

## PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of a Board Meeting of the Peel District School Board, held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 18:15 hours. The hybrid meeting was held in the Board Room, H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario, and by electronic means.

### Members present:

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

### Student Trustees:

Pradwit Thapa, Student Trustee North  
Justin Ko, Student Trustee South  
Austin Chrisjohn, Indigenous Student Trustee

### 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  
Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services  
Alvin Au, Superintendent of Education  
Craig Caslick, Superintendent of Education  
Lara Chebaro, Superintendent, Curriculum and School Improvement  
Yonnette Dey, Superintendent of Education  
Donna Ford, Superintendent of Education  
Soni Gill, Superintendent of Education  
Atheia Grant, Superintendent of Equity, Indigenous Education and Community Engagement  
Leslie Grant, Superintendent of Education  
Lisa Hart, Superintendent of Education  
Rasulan Hoppie, Superintendent of Education  
Masuma Khangura, Executive Officer, Human Resources, Partnerships and Equity  
Lisa Leoni, Superintendent, Leadership Development and School Partnerships  
Luke Mahoney, Superintendent of Education  
Mark Marshall, Acting Chief Information Officer, Learning Technology Support Services  
Ozma Masood, Superintendent of Education  
Neerja Punjabi, Superintendent of Education  
Claudine Scuccato, Superintendent Special Education, Social Emotional Learning and Well-Being  
Bernadette Smith, Superintendent, Innovation and International Programs  
Michelle Stubbings, Superintendent, Safe and Caring Schools  
Mathew Thomas, Controller, Planning and Accommodation Support Services  
Thomas Tsung, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services

## Administration: (Continued)

Jasmine Vorkapic, Governance Officer  
Kervin White, Superintendent of Education  
Mary Zammit, Superintendent of Education

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

## 1. Call to Order

Chair David Green called the meeting to order at 18:15 hours.

## 2. Closed Session

Resolution No. 25-106 moved by Stan Cameron  
seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the Board move into Closed Session (18:15 hours).

..... carried

The meeting recessed at 19:07 hours and reconvened at 19:26 hours.

### 3. Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands and National Anthem

A video recital of the Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands and the National Anthem was viewed.

#### 4. Approval of Agenda

Speaking about procedural matters, Chair Green reminded trustees that they have five minutes to speak on a motion. He requested trustees to speak to staff prior to meetings if they have critical questions or concerns about any staff report, and indicate that the questions or concerns will be raised at the meeting. This will ensure comprehensive responses.

Resolution No. 25-107 moved by Stan Cameron  
seconded by Lucas Alves

Resolved, that the agenda be approved.

..... carried

## 5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

## 6. Staff Recognition: Retirements

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

Resolution No. 25-108 moved by Jeffrey Clark  
seconded by Susan Benjamin

Resolved, that the following retirements be received:

Bonnie Adams	Brenda Gyorffy	Rod Milne
Kirsten Anthon	Agnese Haarmann	Carolyn Morton
Gurdeep Arneja	Brenda Hartley	Manuel Ocreto
Wendy Aube	Gail Hayes	Karen O'Dell
Jose Carlos Azevedo	Katarina Hlavnicka	Leann Oswald
Valerie Babington	Dianne Huff	Shahnaz Parveen
James Bayes	Michelina Jack	Yolanda Peter
Angela Blake	Julia Janetos-Bell	Mary Phillpott
Shavinder Brar	Harjit Kahlon	Judith Ramirez
Paul Bryan	Melanie Komar	Rajinder Saini
Kim Burroughs	Tracey Lai Thom	Camille Sherry
Preet Chatha	Lauren Lowe	Jagmeet Singh
Annemarie Chesher	Christine Lowes	Vasilko Trpevsk,
Kirk Dawson	Michelle Martindale	Robert Vucic
Tammy-Sue Dean	Margaret Mascoll-Sylvester	Denese Wallace
Martin Demanuele	David Matthews	Simone Weber
Barbara Fleming	Dennis Mcwhinney	Kenny Wong
Linda Ford	Carol Mee	Brian Zomer
Eric Gaebel	Rema Menon	Angela Zuccarelli
George Geniev	Kelly Mercer	Liana Zuidwyk
Diane Gianvito		

..... carried

## 7. Board Chair Announcements

Chair David Green thanked staff for their support and commitment to the Board. He expressed appreciation for the partnerships with third parties that provide Peel DSB students with access to varied educational and experiential opportunities. He spoke of the events he attended, and reported on discussions he had with parents to advise them about the process to address any concerns about their children's education. Chair Green advised that the appointments of Peel DSB trustees to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association will be made at the May 2025 Board Meeting.

Resolution No. 25-109 moved by Kathy McDonald  
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the report re Chair's Announcements (Oral), be received.

