

PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held in the Board Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at 19:45 hours.

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair	David Green
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair	Sue Lawton
Carrie Andrews	Brad MacDonald
Stan Cameron	Kathy McDonald
Robert Crocker	Harkirat Singh
Nokha Dakroub	Rick Williams

Student Trustees:

Kaustav Chaudhuri, Student Trustee South
Arunoshi Singh, Student Trustee North

Administration:

Tania Alatishe-Charles, Controller, Finance Support Services
Dawn Beckett-Morton, Director, Human Resources Support Services
Shelley Bortolotto, Assistant Director, Human Resources Support Services
Ted Byers, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services
Patrika Daws, Superintendent of Education
Paul Da Silva, Acting Superintendent of Education
Jeff deFreitas, Coordinating Superintendent
Wendy Dowling, Superintendent of Education, Early Years
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
Jaspal Gill, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Adrian Graham, Superintendent of Education
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent of Education
Adam Hughes, Chief Information Officer
Michael Logue, Superintendent of Education
Hazel Mason, Superintendent of Education
Pertia Minott, Superintendent of Education
Scott Moreash, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
Janice Mueller, Executive Assistant
David Neale, Controller, Corporate Support Services
Patricia Noble, Superintendent of Education
Tony Pontes, Director of Education
Jerry Powidajko, Superintendent, Leadership Development and School Support Services
Jamie Robertson, Acting Superintendent of Education
Patricia Rossall, Superintendent of Education
Carol Speers, Superintendent of Education, Alternative Programs
Gale Solomon-Henry, Superintendent of Education
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education

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Administration: (Continued)

Joe Weinberg, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
Brian Woodland, Director, Communications and Community Relations Support Services
Randy Wright, Controller, Planning and Accommodation Support Services

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. **Open Session**

The Open Session commenced with the acknowledgement that the meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, and the singing of O' Canada.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The following items were added to the agenda:

Item 1.1 Special Presentation re Peel DSB's 2015 United Way Campaign

Item 7.4 Delegation: Martin Singh re Cancellation of Europe Trips

Item 10.3 Autism Funding and Intensive Behaviour Intervention (IBI) Therapy (oral)

Item 10.4 Ontario's Renewed Mathematics Strategy – Implications for the Peel DSB

Item 12.2 OPSBA Fast Report: Volume 28, No. 7

Resolution No. 16-79 moved by David Green
seconded by Harkirat Singh

Resolved, that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

..... carried
(2/3rds' majority)

3. **Special Presentation re Peel DSB's 2015 United Way Campaign**

Superintendent Liaison for the 2015-2016 Peel DSB United Way Campaign, Hazel Mason, expressed appreciation to the United Way Campaign Committee for their dedication and creativity, which ensured another successful campaign. Chair of the Peel DSB's United Way Campaign Committee and Principal of Stephen Lewis Secondary School, John Staba, thanked staff, students and parents for their work in raising \$190,418 towards United Way. He stated that the contribution will go a long way in helping United Way of Peel Region reach families in need.

3. Special Presentation re Peel DSB 2015 United Way Campaign (Continued)

John Staba highlighted this year's theme, Inspire Possibility, and he thanked Superintendent Mason, and Vice-Chair of the Committee and Principal of Credit Valley Public School, Aileen Padua. He also thanked members and volunteers of the United Way Campaign Committee for their commitment and passion. He expressed appreciation to trustees, and to United Way's Peel DSB Liaison, Raj Chandegra, for their support. Aileen Padua announced the winners of the 2015-2016 United Way Campaign awards. Larkspur Public School was presented with the Harold M. Brathwaite Award for the school that best exemplifies the true spirit of the United Way, and Special Recognition Awards for Achievement for staff contribution were presented to Roberta Bondar Public School, Osprey Woods Public School, John Fraser Secondary School and the Mississauga Field Office. Aileen Padua congratulated Whitehorn Public School for the best use of the Inspire Possibility hashtag, and Thornwood Public School for the most inspiring tweet.

