



## Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 5, 2017 @ 6:15 p.m.

Location:

Schumacher Board Office, Board Room  
153 Croatia Avenue, Schumacher

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

*Together, we inspire innovation and a passion for learning in every student.*

### AGENDA

Page(s)

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. REGULAR SESSION
3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST
5. PRESENTATION: Attendance Toolkit Successes (D. Plante-Dupuis)
6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Board Meeting, August 14, 2017 ..... 3-6
7. BUSINESS AND/OR QUESTIONS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
  - i) Cash Disbursements ..... 7-8
  - ii) Field Trips/Outdoor Education
  - iii) Transportation
10. COMMITTEE REPORTS
11. OTHER BUSINESS
  - i) Invitation to Multi-Board meeting
  - ii) Update: Trustee meetings with local City/Town Councils ..... 9-10
  - iii) Trustee Breakaway Conference
  - iv) Strategic Plan Committee meeting
  - v) OPSBA letter to Minister Hunter: *Education Accessibility Standard Engagement* ..... (copy to Trustees Aug. 28'17) attachment
  - vi) Drug Education



Page(s)

- 12. ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION (OPSBA)
  - i) Northern Regional (October 13-14, 2017)
  
- 13. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
  - i) Memo: 2017-18 School Year Start-up & Student Transportation..... 11-12
  
- 14. CORRESPONDENCE
  
- 15. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS
  
- 16. MOTION TO ADJOURN



**MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting of District School Board Ontario North East was held at 6:15 p.m. in the Schumacher Board Office on **Monday, August 14, 2017.**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

Doug Shearer (Chair)  
Bob Brush (Vice-Chair)  
Heather Bozzer  
Bruce Cutten  
Dennis Draves  
Tom Henderson  
Wayne Major  
Peter Osterberg  
Rosemary Pochopsky  
Saunders Porter

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:**

Howard Archibald

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:**

Lesleigh Dye - Director of Education (new)  
Linda Knight - Director of Education (retiring)  
Jo-Anne Plaunt - Superintendent of Schools  
Michelle Leigh - Superintendent of Schools  
Pearl Fong-West - Superintendent of Business/Finance and Treasurer  
Steven Pladzyk - Superintendent of Schools  
Jim Rowe - Senior Manager of Human Resources

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Susan Allen, Executive Assistant to the Director of Education

**GUESTS**

Frank Giorno, reporter, *Timmins Today* (left early)  
Local Timmins Reporter (left early)

**REGULAR SESSION**

The regular session meeting was called to order at 1:42 p.m. by Chair Doug Shearer.

- 6673-17 DRAVES/HENDERSON:**                      **THAT** this Board resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole. **CARRIED**
- 6674-17 PORTER/CUTTEN:**                      **THAT** this Board resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, (In-Camera). **CARRIED**
- 6675-17 BOZZER/HENDERSON:**                      **THAT** this Board reconvene in regular session. **CARRIED**



*All present stood for a moment's silence in memory of Debbie Silk, Educational Assistant with DSB Ontario North East since 1990, who passed away on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017.*

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**6676-17 HENDERSON/MAJOR:**                      **THAT** the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting dated August 14, 2017 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Trustees were asked to declare conflicts of interest as they arise.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**6677-17 POCHOPSKY/DRAVES:**                      **THAT** the minutes of the Special Board meeting held June 27, 2017 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS AND/OR QUESTIONS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Staffing**

**6678-17 DRAVES/CUTTEN:**                      **THAT** the Board approve the appointment of Brian Forsythe as permanent Principal of Smooth Rock Falls and Diamond Jubilee Public Schools, effective July 31, 2017.

**CARRIED**

**MINISTRY CORRESPONDENCE**

**6679-17 PORTER/CUTTEN:**                      **THAT** the Board receive the following Ministry correspondence:

- 2017-18 Early Years Leadership Strategy
- Ministry letter: Ontario's Plan to Strengthen Rural and Northern Education
- Plan to Strengthen Rural and Northern Education (2017: B09)
- Request for Capital Priorities Project Funding Submissions (2017: B07)

**CARRIED**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Correspondence: Temiskaming Women's Support Group**

**6680-17 DRAVES/BRUSH:**                      **THAT** the Board receive the following Correspondence:

- A. Batisse, Executive Director, Temiskaming Women's Support Group.

**CARRIED**



**Sale of Foleyet School**

**6681-17 OSTERBERG/BRUSH:**

**THAT** the Board approve the sale of Foleyet Public School to Joel Theriault and Daniela Paredes.

**CARRIED**

**OPSBA Membership 2017-12018**

**6682-17 POCHOPSKY/HENDERSON:**

**THAT** the Board approve the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) membership fees for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$36,432.33 (including HST).

