PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of a Board Meeting of the Peel District School Board, held on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 18:30 hours. The hybrid meeting was held in the Board Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario, and by electronic means, under Ontario Regulation 463/97.

Members present:

David Green, Chair Satpaul Singh Johal, Vice-Chair Lucas Alves Karla Bailey Susan Benjamin Jeffrey Clark LeeAnn Cole (electronic) Will Davies Brad MacDonald Kathy McDonald (electronic) Jill Promoli

Member Absent: (apologies received)

Stan Cameron

Student Trustees:

Srishti Sekhri, Student Trustee North Ammar Alian, Student Trustee South

Administration:

Rashmi Swarup, Director of Education

Harjit Aujla, Associate Director, School Improvement and Equity

Paul da Silva, Associate Director, School Improvement and Equity

Jaspal Gill, Chief Operating Officer and Associate Director, Operations and Equity of Access

Camille Logan, Associate Director, School Improvement and Equity

Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services

Alvin Au, Acting Superintendent of Education

Dahlia Battick, Acting Superintendent of Education

Craig Caslick, Superintendent of Education

Lara Chebaro, Superintendent, School Improvement and Equity Planning / Math Lead

Yonnette Dey, Superintendent of Education

Wendy Dobson, Acting Controller, Corporate Support Services

Nicole Fernandes, Acting Governance Coordinator

Donna Ford, Superintendent of Education

Soni Gill, Superintendent of Education

Tiffany Gooch, Executive Lead, Public Engagement and Communications

Atheia Grant, Acting Superintendent of Education

Leslie Grant, Superintendent of Education

Antoine Haroun, Chief Information Officer, Learning Technology Support Services

Lisa Hart, Superintendent of Equity, Indigenous Education, School Engagement and Community Relations

January 31, 2024 Board Meeting:If

Administration: (Continued)

Rasulan Hoppie, Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment and Continuing and Adult Education

Masuma Khangura, Executive Officer, Human Resources, Partnerships and Equity Lisa Leoni, Superintendent, Leadership, Capacity Building and School Partnerships

Kathryn Lockyer, General Counsel and Governance Officer

Luke Mahoney, Superintendent of Education

Neerja Punjabi, Superintendent of Education

Pradeep Shethur-Rajah, Acting Superintendent of Education - Math Lead

Bernadette Smith, Superintendent, Innovation and Research

Michelle Stubbings, Superintendent, Safe and Caring Schools

Thomas Tsung, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services

Kervin White, Superintendent of Education

Lorelei Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. Call to Order

Chair David Green called the meeting to order at 18:30 hours.

2. Closed Session

Resolution No. 24-47 moved by Lucas Alves

seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the Board move into Closed Session (18:30 hours).

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The meeting recessed at 19:00 hours and recovened at 19:05 hours.

3. National Anthem and Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands

A video of the singing of the National Anthem and reciting of the Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands was shown.

4. Approval of Agenda

Resolution No. 24-48 moved by Jill Promoli

seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the agenda, be approved.

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5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

6. Celebrating Board Activities

Resolution No. 24-49 moved by Lucas Alves seconded by Karla Bailey

Resolved, that the following information on activites at the Board in February 2024, be received:

- a) Black History Month
- b) Safer Internet Day February 6
- c) Winter Walk to School Day February 7
- d) National Flag Day February 15
- e) Family Day February 19
- f) World Day of Social Justice February 20

 	carried

7. Staff Recognition: Retirements

Vice-Chair Satpaul Singh Johal thanked retiring staff for their hard work and dedication to Peel DSB, and wished them well in their retirement.

Resolution No. 24-50 moved by Brad MacDonald seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the following retirements be received:

Carol Barber Jon Langdon Margaret Sadowski Tammy Bowman Jocelyn McKay Sheryl Sullivan Janet Nicolson Bavani Suresh Kelly Cachia Mary Cuylle Ricardo Perez Linda Vogel **Debra Westcott** Lora De Angelis Dijana Perkovic Milagros Escares Kathleen Pope Julia Whyte Brent Fitzell John Richmond Alan Zucchetti Alice Goetz Krishen Roy

..... carried

8. Reports from Student Trustee, Srishti Sekhri

Student Trustee, Srishti Sekhri, shared an overview of her recent activities and engagements, which included, attending a professional development conference hosted by the Ontario Student Trustee Association and joining the OSTA-AECO Curriculum and School Community Advocacy Interest Group. She also joined the Consent Culture Committee, whose goal is to improve the current understanding of consent culture and to ensure a safe and inclusive environment. Srishti Sekhri stated that she had organized a food drive in the Malton Community, involving nine schools in the area. She thanked Trustee Susan Benjamin, the school administrators, staff, and students for their support and expressed optimism in continuing the work to facilitate positive change in education. Chair Green thanked the student trustees for their leadership and work in the community.