Sharon Douglas, Director of Community Investment, United Way of Peel Region, thanked the Peel DSB for its continuing support of United Way, and stated that the money raised will ensure that more families will receive help. She provided statistics on the number of people living in poverty in Mississauga and Brampton, and children, adults and seniors receiving support from United Way. She spoke about the need for more youth shelters and community hubs, and commented that the contributions offer the possibility of hope, overcoming adversity, and a brighter future. She thanked the Board for partnering in humanitarian and social justice efforts in the community. Chair McDougald and Director of Education, Tony Pontes, presented the cheque for \$190,418 to United Way. Chair McDougald thanked Committee members for their work in highlighting the campaign and encouraging participation, and she expressed the hope for greater participation in keeping with the Board's high expectations.

4. Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**5. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, February 16, 2016
Minutes of the Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee, February 17, 2016
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, March 23, 2016**

Resolution No. 16-80 moved by Nokha Dakroub
seconded by Carrie Andrews

Resolved:

1. That, the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held February 16, 2016, be received;
2. That, the Minutes of the Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee, held February 17, 2016, be received;
3. That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board, held March 23, 2016, be approved.

..... carried

6. Written Questions

There were no written questions.

7. Notices of Motion and Petitions

There were no notices of motion or petitions.

8. Special Section for Receipt

Resolution No.16-81 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the following item, be received:

1. Retirements

Susan Benjamin	Alberto Boni	Fatima Botelho De Sousa
Peggy Brennan	Kathy Campbell	Charmane Evenson
Judy Hyndman	Deborah Lawrence	Cathy Mitchell
Glenna Perry	Cindy Power	Iwona Rusinowski
Gregory Shaw	Paul Tarallo	Maria Toste
Peter Town	Fay Wellington	Anna Werbowy
Jane Wilson	Donna Young	

..... carried

9. Delegation by Ibtisaam Muslun re French Immersion Selection Process

Ibtisaam Muslun delegated the Board to express her concern regarding the randomized selection process for the French Immersion (FI) program and her opinions as to solutions to avoid placing a cap on enrolment. Her speaking notes were later provided to the administration. Ibtisaam Muslun indicated that one of her children is in the FI program, but her second child was not selected to attend the program. Acknowledging that hiring of qualified French teachers is difficult, she stated, however, that the opportunity to learn a new language, which is the other official language of Canada, should not be left to chance. She reported on her conversations with staff at some other school boards and their responses regarding equity and the need to meet demand. Articles published in Maclean's and the Toronto Star that highlight the need to expand the FI program and the perspective that FI is seen as a private system within the public system, were referred to.

Ibtisaam Muslun offered her views as to solutions to avoid the randomized selection process, including: teachers reporting whether a student will be successful in FI to help parents make informed decisions; mandatory FI parent information session to emphasize the need for their commitment and support; introduction of the French language in Kindergarten; later entry into FI at Grade 3, mirroring the position taken by New Brunswick, as the delay has been examined to show a decline in the attrition rate; grants and scholarships to students; hire teachers from programs offering appropriate French qualifications.

9. Delegation by Ibtisaam Muslun re French Immersion Selection Process (Continued)

Ibtisaam Muslun responded to a trustee's question of clarification, and Chair McDougald confirmed that a comprehensive response to the delegation will be brought to the next meeting.

10. Delegation by Man Cao re Admission to the French Immersion Program

Man Cao delegated the Board, speaking from presentation slides, which were circulated to trustees. Providing reasons for registering his son in the FI program, he highlighted the influence of France on Vietnamese culture and modern language, and his parents' fluency in French.

Man Cao provided chronological details of his son's acceptance to the FI program at Fairlawn Public School, and the subsequent telephone call from the Superintendent of Education advising him that his son was placed on a waiting list. The reason provided to him for placing his son on the waiting list was that he had filled out his son's application to wrongly indicate that the sibling was in Grade 4. Man Cao stated, however, that he had indicated Grade 3, which is the correct grade of his other child. He explained that he has asked for proof of his mistake, but no evidence has been provided to him. He requested the Board to reverse the decision made by the Superintendent of Education and to allow his son the opportunity to attend the FI program at Fairlawn Public School. Responding to questions of clarification, Man Cao confirmed that he has asked for a copy of his registration letter, but he has not received it. Chair McDougald noted that a response to the delegation will be brought to the next meeting.