**CARRIED**

**Daycare Spaces in Schools**

**6683-17 PORTER/BRUSH:**

**THAT** the Board receive the update on Daycare spaces.

**CARRIED**

**6684-17 HENDERSON/BRUSH:**

**THAT** the Board approve the submission of the retrofit to Schumacher Public School to accommodate a day care facility under the Early Years Capital Plan for funding.

**CARRIED**

**Trustee Replacement**

**6685-17 HENDERSON/CUTTEN:**

**THAT** the Board receive the update on the process and timelines for replacing Wayne Major as Trustee, whose resignation was received, effective September 18, 2017.

**CARRIED**

**Community Hubs**

**6686-17 DRAVES/BRUSH:**

**THAT** the Board receive the update on Community Hubs.

**CARRIED**

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- 1. CODE report with 48 recommendations**
- 2. Drug Education**

On behalf of the Trustees, Chair Doug Shearer thanked Linda Knight, retiring Director of Education, for her many years of hard work and dedication to the students, staff and communities served by DSB Ontario North East. He then presented her with certificates from MPP Gilles Bisson and MP Charlie Angus in recognition of her years of service and retirement.

Linda closed the meeting with a “deep and sincere thank you” to the Board, noting it has been a “privilege and honour” to serve the many students, families and communities she has been involved with during her “great, great career”.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**6687-17 PORTER/HENDERSON:**

**THAT** we do now adjourn.

**CARRIED**



*The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lehigh M. Dye".

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**SECRETARY OF THE BOARD**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Shearer".

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**CHAIR OF THE BOARD**



TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ONTARIO NORTH EAST

Agenda Ref. No. 2017 09 05

**RE: JUNE, 2017 CASH DISBURSEMENTS**

Details of the cash disbursements for the month of JUNE, 2017 in the amount of **\$11,265,117.32** are enclosed.

Should Trustees have any questions regarding these disbursements, please contact the Superintendent of Business and Finance.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE BOARD ACCEPT THE REPORT ON CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2017 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,265,117.32.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lesleigh Dye  
Director of Education

Pearl Fong-West  
Superintendent of Business/Finance

**CASH DISBURSEMENTS SUMMARY**

**For JUNE, 2017**

District School Board O.N.E.	Bank Transfers	TOTAL
<b>\$6,171,623.28</b>	<b>\$5,093,494.04</b>	<b>\$11,265,117.32</b>



TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ONTARIO NORTH EAST

Agenda Ref. No. 2017 09 05

RE: JULY, 2017 CASH DISBURSEMENTS

Details of the cash disbursements for the month of JULY, 2017 in the amount of \$10,536,807.65

are enclosed.

Should Trustees have any questions regarding these disbursements, please contact the Superintendent of Business and Finance.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT THE BOARD ACCEPT THE REPORT ON CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2017 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,536,807.65.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lesleigh Dye  
Director of Education

Pearl Fong-West  
Superintendent of Business/Finance

**CASH DISBURSEMENTS SUMMARY**

**For JULY, 2017**

District School Board O.N.E.	Bank Transfers	TOTAL
\$6,946,658.50	\$3,590,149.15	\$10,536,807.65





## **COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS (update by Chair D. Shearer)**

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### **Community Planning & Consultation Guidelines**

- Under Community Planning and Consultation Guidelines, school boards are required to communicate annually with their local councils and key stakeholders annually. Prior to the creation of the Guideline, Trustees in our Board met with the large councils in their local areas. In point of fact, there are over 50 councils in the District School Ontario North East's area, making a meeting with all councils somewhat problematic. However, we continually look for ways to improve our communications.

### **Board Capital Planning**

- In accordance with Ministry guidelines, the Board created a 5 year Capital Plan in 2015, which was vetted through the Ministry Financial Services Bureau and found to be achievable.
- We then conveyed our vision for Capital Planning to our major community partners
- Subsequently, the first 2 items in the plan were rejected. As a result, the Board suspended its plan last fall.
- Since that time, the Government, in its 2017 budget has determined it will no longer fund the construction of new schools, except in growth areas
- The Board is currently considering its options in relation to a number of underutilized school areas.

### **Board Cooperation**

- The Minister of Education has made much of the failure of Boards to cooperate
- In 2014 & 2015 DSB1 hosted two meetings with the other northern Boards in an effort to find areas of common ground and mutual cooperation. We were not successful.
- Another Board offered to host the next meeting in 2016. It has not happened.
- Following a particularly harsh and critical memo issues by the Minister in March, our Board responded with a memo outlining our past communications efforts. In that memo, we suggested that failure of Boards to find ways to cooperate has consistently continued without comment or consequence by the Ministry. Shortly thereafter, we noted a comment by the Premier at FONOM that failure of Boards to cooperate would bring financial penalties. We await further developments.

