of both school and that staff are learning more collaboratively together;

- The development of the report and the video involved school staff, the Research, Analytics, and Evaluation department (READ), the Business and Learning Technologies department and the senior staff team; and
- Disaggregating data, based on former boundaries, was a significant and challenging part of the work that was completed.

Moved by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Braunovan,

THAT the Board adopt the Rules of Committee.

Carried

Trustee Ellis submitted that the Board could use the Eastern Accommodation Review as a learning tool for future school site consolidations and to convey to communities that the District has followed through on intentions and plans for its schools. He queried the differences between the success rates at Gloucester HS in comparison to Rideau HS and noted that he wished to view the disaggregated data from both school sites to demonstrate to the community that amalgamating Rideau HS and Gloucester HS led to a significant improvement in student success rates. Manager Orcheski explained the significant difficulty and staff time required to disaggregate data by grade and boundary for comparison with Education Quality Accountability Office (EQAO) data by school for the past five years.

Trustee Schwartz noted the importance of creating a culture of inclusivity when amalgamating schools and thanked Superintendent Farrish and Principal Perry for their leadership.

Trustee Campbell expressed concern about the removal of the extra supports that were provided to Gloucester HS for three years at the time of the amalgamation and whether it would have an impact on student achievement and well-being. He also expressed the hope that students would continue to receive a PRESTO bus pass.

Trustee Boothby expressed the opinion that all students should continue to receive a PRESTO bus pass to enable them to continue to participate in extracurricular activities.

Trustee Blackburn queried the need for a similar report next year and whether it would have any impact on the education of students at Gloucester HS. Staff advised that Urban Priorities funding is approved by the province on an annual basis and is also provided to Ridgemont High School.

In response to concerns expressed by Trustee Ellis with respect EQAO data for students from Rideau HS and whether there have been improvements, staff advised that many factors can affect results of student assessments. A significant amount of work would be required to disaggregate data which may not necessarily provide fulsome information on how students are doing or provide guidance on the future allocation of resources. Trustee Ellis noted his concern about the significant workload on the part of school staff to compile information for the report and that it was redirecting their time away from supporting student needs. Executive Officer Giroux noted that the work was directed by the Board and staff has allocated resources accordingly.

Trustee Lyra Evans requested a copy of last year's monitoring report and encouraged her colleagues to support the production of a similar report next year.

Trustee Ellis noted that Grade 10 Geography was offered every other year at Rideau HS due to low enrolment. Principal Perry noted that Grade 10 Geography is a compulsory course that is offered every year at Gloucester HS.

In response to a query from Trustee Ellis on Figure 1 and 2 in the staff report, Manager Oracheski agreed that staff would provide a memo explaining the differences in data with regard to the number of students enrolled at Gloucester High School who transferred from Rideau High School.

Trustee Braunovan assumed the Chair.

In response to a query from Trustee Scott regarding meaningful information in the report, Executive Officer Giroux drew attention to the reasons for consolidating Rideau HS and Gloucester HS including enriching program offerings, providing equitable access to program offerings and quality instruction, and improving facilities at Gloucester HS. The impact of school renovations, changes to school climate, and community engagement in the school consolidation process were all important factors in the amalgamation.

Director Williams-Taylor cautioned against the reliance on quantitative data to answer questions, and that, in many cases, the student voice is the most valuable type of data that can be collected.

Trustee Scott suggested that it may be useful to ask different guiding questions each year when monitoring the impact on student achievement and well-being, given that new students are entering grade nine each year. With respect to the provision of PRESTO bus passes, Trustee Scott suggested that they continue to be provided.

Trustee Scott resumed the Chair.

**Trustee Hough, seconded by Trustee Schwartz,
THAT the Board end the Rules of Committee.
Carried.**

8.2 Report from OPSBA Representatives (if required)

There was no OPSBA report.

9. Matters for Information

There are no matters for information.

10. New Business -- Information and Inquiries

There was no new business.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Lynn Scott, Chair of the Board