11. Delegation by John Walmark re Proposed Closure of Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School

John Walmark, a former trustee, delegated the Board regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) proposed for some schools in South Mississauga. Recalling previous accommodation reviews in the Applewood area of East Mississauga which saw the closure of some elementary schools, he stated that in the 1980s, Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School and Cawthra Park Secondary School were considered for consolidation, but the introduction of special programs helped to avoid closure. He stated that PARs are underway in Peel and the coterminous board, and 45 of the 72 school boards are experiencing declining enrolment. John Walmark requested that the PAR be put on hold until the Province considers the concept of shared services and affordability of having two school systems. He expressed the opinion that full funding of the separate school system has resulted in over capacity in terms of more schools and more administration, contrasted with declining enrolment. He requested that, before the Board moves forward on the PAR, staff meet with coterminous board and Ministry staff to investigate the feasibility of shared services.

Chair McDougald indicated that a response to the delegation will be brought to the next Regular Meeting of the Board.

12. Delegation by Martin Singh re Cancellation of School Trips to Europe

Martin Singh delegated the Board from speaking notes, which were later provided to the administration. He indicated that he is a resident of Brampton and his three children attend Peel schools. Stating that his delegation is specifically with regard to the cancellation of the trip to Europe by Mayfield Secondary School, he indicated that his concern applies to the cancellation of all Peel school trips to Europe.

Martin Singh remarked that the school trip to either Europe or the United States of America is seen by Mayfield Secondary School students as a culmination of years of studying music in the school’s Regional Arts Program. He acknowledged the need to ensure that Peel students are safe at all times whether on school property or participating in school events. Referring to the decision to cancel trips to Europe due to potential safety threats presented by Islamic terrorism and recent attacks in Paris and Brussels, Martin Singh expressed the opinion that the decision was incorrect. He noted that Canada has not issued a travel advisory and other school boards have not chosen to cancel trips. He asked about the decision-making process, and whether there was information received by Peel that was not known to other boards. Suggesting that the decision was not based on the evidence, he spoke about the number of deaths in Paris and Brussels, as against the number of deaths due to gun violence in USA, and the assigning of blame by the media on adherents of the Muslim faith. He remarked that integration is one of the most effective methods of combatting the foundation of terrorist actions. Martin Singh commented on the terrorists’ aim to make people change their behaviour and self-impose restrictions on their personal freedom, and he expressed the view that the decision to cancel trips to Europe runs counter to the goal of Peel DSB to instill confidence and hope in students. He requested the Board not to cancel trips or events based on isolated incidents and, in future, carefully consider the evidence before making such decisions. Chair McDougald indicated that a response to the delegation will be brought to the next Regular Meeting of the Board.

13. Recommendations of the Special Education Advisory Committee, February 16, 2016

At a meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held February 16, 2016, there were no recommendations to the Board.

Resolution No. 16-82 moved by Rick Williams
 seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the information regarding the Special Education Advisory Committee receipt of the following items, be received:

1. Reports / Information Received

Superintendent’s Report (oral); Special Education Plan Development – Staff Development Plans; Operating Procedure SEPS 17.

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14. Recommendations of the Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee, February 17, 2016

At a meeting of the Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee, held February 17, 2016, there were no recommendations to the Board.

Resolution No. 16-83 moved by Rick Williams
seconded by Sue Lawton

Resolved, that the information regarding the Instructional Programs/Curriculum Committee's receipt of the following items, be received:

1. Reports / Information Received

Celebrating Faith and Culture Backgrounder – March 2016; The Future We Want Refresh Project: Phase 1; Home Schooling Update; Health and Physical Education (HPE) Curriculum Implementation – Update (oral).