### **New Director**

- A new Director of Education soon be taking over. Director Linda Knight is retiring after 48 years in teaching and 15 years as the Director of DSB1
- We look forward to having opportunities to introduce our new Director to our communities.

### **Declining Enrolment**

- Declining enrolment in many of our schools has slowed considerably. Unfortunately, it has not yet stopped.
- As a result, we continue to be challenged with trying to find ways to address underutilized school space
- We also continue to monitor our ability to deliver secondary schools courses in a timely and effective way and to assist our students in graduation within 4 to 5 years.
- Long term efforts to address this problem did see an improvement in the results reported this spring.
- In addition, a focused effort by school staff on absenteeism this year, has seen a reduction of absenteeism from 25% to 17%.

### **Strategic Plan.**

- As a Board, we continue to work toward ways to improve student success and positive student experiences.
- The Board Strategic Plan is expiring. We look forward to working with our students, parents, staff and communities, through broad based consultation, in the near future in the development of a new plan.

### **Does Anyone Have Any Questions?**



**SAMPLE LETTER**

**To: The Mayor and Council**

**Re: Request for meeting with representatives of District School Board Ontario North East**

District School Board Ontario North East Trustees are requesting a meeting with their local councils to discuss school board concerns and future direction.

As you are aware, school board Trustees are charged with the responsibility of ensuring the best available educational opportunities for students and with being stewards of the public funds provided for educational purposes by the Ministry of Education.

Communication between school boards and councils has deteriorated over recent years. In recognition of the critical need for effective communications between school boards and their municipal partners, the Ministry of Education is currently enhancing the Community Consultation and Partnership Policy to ensure these dialogues occur. (Current DSB Ontario North East Community Planning and Partnerships Policy 2.2.2 is attached).

The purpose of this meeting is not to seek the direction of the municipal council, but to engage in a discussion of current educational conditions and to provide council with an understanding of the Board's Capital Planning intent in relation to schools in the coming years. From this discussion may emerge new opportunities for community use of schools or the development of community hubs. It is hoped that there will also emerge a clearer understanding of the challenges being faced by most school boards across Ontario.

As many communities are often served by the same school, several councils may be invited to join the same meeting.

Your local Trustee will contact the clerk for a suitable date. Could you please advise which is most convenient for your council?

Sincerely,

DSB Ontario North East Trustee



Ministry of Education

Deputy Minister

Mowat Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Sous-ministre

Édifice Mowat  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



**Memorandum To:** Directors of Education

**From:** Bruce Rodrigues  
Deputy Minister

**Date:** August 29, 2017

**Subject:** 2017-18 School Year Start-up and Student Transportation

The beginning of the school year is fast approaching. The Ministry of Education recognizes that school boards, student transportation consortia, and student transportation providers are working hard together to prepare for the 2017-2018 school year.

The ministry is also aware that student transportation providers and school boards have indicated that some areas will continue to be impacted by school bus driver shortages this fall. This means that there will likely be service impacts, such as late pick-ups or route cancellations in the beginning of the school year. School bus driver shortages are also occurring in jurisdictions across Canada and North America, and we acknowledge that this issue is complex and challenging.

Nonetheless, the top priority is to get students to school safely while minimizing the service impact to students and their families. School boards have an important role to play in this, by ensuring parents and students are informed and prepared in the event of a service disruption.

Recently, in response to the Ontario Ombudsman's recommendations, the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) have collaborated with their student transportation providers to take important actions to keep parents and students prepared and informed if, and when bus service is disrupted. These actions include:

- Providing families with information on student transportation through an [online portal](#) and offering an email alert service to notify parents of service disruptions
- Equipping all buses with GPS systems to track the status of bus routes
- Adding more staff to board call centres to better answer questions and concerns from parents

.../2



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We strongly encourage boards to have a plan in place for communicating information on delays, disruptions or route cancellations to parents and students. Boards should also be prepared to advise parents of the need to make alternative transportation arrangements should their child's student transportation service be impacted in September.

The ministry remains committed to working with our student transportation partners to improve the way this valuable service is delivered. That's why in the coming months, we will launch an engagement on a renewed vision for student transportation in Ontario. The goal is to develop a renewed vision that focuses on the needs of students, families and communities. We hope you will lend your voice and ideas to this important discussion.

I would like to thank you for your continued commitment to ensuring Ontario's students arrive to school safely, on time and ready to learn. Please accept my best wishes for a safe and successful school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Rodrigues".

Bruce Rodrigues  
Deputy Minister of Education