Resolution No. 24-51 moved by Susan Benjamin seconded by Karla Bailey

Resolved, that the report from Student Trustee Sekhri, be received.

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9. Reports from Trustees Appointed to External Organizations

The following reports from trustees were received:

a. Peel Safe and Active Routes to School (PSARTS)

Trustee Benjamin reported on an awards event organized by the Mississauga School Traffic Safety Action Committee, who recommended that two Peel DSB schools, Nahani Way Public School and Darcel Avenue Public School, be awarded the Wildwood School Zone Safety Award for 2023. A certificate and cheque of \$500 were presented to each school by Ward 5 Councillor, Carolyn Parrish.

b. Malton Area Food Drive

Trustee Benjamin spoke about the successful food drive organized in the Malton area. She expressed appreciation for the leadership and efforts of Student Trustee Srishti Sekhri and school staff to ensure that the program was a success.

c. Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA)

Chair Green provided an update report on a joint meeting between OPSBA and Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE). The meeting included training for trustees, responsibility of chairs and vice-chairs in relation to the Ontario Human Rights Code, and school board resources.

d. Partnership with Algoma University

Trustee Green reported on the LEAP Graduation scholarship program with Algoma University. The program is focused on students from historically underrepresented groups on university campuses, including Indigenous and Black students.

9.	Reports from Trustees App	pointed to External Organizations (Continued)
	Resolution No. 24-52	moved by Susan Benjamin seconded by Jeffrey Clark	
	Resolved, that the Reports freceived.	rom Trustees Appointed to External O	rganizations (oral), be
			carried
10.	Minutes of Board Meeting	– December 13, 2023	
	Resolution No. 24-53	moved by Karla Bailey seconded by Kathy McDonald	
	Resolved, that the Minutes o	f the Board Meeting, held December	13, 2023, be approved.
			carried
11.	Minutes of the Special Edu	cation Advisory Committee Meeting	g, November 28, 2023
	Resolution No. 24-54	moved by Susan Benjamin seconded by Jeffrey Clark	
	Resolved, that the Minutes o November 28, 2023, be rece	f the Special Education Advisory Comived.	mittee Meeting, held
			carried
12.	Minutes of the Curriculum, December 5, 2023	Equity and Student Well-Being Co	mmittee Meeting,
	Resolution No. 24-55	moved by Jill Promoli seconded by Lucas Alves	
	Resolved, That, the Minutes Meeting, held December 5, 2	of the Curriculum, Equity and Student 2023, be received.	: Well-Being Committee
			carried

13. Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting, January 10, 2024

Resolution No. 24-56 moved by Karla Bailey seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting, January 10, 2024, be received.

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14. Motions for Consideration: Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting, January 10, 2024

Resolution No. 24-57 moved by Kathy McDonald seconded by LeeAnn Cole

Resolved, that the following recommendations arising from the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting, January 10, 2024, be approved:

1. Ray Lawson Public School: Grade Re-organization / Ray Lawson Public School and Roberta Bondar Public School: Boundary Change

- i. That, effective July 2024, the grade re-organization of Ray Lawson Public School from a Kindergarten to Grade 6 school to a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school, be approved.
- ii. That, effective July 2024, the following boundary change between Ray Lawson Public School and Roberta Bondar Public School, be approved:
- (a) That effective July 2024, the Kindergarten-Grade 8 boundary for Ray Lawson Public School, be as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of Mavis Road and Ray Lawson Boulevard then east along Ray Lawson Boulevard to McLaughlin Road then south along McLaughlin Road to the Brampton-Mississauga border then west along the Brampton-Mississauga border to Mavis Road then north along Mavis Road to the point of commencement.