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15. Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee, April 5, 2016

Resolution No. 16-84 moved by Nokha Dakroub
seconded by David Green

Resolved, that the following recommendations arising from a meeting of the Physical Planning and Building Committee, held April 5, 2016, be approved:

1. Initial Staff Report – Pupil Accommodation Review for Gordon Graydon Memorial, Glenforest, T.L. Kennedy, The Woodlands and Lorne Park Secondary Schools

That, a Pupil Accommodation Review for Gordon Graydon Memorial, Glenforest, T.L. Kennedy, The Woodlands and Lorne Park Secondary Schools, be approved. (Appendix I, as attached to the Minutes)

2. Reports / Information Received

STOPR – Student Transportation of Peel Region Governance Committee Minutes, January 22, 2016; Application Status Update; Tender Activity Reports – January 20, 2016 to March 21, 2016; Vandalism Reports for December 2015 and January 2016; McLaughlin Road Widening Project – Removed from City Capital Program for 10 Years.

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(Continued overleaf)

**15. Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee, January 6, 2016
(Continued)**

Controller of Planning and Accommodation Support Services, Randy Wright, provided a high-level overview of the recommendation to proceed with a Pupil Accommodation Review for Gordon Graydon Memorial, Glenforest, T.L. Kennedy, The Woodlands and Lorne Park Secondary Schools. He recalled that, on November 9, 2015, the Board approved revisions to Policy #45, Pupil Accommodation Review, and Policy #77, Community Planning and Partnerships, which permitted the Board to approve commencement of a PAR in accordance with the process mandated by the Ministry of Education and the Education Act. He reviewed the recommended options contained in the report relating to closure of the regular track school at Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School and, with respect to the other schools indicated in the recommendation, relocation of specialty programs. He noted that approval of the recommendation is an early formative step of the accommodation review process and, following approval, a Pupil Accommodation Review Committee (PARC) will be set up. The terms of reference of the PARC were briefly outlined by Controller Wright, and he noted that one of the key recommendations is the repurposing of Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School into a new Adult Education Centre. He reviewed timelines for the PAR process, and he noted that public meetings will be held on June 2 and November 23, 2016. Public delegations will be invited in January and February 2017. Trustee Green, Chair of the Physical Planning and Building Committee, thanked Controller Wright and his staff for the detailed report, which had been well presented at the Committee meeting.

With the Board's permission, Janet McDougald spoke to the recommendation from her position as Chair. Explaining that the report and recommendation has been studied for at least a year, with Superintendent of Education, Anthony Edwards, leading this complicated issue, Chair McDougald expressed appreciation for the work on the proposal. She stated that the Board continues to deal with low enrolment in the South, which has resulted in two accommodation reviews and the closure of three schools. Speaking of the history of Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School, she reported that it opened in 1957, is one of the oldest secondary schools in Peel, and is a pillar of the community, with an excellent academic and sports legacy. Chair McDougald described the overcapacity in school accommodation created in the 1950s and 1960s which gave rise to four secondary schools within a 20 minute walking radius. The school has had to deal with low enrolment, and the introduction of the Information, Business and Technology program at the school in 1995 was the result of creative efforts to attract more students to the school. The Chair recalled the decision to direct the nine Grade 9 regular track Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School students to Cawthra Park Secondary School, to provide them with better program opportunities. Explaining that staff are not recommending the closure of Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School but a repurposing of the building, she commented on the hope that, in the future, Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School and Neil C. Matheson School, will be returned to a rejuvenated community in the Lakeview area. Chair McDougald expressed support for the proposal, and she stated that the Board looks forward to community input at the scheduled community meetings. Another trustee expressed support for the recommendation and stated that the accommodation review of schools in his community resulted in positive outcomes, with decisions made that consider students' best interests.

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Resolution No. 16-84

..... carried

16. Peel District School Board Student Trustees: 2016-2017

Resolution No. 16-85 moved by Suzanne Nurse
seconded by Stan Cameron

Resolved, that Omar Baboolal and Ranbir Singh Mangat be appointed as Peel District School Board Student Trustees for the 2016-2017 school year.

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In accordance with Peel DSB Policy #66, two students are elected by their peers to be student trustees for the coming school year. Ranbir Singh Mangat, Castlebrooke Secondary School, will represent Peel schools north of Highway 401, and Omar Baboolal, Glenforest Secondary School, will represent Peel schools south of Highway 401. Chair McDougald congratulated the students on their election as student trustees. She acknowledged their presence in the audience, and she stated that trustees look forward to working with them.