..... carried

## 8. Director's Report

Director of Education, Rashmi Swarup, highlighted the Board's ongoing commitment to student success through inclusion, innovation, and empowerment. She reported on the data-informed approach to support more precise, student-centered decision making, with schools receiving detailed data to enable them develop intentional, individualized strategies. This approach has guided the work of administering the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, and the Early Reading Screener, and the Level Up Credit Recovery initiatives. Director Swarup announced the launch of the Student Climate Action Committee which will engage student voices directly in shaping the Board's Climate Change Action Plan. Information was shared regarding the unique opportunity for 40 of the Board's top female scholars to participate in a special mentorship event and panel discussion at Massey College, University of Toronto. Director Swarup noted that Education Week will be celebrated during May 5 to 9, 2025, with the theme "Igniting Minds, Inspiring Futures". During the week, Awards of Distinction and Excellence will be presented, which recognize outstanding contributions and achievement across Peel DSB.

Resolution No. 25-110

moved by Jill Promoli

seconded by Satpaul Singh Johal

Resolved, that the Director's Report (oral), be received.

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## 9. Reports from Trustees Appointed to External Organizations

Trustee Susan Benjamin reported that Lyndon King, Senior Manager, IT Operations, has been selected by the Volunteer Mississauga Brampton Caledon (VMBC), as the recipient of the Hazel McCallion Power of Giving Award. The award recognizes an individual's volunteer work in the community, and will be presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary V-Oscars Gala in June 2025. Trustee Benjamin commended Lyndon King on the numerous awards he has received for his long service to the community.

Resolution No. 25-111

moved by Stan Cameron

seconded by Karla Bailey

Resolved, that the report from Trustees Appointed to External Organizations, be received.

..... carried

## 10. Minutes of the Board Meeting, March 26, 2025

Resolution No. 25-112

moved by Brad MacDonald

seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Board Meeting, held March 26, 2025, be approved.

..... carried

**11. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting, March 18, 2025**

Resolution No. 25-113 moved by Lucas Alves  
seconded by Susan Benjamin

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting, held March 18, 2025, be received.

..... carried

## 12. Minutes of the Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, March 19, 2025

Resolution No. 25-114 moved by Brad MacDonald  
seconded by Lucas Alves

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, held March 19, 2025, be received.

..... carried

**13. Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting, April 9, 2025**

Resolution No. 25-115 moved by Stan Cameron  
seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting, held April 9, 2025, be received.

..... carried

**14. Motions for Consideration: Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee, April 9, 2025**

Resolution No. 25-116 moved by Jill Promoli  
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the following recommendation arising from a meeting of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee, held April 9, 2025, be approved:

**1. Peel DSB Partnership with the City of Mississauga for New Upgraded Track and Field at The Woodlands Secondary School**

That, staff enter into a partnership agreement with the City of Mississauga to upgrade, maintain and operate the track and field amenities at The Woodlands Secondary School. (Appendix I, as attached to the Minutes)

..... carried

## 15. Second Quarter Financial Reports as at February 28, 2025

Chief Operating Officer and Associate Director of Operations and Equity, Jaspal Gill, noted that the Operating Expenditure Statements report Peel DSB's actual expenditures to February 28, 2025 versus the 2024-2025 revised budget submission to the Ministry of Education. The Other School Board Grants and Expenses report as at February 28, 2025, details the Ministry Grant allocations outside of the Core Education Grants, as well as funding for federal and other third-party programs. He advised that, the actual overall expenditure is within the same range as the previous years at approximately 47%, slightly below the benchmark of 50%. Although overall expenditures are trending below budget, variability is due to timing of certain expenditures, and programming undertaken later in the year.

Resolution No. 25-117

moved by Stan Cameron

seconded by Karla Bailey

Resolved, that the Second Quarter Financial Reports as at February 28, 2025, be received.

..... carried

## 16. Ministry Approval of 2025-2026 School Year Calendars

Harjit Aujla, Associate Director, School Improvement and Equity, stated that the Board had submitted the school year calendars for the 2025-2026 academic year to the Ontario Ministry of Education. He noted that today's report outlines the Ministry's approval of the regular and modified school year calendars, ensuring compliance and readiness for the upcoming school year. Recalling his report at the February 26, 2025 Board Meeting, he indicated that the calendars were developed in consultation with neighbouring school boards, employee groups, associations, unions and central department staff. Every effort was made to ensure alignment with the coterminous board to facilitate costs savings in student transportation.

Resolution No. 25-118

moved by Jill Promoli

seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the report re Ministry Approval of 2025-2026 School Year Calendars, be received.