(b) That, effective July 2024, the Kindergarten-Grade 8 boundary for Roberta Bondar Public School be as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of Churchville Road and Steeles Avenue West then west along Steeles Avenue West to Mavis Road then south along Mavis Road to the Brampton-Mississauga border then west along the Brampton-Mississauga border to the former Orangeville Brampton Railway

then north along the former Orangeville Brampton Railway to the south property line of 55 Susan Avenue

14. Motions for Consideration: Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting, January 10, 2024 (Continued)

1. Ray Lawson Public School: Grade Re-organization / Ray Lawson Public School and Roberta Bondar Public School: Boundary Change (Cont'd)

then west along the south property line of 55 Susan Avenue, continuing in a straight line to the east property line of 39 Outlook Avenue

then north along the east property line of 39 Outlook Avenue to the west property line of 2 Shuter Lane

then north along the west property line of 2 Shuter Lane, continuing along the west rear property lines of Shuter Lane to the south property line of 7935 Churchville Road then east along the south property line of 7935 Churchville Road to the east property line of 7935 Churchville Road

then north along the east property line of 7935 Churchville Road to the north property line of 7935 Churchville Road

then west along the north property line of 7935 Churchville Road to Churchville Road then north along Churchville Road to the point of commencement.

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15. Motions for Consideration: Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, January 24, 2024

Resolution No. 24-58 moved by Will Davies

seconded by Satpaul Singh Johal

Resolved, that the following recommendations arising from the Governance and Policy Committee Meeting. January 24, 2024, be approved:

1. Delegation re PDSB Policies regarding Procurement from Vendors

That, the delegation of Valentina Gheorghe be referred to the Director of Education for follow-up with the Delegation by assigned staff.

2. Child Abuse and Protection Policy

That, the Child Abuse and Protection Policy, attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved. (Appendix I, as attached to the minutes)

3. Flexible School Boundaries Policy

That, the Flexible School Boundaries Policy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved, effective April 30, 2024. (Appendix II, as attached to the minutes)

15. Motions for Consideration: Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, January 24, 2024 (Continued)

4. Procurement Policy

That, the Procurement Policy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved. (Appendix III, as attached to the minutes)

5. Motion re Listing Trustees' Contact Information on PDSB Websites

Whereas, the Peel District School Board (PDSB) lists Board Trustees' contact information on PDSB school websites:

And whereas, Board Trustees can be listed on school websites by municipal boundary or by school enrolment catchment area;

And whereas, this may result in multiple Trustees being listed for a school;

And whereas, this may result in a Trustee having a ward constituent's student attend a school not in the Trustee's municipal boundary where they were elected;

And whereas, Board Trustees are not consistently listed on school websites as either municipal boundary or catchment area;

And whereas, the principle of listing Trustees on school websites is to ensure that the school is represented by the Trustee whose municipal ward the school is located but also provide Trustees the opportunity to represent their constituents regarding particular issues arising at schools that the constituent student attends.

Therefore be it resolved, that the individual Peel schools' websites list the appropriate Trustee for the Municipal Ward boundary as the primary contact for the school;

And further, that the individual PDSB school website list the appropriate Trustee for the school enrolment catchment area as the secondary contact for the school to address constituent issues;

And further, that staff create a procedure outlining the listing of Trustees on school websites:

And further, that the procedure include the roles and responsibilities of primary and secondary Trustees including that if a parent or member of the public is dissatisfied with the services of the primary Trustee they may reach out to the secondary Trustee for further assistance, which may include the involvement of the Board Chair and the Director of Education;

And further, that the procedure include that should the primary Trustee receive a call from a parent in the secondary Trustee's ward, the primary Trustee shall advise the secondary Trustee of the call and copy the secondary Trustee on any correspondence and/or emails.

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15. Motions for Consideration: Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, January 24, 2024 (Continued)

In response to a query from another trustee about the possibility of linking postal codes with Ward numbers, it was clarified that postal code routes do not necessarily align with Ward boundaries.

Resolution No. 24-58	carried

16. Directive 21 – Student Discipline Practices Review Audit

Harjit Aujla, Associate Director, School Improvement and Equity, stated that this is the final report on the Board's ongoing work to respond to the Ministry's Directive 21 on Student Discipline Practices, and is presented today as an audit report. The report identifies steps towards achieving transformative approaches to student disciplinary procedures and staff capacity building. Superintendent of Safe and Caring Schools, Michelle Stubbings, noted that the audit report relates to Policy 48, Safe and Caring Schools, it outlines aspects of the policy that have been implemented, evidence of program implementation, and next steps. Michelle Stubbings advised that following approval of Policy 48 in October 2022, and training of administrators on Policy 48 and restorative justice, all schools have established a Safe and Accepting School Team, adopted a Bullying Prevention and Implementation Plan, and monthly suspension data is provided by Superintendents of Education to the Associate Directors. She commented that the Board continues to work proactively to ensure fair disciplinary practices. engaging with parents during the process, and progressive discipline is prioritized. Superintendent Stubbings added that further actions included interdepartmental work on how to improve instructional and social environment for students with intersectional identity. Responding to a trustee's query on the increase in number of suspensions. Superintendent Stubbings advised that teachers and principals are acting proactively to provide progressive support to students.