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Resolution No. 16-85 carried

17. Second Quarterly Financial Reports as at February 29, 2016

Resolution No. 16-86 moved by Kathy McDonald
seconded by Robert Crocker

Resolved, that the Second Quarterly Financial Reports as at February 29, 2016, be received.

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18. Notice re Change to Board By-laws

Notice of By-law changes are to be given at one Regular Meeting of the Board, and proposed amendments are to be brought to the next Regular Meeting of the Board.

Resolution No. 16-87 moved by Sue Lawton
seconded by Brad MacDonald

Resolved, that the report of the Notice re Change to Board By-law D-5, Date and Time of Board Meetings, and new Board By-law E-4, Dates of Committee Meeting, be received.

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21. Autism Funding and Intensive Behaviour Intervention Services

Superintendent of Special Education Support Services, Ted Byers, reported that, on March 29, 2016, the Ministry for Child and Youth Services (MCYS) announced an investment of approximately \$333 million, over five years, to improve and expand autism services for children and youth. Over the next 24 months, the current Intensive Behaviour Intervention (IBI) and Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) programs will be integrated to become the Ontario Autism Program, which will provide services based on individual needs. Superintendent Byers noted that MCYS will establish an advisory group in the next few weeks to provide strategic advice on the initiative, and he confirmed that updated information will be shared with trustees as it becomes available.

Superintendent Byers explained how IBI can help some children, and focuses on developing skills for greater independence. He described eligibility criteria for IBI and the role parents play. Providing details on Connections for Students, which is funded by MCYS and the Ministry of Education, he noted that the program relates to supports for children who are transitioning out of IBI therapy into the school system. Superintendent Byers indicated that ABA is the application of behavioural principals to everyday situations that will increase or decrease target behaviours over time. ABA has been used to help individuals acquire skills such as language, self-help and play skills. The principles of ABA have also helped to decrease some behaviours, such as aggression, self-injury and self-stimulation.

Superintendent Byers noted that advice from families, clinical experts and the Autism Spectrum Disorder Clinical Expert Committee, has helped to shape the Ontario Autism Program. Highlights of the program include: reducing wait times; directing IBI services to children ages two to four; gradually transitioning children five years and older to more clinically appropriate ABA services; families with children five years and older on the IBI waitlist to be given \$8,000 in one-time funding to purchase services or supports based on need; increasing duration and intensity of ABA services for children over four years. Ted Byers advised that the impact of the program is yet to be known, particularly with respect to the Connections for Students program and releasing all students five years and older from IBI. Chair McDougald suggested that information on the Ontario Autism Program be shared with the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Resolution No. 16-90

moved by Kathy McDonald
seconded by Harkirat Singh

Resolved, that the oral report re Autism Funding and Intensive Behaviour Intervention Services, be received.

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22. Ontario's Renewed Mathematics Strategy – Implications for the Peel District School Board

Associate Director of Instructional Support Services, Scott Moreash, provided an overview of the recent announcement by the Ministry of Education regarding Ontario's Renewed Mathematics Strategy. He noted that the Ministry memo dated April 8, 2016 outlines the strategy and, based on an initial review, Peel's EngageMath strategy almost seamlessly aligns with the Ministry's new initiative.

Associate Director Moreash reported that the Renewed Mathematics Strategy is an early years to Grade 12 strategy that will provide new forms of support to all schools, increased support to some schools, and intensive support to a smaller number of schools with the greatest need. Similar to EngageMath, the Renewed Mathematics Strategy focuses on a balanced approach to building understanding and developing skills, with an implementation model of differentiated support and capacity building. School boards will have some flexibility in configuring these supports to fit the needs of the school. Associate Director Moreash highlighted the key elements of the strategy and the supports for Mathematics, which include: teacher release time; establishing up to three lead teachers of Mathematics per school; funding for release time for Principal professional learning; intensive supports for few schools with greatest needs, and selected schools with lower achievement in Grade 9 Applied Mathematics; funding ongoing work to support learners' transitions; continued capacity building for department heads. The strategy also involves specific focus on students with learning disabilities, and supports for them include developing class and student profiles, assessment and instructional strategies, and using assistive technology as accommodations and learning tools. School boards will receive funding for hiring elementary school-based facilitators and their professional learning, summer learning programs for K-Grade 6 students, and professional learning sessions for school leadership teams. A Ministry memo will be issued to require schools to set aside a minimum of 60 minutes each day for teachers to focus on Mathematics instruction, and at least one professional learning day will be devoted to priorities in Mathematics and Numeracy.