..... carried

## 17. Multi-Year Strategic Plan Progress Report 8.1 – Transition Supports for Exceptional Learners in the Peel DSB

Associate Director Aujla stated that the above noted report highlights the creation of the Transition Navigator role to facilitate smoother transition for students with special needs, and creating partnerships with external consultants to improve employment outcomes. Superintendent of Special Education, Claudine Scuccato, explained that the Board has implemented a multifaceted strategy aimed at providing more explicit and structured transition supports for exceptional learners, ensuring that they are well prepared for success across academic, employment, and community pathways.

**17. Multi-Year Strategic Plan Progress Report 8.1 – Transition Supports for Exceptional Learners in the Peel DSB (Continued)**

Superintendent Scuccato stated that a key aspect has been the creation of the Transition Navigator role, staffed by Special Education Resource Teachers. This role will provide direct support for exceptional learners, and build system capacity by offering professional learning, developing resources, and collaborating with school and community partners. In addition, the Board has partnered with Imagine Consultants, an external agency funded by Employment Ontario, to help students with disabilities find competitive employment. Claudine Scuccato detailed the work through this collaboration, which emphasizes the importance of connecting students with employment services before graduation. She described how the work directly supports the four goals of student achievement, well-being, community engagement, and equity and human rights, outlined in Multi Year Strategic Plan. Next steps will include continuing to identify students on employment pathways, expanding transition supports, and ensuring opportunities are shared directly with schools, families, and students. Transition outcomes will be tracked and analyzed to continuously improve and adapt support.

Resolution No. 25-119

moved by Jeffrey Clark  
seconded by Satpaul Singh Johal

Resolved, that the report re Multi-Year Strategic Plan Progress Report 8.1 – Transition Supports for Exceptional Learners in the Peel DSB, be received.

..... carried

**18. Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) In Action**

Associate Director of School Improvement and Equity, Paul Da Silva, stated that the report highlights initiatives in schools that are directly aligned with the MYSP. Alvin Au, Superintendent of Education, reported on the MYSP in action in all Caledon Schools. He provided details regarding: leveraging Scope and Sequence of the Math and Language curricula; utilizing the Board's EQAO resources; reading intervention programs; events including the provincial FIRST Robotics tournament, Peel Skills Challenge, and athletics; Kindness Tree; collaboration between student leaders and principals; administrators trained to use the Equity Toolkit; prioritizing Indigenous education; vegetable gardens at all schools. Rasulan Hoppie, Superintendent of Education, outlined the work done in the Fletcher's Meadow, Jean Augustine, and Parkhome Families of Schools. This included: Parents of Black Students Association Talent Show celebrating student voice; Mandela Carnival; activities undertaken jointly by neurodiverse and neurotypical students fostering inclusion; strengthening math knowledge through activities such as Math Blitz and math engagement night; Punjabi Boys Mentoring program encouraging community service, and school engagement; Advanced Placement program at Jean Augustine Secondary School; Virtual Reality sessions and cooking classes at Parkholme Secondary School.

Resolution No. 25-120

moved by LeeAnn Cole  
seconded by Will Davies

Resolved, that the oral report re Multi-Year Strategic Plan in Action, be received.

..... carried

## 19. Adoption of the Closed Session Report

Resolution No. 25-121

moved by LeeAnn Cole  
seconded by Jill Promoli

Resolved, that the report of the Closed Session re: Minutes of the Board Meeting (Closed), March 26, 2025; Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee (Closed) Meeting, April 9, 2025, and Senior Team Update (oral), be received.

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## 20. Peel DSB Success Stories

School, staff, and student successes were highlighted, aligned with the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan. Information was shared regarding young entrepreneurs from the Williams Parkway Senior Public Schools' International Business and Technology Program who participated in the One of A Kind Show, the largest craft show in North America, and took part in a Dragon's Den-style competition at the school. The Black Fatherhood event themed, Wisdom in Motion, Passing the Torch to the Next Generation, was held at Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School and celebrated the unique contributions of Black fathers and their profound contributions in their children's lives. The PAWS – Progress, Acceptance, Well-being and Success, Mentorship Program at Cheyne Middle School had Grade 8 students designing lesson experiences for Grade 6 students.

Resolution No. 25-122

moved by Will Davies  
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the report re Peel DSB Success Stories, be received.

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## 21. Adjournment

Resolution No. 25-123

moved by Jill Promoli  
seconded by Karla Bailey

Resolved, that the meeting adjourned (20:29 hours).

..... carried

..... Chair ..... Secretary



**RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN CLOSED SESSION, APRIL 23, 2025**

Members present:

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

**1. Approval of Agenda**

That, the agenda be approved.

**2. Minutes of the Board Meeting (Closed), March 26, 2025**

That, the Minutes of the Board Meeting (Closed), held March 26, 2025, be approved.

**3. Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee (Closed), April 9, 2025**

That, the Minutes of the Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee (Closed), held April 9, 2025, be received.

**4. Senior Team Update**

That, the oral update report re Senior Team, be received.