

**The Minutes of the Open Meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole held on  
Monday, June 12, 2023, at 6:45 p.m.**

**Present**

\* = (via video conference)

**Trustees:**

Chair Martin\*, Trustee MacKenzie (Board Chairperson),  
Trustee Durst\*, Trustee Glover, Trustee Tanguay, Trustee Leahy,  
Student Trustee Marie (Senior Student Trustee), Student  
Trustee Gaskell\* (Junior Student Trustee).

**Administration:**

Director Carragher, Superintendent Heuchert, Superintendent Di Ianni,  
Superintendent Piggott, Superintendent Selby.

**Guests:**

Mr. Kahler, Chief Financial Officer Smith, Ms. Whitnall\*

**Regrets:**

Trustee Ayotte, Superintendent Armstrong,  
Superintendent O'Sullivan

**Recorder:**

Mrs. McLeod

**A. Call to Order:**

Trustee MacKenzie was chair for the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm.

1. Opening Prayer

Superintendent Piggott led the committee in opening prayer.

2. Superintendent Heuchert provided a territorial recognition, acknowledging that the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishnaabeg.

3. Approval of Open Meeting Agenda.

**Motion:** Moved by Trustee Tanguay, seconded by Trustee Glover, that the Open Meeting Agenda be accepted.

Carried.

4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

There were no conflicts of interest.

5. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Committee-of-the-Whole – Open Meeting held on Monday, May 8, 2023.

**Motion:** Moved by Trustee Glover, seconded by Trustee Leahy, that the Draft Minutes of the Committee-of-the-Whole – Open Meeting, held on Monday, May 8, 2023, be approved.  
Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes.

Trustee Durst requested an update from Superintendent Heuchert on the capital priority submission window. Superintendent Heuchert informed the committee that there has been no update on when the window will open for submissions. He also informed the committee that he has a call with the Capital Analyst later this week and is hopeful for an update at that time.

**B. Recommended Actions / Presentations:**

1. 2023-2024 Draft Budget Superintendent Heuchert

Superintendent Heuchert presented to the committee the 2023-2024 draft budget. The core objective was to align the budget with the Board's mission and strategic priorities.

Superintendent Heuchert highlighted some key funding reductions that were seen in the GSN report which significantly impacted the Board's budgeting decisions. Affected areas included transportation, indigenous education and various positions that were previously supported through the Education Worker Protection Fund and later, the Covid-19 Learning Recovery Fund. Economic factors such as inflation also posed a challenge when working through budget projections. Superintendent Heuchert was pleased to report that the Board was able to achieve a balanced budget for 2023-2024 that is compliant with Public Sector Accounting Standards and the Education Act. Superintendent Heuchert thanked Chief Financial Officer Smith and her team for all of their hard work and contributions to the budget. Trustees had several questions around specific budget lines to further understand the decisions made as well as how the Board was able to offset any key areas that lacked Ministry funding. Superintendent Heuchert, Director Caragher and Mr. Kahler provided answers and further clarity to budget decisions. Trustee Ayotte posed a question via the Chairperson, to clarify where the impact of the recently

approved borrowing resolutions could be found. Superintendent Heuchert indicated that the draft budget presented does not include balance sheet debt but we will show the expense and offsetting grant at revised in the fall. Some trustees shared concerns over budget cuts and the impact. Superintendent Heuchert and Director Caragher provided reassurance as to the great extent taken by staff to minimize impact to teaching and learning in the next school year. Trustee Durst thanked Superintendent Heuchert and Chief Financial Officer Smith for their hard work and great achievement of reaching a balanced budget.

**R.A.** That the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Board that the 2023-2024 Consolidated Expenses Budget, in the amount of \$211,257,900 be approved as presented.

**Motion:** Moved by Trustee Durst, seconded by Trustee Tanguay, that the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Board that the 2023-2024 Consolidated Expenses Budget, in the amount of \$211,257,900 be approved as presented.

Carried

**C. Information Items:**

1. Clarington new school project update

Superintendent Heuchert shared photos as well as a blueprint of the Northglen property to the committee. Facilities also put together a sample site plan that is a replica of St. Catherine CES in Peterborough. Through discussions with the Capital Analyst, it was advised that using an existing site plan for a capital priority submission will award the Board extra points, hopefully accelerating the approval process. When the window for new submissions opens, Superintendent Heuchert informed the committee that a proposal will also be submitted for Northumberland, possibly impacting the school communities of Notre Dame and St. Michael CES. School boards are allowed to submit multiple priority options, such as a school remodel or a new school build which is the plan for Northumberland. A few trustees had questions around the Northglen site as well as the Northumberland proposal which Superintendent Heuchert answered. Trustee Glover requested that the Northumberland capital priority plans be a standing agenda item similar to the Clarington project updates. It was also mentioned that MPP

Todd McCarthy will be visiting St. Elizabeth CES in hopes of gaining Provincial support for the Clarington build.

2. Accommodation Planning Update

Superintendent Heuchert discussed with the committee the Board's long term accommodation plan which is up for renewal this year. There have been preliminary discussions with Watson & Associates regarding the enrollment and EDC work the consulting firm has currently been conducting in Trillium Lakelands. Superintendent Heuchert is looking to use the firm to help build out a profile for each school in the Board. Mr. Hickey, Manager of Purchasing, has also been involved in these discussions as his role deals directly with various municipalities within the Board jurisdiction. He is given advance notice of any new subdivision plans or school land allotments that could impact school enrollment. Over the next 4-6 months, senior administration along with Watson & Associates will be collecting, reviewing and analyzing the data gathered for each school, to build an updated accommodation plan. Chair Martin discussed her concerns over the projected development in Lindsay and the possibility of acquiring land for a new school build. Superintendent Heuchert confirmed there are two plots of land assigned to schools but the Board has not currently put in an option agreement to secure land in Lindsay as the enrollment pressures do not currently justify a new build, based on past experience in Clarington. A couple trustees had clarifying questions which Superintendent Heuchert addressed.

**D. Old Business:**

There was no old business.

**E. New Business:**

There was no new business.

**F. Next Meeting:**

Monday, September 11, 2023  
6:30 p.m.

**G. Conclusion:**

1. Adjournment

**Motion:** Moved by Trustee Tanguay, seconded by Trustee Leahy, that the

Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

Carried

2. Closing Prayer

Superintendent Piggott led the committee in closing prayer.

Mary Ann Martin  
Committee Chairperson  
/am

Sean Heuchert  
Superintendent of Business and Finance