Associate Director Moreash advised that the Ministry memo will be reviewed with regard to its application to Peel schools relating to intensive needs, and he noted that Curriculum and Instruction Support Services staff have begun to assess professional development needs for Mathematics teachers. In response to trustees' questions, he clarified that assigning 60 minutes each day for Mathematics does not include secondary schools, and that some funding is already being received as part of implementation of the strategy.

Resolution No. 16-91

moved by David Green
seconded by Suzanne Nurse

Resolved, that the report re Ontario's Renewed Mathematics Strategy – Implications for the Peel District School Board, be received.

..... carried

23. Reports from Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Resolution No. 16-92 moved by Kathy McDonald
seconded by Nokha Dakroub

Resolved, that the following reports, be received:

- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 28, No. 6
- OPSBA Fast Report, Volume 28, No. 7

..... carried

24. Reports from Trustee Representatives on Councils/Associations

Trustee Singh provided an update report from an OPSBA meeting that he and Trustee Williams attended. Topics of discussion included: high priorities, new trustees, labour relations, educational funding, funding for FI as a major stressor, and grants for special needs. Trustee Singh indicated that the registration deadline for the elections to OPSBA-Central West is May 12, 2016.

Trustee Williams reported that he and Trustee Andrews, along with Superintendent of Education, Pertia Bent, attended the 2016 Summit on Children and Youth Mental Health. Outlining some of the sessions, which focused on youth mental health services and supports for children, youth and their families, he remarked that the event was interesting and well attended.

Student Trustee Singh reported that the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) released its Annual Report. She provided details of two conferences hosted by OSTA, and the upcoming Annual General Meeting. She invited trustees to attend the Alumni Gala 2016 that will be held in May.

Trustee Dakroub spoke about the elections to the Mississauga Library Board, and she confirmed that the Mississauga Library Board will bring a report to a Regular Meeting of the Board.

25. Comments or Questions from Board Members

Trustee Crocker drew trustees' attention to the National Day of Mourning commemorated on April 28, 2016, and he stated that flags will be flown at half-mast. He reported that the ceremony will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Milestones of Labour monument in Brampton. He requested that the protocol for lowering flags on Board facilities be formalized and brought forward through the Trustee Review Committee.

Trustee McDonald reported that the Peel Association of African Canadian Educators held its Annual General Meeting on April 7, 2016. She thanked Vice-Chair Nurse, and Trustees Crocker, Dakroub, Lawton, and Singh for attending the meeting. With regard to the United Achievers Club parent information night held on the weekend, she thanked the Communications Department for their support.

25. Comments or Questions from Board Members (Continued)

Trustee Singh spoke on behalf of the Board to extend condolences on the passing away of Toronto DSB Trustee Sheila Ward. Referring to Item 9 of these Minutes, Delegation by Man Cao re Admission to the French Immersion Program, he indicated that he has been contacted by a parent on a similar issue. He will follow up with administration.

Student Trustee Singh indicated that Turner Fenton Secondary School has been hosting a culture fest over the past two days. She thanked Trustee McDonald for her gracious contribution, and she invited trustees to attend.

Trustee Dakroub reported on a Stephen Lewis Secondary School Council meeting she had attended. She indicated that, at the meeting, the school council was completing the budget survey, and members were excited to contribute to the budget. School council members viewed the survey from a parent's perspective but had trouble aligning their perspectives to budget items which are primarily based on the Report Card for Student Success goals. She suggested that, going forward, leading questions or information be provided to help obtain focused feedback.