Resolution No. 24-59	moved by Jill Promoli seconded by Karla Bailey
Resolved, that the report received.	e Directive 21 – Student Discipline Practices Review Audit, be
	carried

17. Directive 22 – Eliminating Disparities in Suspensions and Expulsions – Progress Report 2

Associate Director Aujla, stated that as per the Ministry's requirement of four reports, this report is the formal second update report on Directive 22, and contains PDSB's progress towards eliminating racial disparities in suspensions, expulsions and exclusions. He noted that suspension and expulsion data will be reviewed to monitor progress towards elimination of racial disparities.

17. Directive 22 – Eliminating Disparities in Suspensions and Expulsions – Progress Report 2 (Continued)

Superintendent of Safe and Caring Schools, Michelle Stubbings shared information on suspensions and expulsions outlined in the report as of December 31, 2023, indicating progress towards eliminating racial disproportionality. She advised that although the number of suspensions has increased, the number of expulsions is stable, and some disparities continue to exist in Peel. The data indicated that disproportionality for Indigenous and Black students has decreased slightly. Michelle Stubbings stated that staff are committed to ongoing work to eliminate racial disparities by engaging meaningfully with community, reviewing processes, conducting comprehensive data analysis on student discipline, and strengthening work on restorative justice by creating positive, identity affirming learning environments.

Trustees' questions of clarification were responded to regarding the data presented, and small cell count not reflected in the report. Michelle Stubbings explained that the board follows a thorough non-biased process for investigating an incident while applying the Education Act guidelines and Board policies and procedures. The trustee pointed out that the data in the report indicates that suspensions, expulsions and exclusions have increased over the past year. He suggested that after the meeting a response be provided to his question on how the administration considers that the number of suspensions and expulsions are stable when the data indicates that they have doubled. He inquired about the success of the program and how it can be supported. A response will be provided to the trustee as to whether the numbers for 2022-2023 have increased due to the fact that students were not in school in-person during Covid period. It was agreed that the administration will bring back a report to the Board regarding training provided to educators to change bias awareness towards racialized students in the context of disproportionalities indices in the report.

Resolution No. 24-60 moved by Lucas Alves seconded by Satpaul Singh Johal

Resolved, that report re Directive 22 – Eliminating Disparities in Suspensions and Expulsions – Progress Report 2, be received.

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18. Suspension, Expulsion and Safe Schools Data – Semi-Annual Update Report

Harjit Aujla, Associate Director, stated that this report will provide comparative data for the first semester of the current and previous school year, and a report is provided twice a year. Reviewing the report, Superintendent Michelle Stubbings advised that there has been an increase in suspensions, expulsions, and Safe Schools Incident Reports. She added that an Employee Workplace Violence Incident Report is submitted in cases of threat or physical force used against a staff member at work. She described the process for reporting incidents and noted that the report contains aggregated data. The administration responded to questions of clarification from trustees regarding small cell count not reflected in the report to protect privacy, gang activity is not a specific code for consideration in individual student discipline, videos with incidents of negative behaviour that are posted on social media are investigated by the school, impact of social media postings on school climate, support for staff being threatened, multiple reports may be generated for a single incident and data in the report is not contextualized.

18. Suspension, Expulsion and Safe Schools Data – Semi-Annual Update Report (Continued)

In regard to a request for a report on violent incidents posted on social media and staff safety, Chair Green suggested that the trustee have a discussion with senior administration. Another trustee requested that staff bring back a year-over-year report on the number of Section 310 forms filed for September – December 2022 and September - December 2023 to better contentualize the total number of violent incidents requiring medical attention. Superintendent Stubbings clarified that the board does not keep data on the exact number of suspensions under Sections 306 and/or Section 310 of the Education Act, which require medical attention. She added that employee violence incident reports are held with Health and Safety Department. The trustee remarked that the numbers are alarming.

