

December 3, 2012
Organizational Meeting:nf

PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the Peel District School Board, held in the Board Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario, on Monday, December 3, 2012 at 19:00 hours.

Members present:

Janet McDougald, Chair	Sue Lawton
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair	Brad MacDonald
Stan Cameron	Harinder Malhi
Beryl Ford	Jeff White
David Green	Rick Williams
Meredith Johnson	

Member absent: (apologies received)

Steve Kavanagh

Administration:

Christine Beal, Controller, Finance Support Services
Pertia Bent, Superintendent of Education
Shelley Bortolotto, Assistant Director, Human Resources Support Services
Jan Courtin, Superintendent of Education
Patrika Daws, Superintendent of Education
Wendy Dowling, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
Ina Fournier, Superintendent of Education
Jaspal Gill, Controller, Facilities and Environmental Support Services
Poleen Grewal, Acting Superintendent of Education
Mark Haarmann, Superintendent of Education
Mark Keating, Chief Information Officer
Carla Kisko, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Hazel Mason, Superintendent of Education
Scott Moreash, Coordinating Superintendent
Shawn Moynihan, Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction Support Services
David Neale, Controller, Transportation and Corporate Support Services
Patricia Noble, Superintendent of Education
Tony Pontes, Director of Education
Jerry Powidajko, Superintendent, Leadership Development and School Support Services
Patricia Rossall, Superintendent of Education, Alternative Programs
Elizabeth Sinclair-Artwell, Superintendent of Education, Continuing and Adult Education
Louise Sirisko, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services
Marion Smith, Executive Assistant
Carol Speers, Superintendent of Education
Shirley-Ann Teal, Superintendent of Education, Early Learning Program
Pam Tomasevic, Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
Joy Uniac, Superintendent of Education

Nicole Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. Call to Order

The Secretary of the Board, Tony Pontes, called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours.

The Open Session commenced with the singing of O'Canada.

2. Approval of Agenda

Resolution No. 13-01 moved by Beryl Ford
seconded by Stan Cameron

Resolved, that the agenda be approved.

..... carried

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. Election of Chair

The Secretary of the Board, Tony Pontes, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Board for the year 2013.

Trustee Lawton nominated Trustee McDougald.

There were no further nominations put forth. Following a one minute pause in the proceedings, the Secretary of the Board declared nominations closed, and announced that Trustee McDougald had been acclaimed Chair of the Peel District School Board for the year 2013.

Trustee McDougald assumed the Chair.

5. Election of Vice-Chair

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board.

Trustee Ford nominated Trustee Nurse.

There were no further nominations put forth. Following a one minute pause in the proceedings, the Chair of the Board declared nominations closed, and announced that Trustee Nurse had been acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Peel District School Board for the year 2013.

6. Chair's Remarks

Expressing appreciation for her election, Chair McDougald thanked trustees for the privilege to be Chair of the Board, serve the Peel community and support public education. She commented positively about the Board's strong voice in speaking on behalf of local community needs and in coming together in consensus when faced with difficult issues.

Chair McDougald recalled that this year, trustees approved a new mission statement, "We inspire success, confidence and hope in each student". She encouraged trustees to display the confidence that needs to be nurtured in Peel students. Speaking about Peel DSB's "Stand Up" video, Chair McDougald described the impact of the video's unmistakable message of inspiring everyone to take action on youth mental health. She explained that taking a stand on a subject that is in the shadows may not be enjoyable, but it is important, which is also true with regard to Peel's campaign for fairer funding. She stated that, at the urging of school councils, the Board will rekindle the funding discussion in the new year.

Chair McDougald referred to Bill 115, Putting Students First, and commented that this legislation takes away the collective bargaining rights of employees and also the local bargaining authority of publicly elected trustees who are charged with the duty to negotiate fair, local, and affordable collective agreements. Now, school boards are being asked to solve issues, without control or flexibility to meet local priorities, in the face of a potential elementary teachers' strike and the current reality of secondary teachers' sanction. Chair McDougald expressed her disappointment that student performers were not present at today's meeting, and she stated that parents and students, too, are disappointed at the lack of extracurricular activities. She noted that conflict and confusion undermines the hard work done by the Board to build confidence and trust in public education. She stated that, nevertheless, the Board will continue to work on negotiating affordable local agreements, preserve student safety and ensure student progress.

Chair McDougald spoke about the ongoing financial impact of underfunding in Peel, and the \$7 million funding loss to the Board this year due to Bill 115. She asked whether the government believes in public education and that it creates equity of opportunity and prosperity. In conclusion, she stated that, in spite of the challenges, trustees will continue to be the voice for students' needs, in line with the Board's mission to inspire success, confidence and hope in each student.

The Chair's speech is attached at APPENDIX I.

Following the Chair's remarks, trustees then watched the video, "Stand Up".

7. Director's Annual Report to the Board and the Community

Director of Education, Tony Pontes, highlighted the Board's mission statement to inspire success, confidence and hope in each student. He stated that student success should be the system's collective and public commitment. He referred to the three key messages outlined in his Starting Point address in August with regard to 21st Century teaching and learning, student and staff engagement, and the Board's reputation as a system. Noting that Peel has much to be proud of, Director Pontes explained that staff at every school and worksite have been asked to be more active and purposeful in sharing stories of success, confidence and hope. He expressed appreciation for Peel's talented, dedicated and caring staff, and their role in influencing student achievement and well-being.

Director Pontes noted that, with the Province in a difficult financial situation, the senior administration has been proactively preparing for a challenging budget process. He stated, however, that the process continues to be exacerbated by the significant underfunding for Peel children. He indicated that, despite this, staff and trustees will continue to work to deliver excellent learning opportunities to students. He expressed pride in the work done at the Board, and he thanked trustees for their ongoing support to schools and departments. He extended congratulation to Chair McDougald on her 25th year of dedication and service as a trustee of the Peel District School Board.

A copy of the Director's remarks is attached at APPENDIX II.

8. Election of Three Trustees to the Striking Committee

The Chair confirmed that the Striking Committee is comprised of three trustees, plus the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board. The Striking Committee will meet following this meeting, and will make recommendations to the Second Meeting of the Board later this evening.

Chair McDougald called for nominations of trustees to serve on this committee.

Trustee Ford nominated Trustee Lawton
Trustee White nominated Trustee Williams
Trustee Cameron nominated Trustee Green
Trustee MacDonald nominated Trustee Ford

Following a ballot process, with scrutinizers Tony Ronca and Carlo Avolio counting the vote, Chair McDougald announced that Trustees Lawton, Williams, and Ford had been elected to the Striking Committee, along with Chair McDougald and Vice-Chair Nurse.

9. Resolution re Signing Officers of the Board

Resolution No. 13-02 moved by Meredith Johnson
seconded by Stan Cameron

Resolved, that the following be named officers of the Board with authority to sign on behalf of the Board, in accordance with Board By-laws and the Statutes of Ontario:

Chair	Janet McDougald
Vice-Chair	Suzanne Nurse
Director of Education and Secretary of the Board	Tony Pontes
Associate Director – Operational Support Services and Treasurer of the Board	Carla Kisko
Associate Director – Instructional Support Services	Pam Tomasevic

..... carried

10. Adjournment

Resolution No. 13-03 moved by Stan Cameron
seconded by Sue Lawton

Resolved, that the meeting adjourn (19:45 hours).

..... carried

..... Chair Secretary