Trustee Cameron thanked and commended Communications staff for organizing the Numeracy and Beyond Conference on April 2, 2016. He stated that the conference was excellent, and highlighted the significant efforts made to support students success.

Chair McDougald reported that April 18-22, 2016 is Education Week in Peel DSB, when schools open their doors to the public to showcase the work done for students in Peel. She noted that the Awards of Excellence event will be held on April 22, 2016 to honour the work of 26 staff, students and community members. In addition, throughout the week, Award of Distinction ceremonies will be held in Board facilities.

26. Public Question Period

Catherine Soplet, speaking as a representative of the Building Up Our Neighbourhoods group, congratulated the Board for the excellent Numeracy and Beyond Conference held on April 2, 2016. She referred to Item 15.1, Initial Staff Report – Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) for Gordon Graydon Memorial, Glenforest, T.L. Kennedy, The Woodlands and Lorne Park Secondary Schools, and stated that at the time the rules were changed for a PAR, the Province was highlighting schools being used as community hubs. She expressed the opinion that the new rules have reduced consultation, dismissed the value of schools to communities, and disregarded the economic impact of schools closing. Catherine Soplet asked whether the Government can be contacted to express her concerns and extend the period of consultation. She stated that at the previous consolidation review, when the Board was closing schools, the Province was speaking of significant investment in transit improvements in the same neighbourhoods where schools were closing. Chair McDougald responded. Catherine Soplet then reported on a meeting held today, when the Peel Counts group met with various social service agencies to discuss education as a leverage to improved community outcomes, and comments that the role of parents was not being considered as a metric in the analysis of education.

27. Further Business

1. Day of Pink

Chair McDougald indicated that April 12, 2016 is being observed as Day of Pink in the Peel DSB, and she commended the concerted efforts made to eliminate trans phobia, homophobia and bullying of any kind in schools and communities.

28. Adoption of the In Committee Report

Resolution No. 16-93 moved by Brad MacDonald
seconded by Kathy McDonald

Resolved, that the Report of the In Committee Session regarding: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), March 23, 2016; Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), April 5, 2016; Director’s Reports re Visit to China (oral), and Travel Outside Canada (oral); Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), March 23, 2016; Resignations; Retirements; A Study of Staffing Practices for Special Needs Teaching Assistants – Interim Report, and Question Period, be received, and that the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

..... carried

29. Adjournment

Resolution No. 16-94 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Carrie Andrews

Resolved, that the meeting adjourn (22:35 hours).

..... carried

April 12, 2016
Regular Meeting of the Board:nf

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED IN IN COMMITTEE SESSION – APRIL 12, 2016

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair	David Green
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair	Sue Lawton
Carrie Andrews	Brad MacDonald
Stan Cameron	Kathy McDonald
Robert Crocker	Harkirat Singh
Nokha Dakroub	Rick Williams

Student Trustees:

Kaustav Chaudhuri, Student Trustee South
Arunoshi Singh, Student Trustee North

Part A

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, be approved.

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), March 23, 2016

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part A), held March 23, 2016, be approved.

3. Recommendations of the Physical Planning and Building Committee (In Committee), April 5, 2016

That, the information about the Physical Planning and Building Committee's (In Committee) receipt of the following item, be received:

1. Reports / Information Received

Tender Activity Reports – January 20, 2016 to March 21, 2016.

4. Director's Report

1. Visit to China

That, the Director's oral report re, Visit to China, be received;

2. Travel Outside Canada

That, the Director's oral report re, Travel Outside Canada, be received.

April 12, 2016
Regular Meeting of the Board:nf

Part B (Not including Student Trustees)

1. Approval of Agenda

That, the agenda, be approved.

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), March 23, 2016

That, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board (In Committee – Part B), held March 23, 2016, be approved.

3. Resignations

That, the report of resignations of staff, be received.

4. Retirements

That, the report of retirements of staff, be received.

5. A Study of Staffing Practices for Special Needs Teaching Assistants – Interim Report

That, the interim report re A Study of Staffing Practices for Special Needs Teaching Assistants, be received.