Resolution No. 24-61 moved by Lucas Alves seconded by Jeffrey Clark

Resolved, that the report re Suspension, Expulsion and Safe Schools Data – Semi-Annual Update Report be received, and referred to the Curriculum, Equity and Student Well-being Committee for further discussion.

							carried

19. Proposed Amendments to Peel District School Board Procedure By-Law

General Counsel and Governance Officer, Kathryn Lockyer, stated that a Procedure By-law provides a foundation and structure for effective meeting management and decision-making. She commented that the Procedure By-law should be reviewed regularly to ensure that it meets the needs of the Board and Committees as well as providing the necessary guidance for effective and efficient meeting management. Kathryn Lockyer advised that, following a close review of the current By-law and having applied it over the past year, together with an environmental scan of other procedure by-laws and best practices, a few amendments have been made with regard to the application and scope of the By-law. Kathryn Lockyer highlighted some of the recommended changes relating to conduct at meetings, provisions for members of the Discipline Committee, replacing the Governance Directives with Terms of Reference, and clarity on meeting rules. She noted that the proposed amendments were presented to the Governance and Policy Committee on November 8, 2023, notice regarding the proposed amendments was provided at the November 29, 2023, Board Meeting, and a Trustee Learning Session was held on January 16, 2024 to review the Procedure By-law. There was opportunity for the public to comment but no public input was received. Upon approval, the amended By-law will be posted on the Board's website.

Resolution No. 24-62 moved by Brad MacDonald seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the proposed amendments to the Peel DSB Procedure By-law, attached as Appendix IV, be approved, and that Committee Terms of Reference replace the Governance Directives.

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20. Adoption of the Closed Session Report

Resolution No. 24-63 moved by Satpaul Singh Johal seconded by Lucas Alves

Resolved, that the report of the Closed Session re: Minutes of the Board Meeting (Closed), December 13, 2023; Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee (Closed) Meeting, January 10, 2024; Principal/Vice-Principal Assignments, and Educational Assistants (EAs) Update (oral), be received.

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21. School/Student/Staff Successes

A video was played, highlighting the various PDSB school, student, and staff successes. The International Business and Technology program students of Lisgar Middle School, participated in the Lunar Rover Research Challenge and won a chance to remotely control the Lunar Rover simulated space mission in the National Space Competition. Other activities included affirming Muslim identities to dismantle Islamophobia, a delegation of over 60 educators from Wales and the Netherlands visited PDSB schools with a focus on vocational and academic studies, and a delegation from the Dehu Metropolitan Office of Education in South Korea, to gain a better understanding of the Ontario curriculum. Educator Violeta Djuric received the Band-Aid Healing Champion Award in November 2023 for leadership in fostering inclusive environment in schools. Shurya, a Grade 11 student at Woodlands Secondary School and his friend Dave, won second place in the World Robot Olympiad Championship in Panama. Chair Green praised the efforts of students and staff.

22. Adjournment

Resolution No. 24-64	seconded by Jeffrey Clark	
Resolved, that the meeting	adjourn (20:39 hours).	
		carried

...... Chair

Secretary

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN CLOSED SESSION, JANUARY 31, 2024

Members present:

David Green, Chair Satpaul Singh Johal, Vice-Chair Lucas Alves Karla Bailey Susan Benjamin Jeffrey Clark LeeAnn Cole (electronic) Will Davies Brad MacDonald Kathy McDonald (electronic) Jill Promoli

Member Absent: (apologies received)

Stan Cameron

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, as amended, be approved.

2. Minutes of the Board Meeting (Closed), December 13, 2023

That, the Minutes of the Board Meeting (Closed), held December 13, 2023, be approved.

3. Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee (Closed) Meeting, January 10, 2024

That, the Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee (Closed) Meeting, held January 10, 2024, be received.

4. Principal/Vice-Principal Assignments

That, the following elementary principal assignment is a transfer, effective March 18, 2024:

Gurmeet Gill, Principal, Shaw Public School to Principal, Mount Pleasant #9.

That, the following secondary principal assignments are a transfer, effective February 2, 2024:

Heike Bronson, Principal, Heart Lake Secondary School to Principal, We Welcome the World, Innovation and Research.

Carol Ann Mascherin, Principal, Sandalwood Heights Secondary School to Principal, Heart Lake Secondary School.

Amit Mehrotra, Principal, Louise Arbour Secondary School to Principal, Sandalwood Heights Secondary School.

4. Principal/Vice-Principal Assignments (Continued)

That, the following secondary vice-principal assignments are a transfer, effective February 2, 2024:

Janice Lewis, Vice-Principal, Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School to Vice-Principal, Sandalwood Heights Secondary School.

Jagtar Singh, Vice-Principal, Sandalwood Heights Secondary School to Vice-Principal, Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School.

5. Educational Assistants (EAs) - Update

That, the oral update report re Educational Assistants (EAs), be received.