

**The Minutes of the Open Meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole held on
Monday, September 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**

Present

* = (via video conference)

Trustees:

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

Administration:

Director O'Sullivan, Superintendent Armstrong, Superintendent Di Ianni,
Superintendent Heuchert, Superintendent Kahler, Superintendent Piggott,
Superintendent Selby.

Guests:

Ms. Hamonic*, Ms. Whitnall*

Regrets:

Recorder:

Mrs. McLeod

A. Call to Order:

Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Opening Prayer

Superintendent Di Ianni 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.

Trustee Tanguay requested a discussion around the extreme heat policy in New Business. Chair Martin also informed the committee of the additional agenda item added as C5: Legal Services

Review for 2022-2023, that was brought forward from the In-Camera meeting.

Motion: Moved by Trustee Leahy, seconded by Trustee Durst, that the Open Meeting Agenda be accepted with the proposed amendments.

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, June 12, 2023.

Motion: Moved by Trustee Durst, seconded by Trustee MacKenzie, that the Draft Minutes of the Committee-of-the-Whole – Open Meeting, held on Monday, June 12, 2023, be approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Recommended Actions / Presentations:

There were no recommended actions or presentations.

C. Information Items:

1. Clarington New School Update

Superintendent Heuchert

Superintendent Heuchert informed the committee that the Ministry has set parameters for any new builds and the design must either be selected from a catalog provided by the Ministry or be a repeat build of another school built within the last two years. There was discussion amongst the committee members around the catalog and timelines. Superintendent Heuchert provided two blueprints for the committee to review. There was great discussion around the plans and various trustees shared their feedback. Trustee Glover requested a separate meeting on September 20, to review and further discuss the architect plans as the feedback will be considered in the final design submission. There were a few questions around the Board's architect roster which Superintendent Heuchert answered.

Motion: Moved by Trustee Glover, seconded by Trustee Durst, that the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting accept the report.

Carried

2. Northumberland Capital Priority Plans

Superintendent Heuchert

Superintendent Heuchert shared with the committee that the Board is planning to submit a proposal for a new school build in Northumberland, replacing St. Michael CES. The same design plan will be used for both the Clarington and Northumberland submissions with a slight difference in the number of child care rooms at each location. Superintendent Heuchert informed the committee that St. Michael CES has been deemed prohibitive to repair therefore the Board has decided to submit a second proposal, as an alternate option if the new build is not approved, which will see an addition to Notre Dame CES located nearby. Both Notre Dame CES and St. Michael CES students would be amalgamated into one school. The discussion also turned to the final Capital Priority submission the Board plans to submit which is a technology addition at Holy Trinity. Trustee Glover asked a few questions around the SHSM program which Superintendent Selby addressed highlighting the increase in enrolment and expected growth which supports the plans for an addition.

Motion: Moved by Trustee Glover, seconded by Trustee Tanguay, that the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting accept the report.

Carried

3. St. Elizabeth Annex Update

Superintendent Selby

Superintendent Selby provided a thorough presentation on the St. Elizabeth Annex which included several pictures of the new space. Superintendent Selby highlighted the custodial efforts in refreshing and renewing the Annex. Logistics and operations were reviewed and the committee asked questions. It was mentioned that there were a few spaces including the office area and permanent washrooms that had not yet been completed due to some construction and permit delays however, they were scheduled to be finished in the coming weeks. Superintendent Selby mentioned that the open house for parents to see the Annex space was set for September 26. Since this falls on the same day as the Board meeting, a separate day for trustees to view the space will be arranged. Several trustees thanked Superintendent Selby and Superintendent Heuchert for all of the work they put into the St. Elizabeth Annex project.

Motion: Moved by Trustee Glover, seconded by Trustee MacKenzie, that the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting accept the report.

Carried

4. Capital Priorities Status Update Superintendent Heuchert

Superintendent Heuchert commented that the previous agenda item discussions were more robust than intended therefore there were no further updates to report.

5. Legal Services Review for 2022-2023 Superintendent Heuchert

Superintendent Heuchert presented to the committee a summary of legal service billings from the past year. Three firms were used for various services relating to governance, collective agreements and employment law. Chair Martin questioned whether or not the Board has considered staffing an lawyer, she commented some boards do have their own general counsel on staff. Superintendent Heuchert expressed he did not feel the cost of using external services justified hiring general counsel. Superintendent Heuchert also discussed the budget for legal services and commented the Board was under budget this past year.

Motion: Moved by Trustee Durst, seconded by Trustee Tanguay, that the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting accept the report.

Carried

D. Old Business:

There was no old business.

E. New Business:

Trustee Tanguay addressed the committee bringing forth concerns around the extreme weather policy for the board noting the first few days of school saw very warm weather. Trustee Tanguay felt the intolerable conditions were not conducive to learning and not healthy especially for those with preexisting conditions. She felt the Board should be considering various solutions to address the problem. The committee discussed the Board's policy and the renewal which is scheduled in 2024. Superintendent Heuchert agreed to take a broader approach in the renewal process of the policy by reviewing policies in other jurisdictions. Superintendent Heuchert provided a quick oversight of recent HVAC related costs the Board had incurred and also asked the committee to keep in mind the school renewal funding that is received by the Ministry compared to the Capital Priority list of projects that the Board plans to address.

Trustee Glover briefly touched on the appointment of a First Nations Trustee, mentioning this was scheduled to be a Board meeting agenda item however he felt it should be first discussed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting in October. It was decided that would be appropriate.

F. Next Meeting:

Monday, November 13, 2023
6:30 p.m.

G. Conclusion:

1. Adjournment

Motion: Moved by Trustee Tanguay, seconded by Trustee MacKenzie that the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

Carried

2. Closing Prayer

Superintendent Di Ianni led the committee in closing prayer.

Mary Ann Martin
Committee Chairperson
/am

Sean Heuchert
Superintendent of Business and Finance