



**DURHAM CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
*Learning and Living in Faith*

## **Regular Board Meeting – Open Session Minutes**

Durham Catholic District School Board – North Boardroom  
650 Rossland Road West, Oshawa, ON, L1J 7C4  
June 17, 2024, at 7:30 PM EST

### **Trustees Present**

M. Forster, Chair, R. Damianopoulos, Vice Chair  
Trustees K. Beatty, R. De Souza, J. Emanuel, M. Hall, J. McCafferty\*, M. Ste. Marie

### **Student Trustees Present**

M. Esan, A. Walsh

### **Director of Education Present**

T. Barill

### **Senior Administration Present**

K. Akomolafe, S. Grieve, M. Hammond, M. O'Neill, R. Rodriguez, P. Sorhaitz,  
D. Stargratt, K. Stevenson, J. Wilson, G. Winn

### **Senior Managers Present**

T. Long, J. McVeigh, F. Pileggi

*\* Attended virtually*

#### 1. Opening

##### 1.1. Call to Order

Chair Forster called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

##### 1.2. Motion to Move In Camera

###### **Motion:**

B2024-06-17-01 - Motion to Move In Camera

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board meeting move into In Camera session."

Motion moved by M. Hall and motion seconded by K. Beatty. CARRIED

The meeting resumed at 7:30 p.m.

##### 1.3. Memorials and Prayer

Student Trustee Esan offered the opening prayer.

1.4. Land Acknowledgement

Elisha S., a student from St. Jude Catholic School offered the land acknowledgement.

1.5. Canadian Anthem

The choir from St. Jude Catholic School sang O Canada, followed by "This Little Light of Mine."

1.6. Roll Call and Apologies

Trustee McCafferty attended virtually. All other Trustees attended in person.

1.7. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Forster noted that agenda item 2.8.2 was changed earlier today. The amendment involved a deletion of one clause in AP610-3.

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-02 – Approval of Agenda

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the agenda of the Monday, June 17, 2024, Regular Board Meeting as amended."

Motion moved by K. Beatty and motion seconded by Emanuel. CARRIED

1.8. Approval and Signing of the Minutes of the Previous Meetings:

1.8.1. Regular Board Meeting held May 27, 2024

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-03 – Approval and Signing of Minutes

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Open session of the May 27, 2024, Regular Board Meeting."

Motion moved by M. Ste. Marie and motion seconded by K. Beatty. CARRIED

1.9. Declarations of Interest

None.

2. Items of Information

2.1. Announcements

2.1.1. Announcements from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting

Vice Chair Damianopoulos read the following announcements:

**Retirements**

Catherine Morgan, St. Jude C.S., effective June 30, 2024

Kerry-Lynne Brunnock, St. Jude C.S., effective June 30, 2024

### **Resignations**

Bogdan Mates, St. James C.S., effective June 28, 2024

Laura Bruno, St. Mark the Evangelist C.S., effective June 3, 2024

Leah MacInnis, St. Joseph C.S., effective June 28, 2024

#### 2.1.2. Appointments and Transfers

None.

#### 2.1.3. Durham Region Chair for a Day Winner

Tianna E., a Grade 10 student at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School shared her winning submission for the Region of Durham's Chair for a Day contest. Tianna's contest entry focused on building more sustainable, equitable and vibrant neighbourhoods.

Congratulations to Tianna and to everyone who entered the Chair for a Day contest.

#### 2.1.4. Recognition of Student Trustees

- Chair Forster, Director Barill and Superintendent Stevenson acknowledged and thanked the 2023-2024 Student Trustees, Moyin Esan and Aoife Walsh, for their efforts and leadership throughout the past school year.
- Superintendent Stevenson wished Student Trustee Esan all the best as she moves on to university in the fall. Superintendent Stevenson also noted that she is looking forward to continuing her partnership with Student Trustee Walsh next year and carrying on the successes they have built together this year.

#### 2.2. Notices of Motion

##### 2.2.1. Trustee Membership on Board Advisory Committees

- Trustee Beatty read the notice of motion on Trustee Membership on Board Advisory Committees (see Appendix 1)

#### 2.3. Presentations

##### 2.3.1. Indigenous Education

- Daniel Stargratt, Assistant Superintendent of Indigenous Education, shared an overview of Indigenous Education updates with Trustees. He reiterated that DCDSB, in partnership with the Indigenous Education Circle and Student Indigenous Education Circle, is committed to increasing

understanding and knowledge of all students about Indigenous histories, cultures, perspectives and contributions. This work is fundamental to our commitment to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada; Calls to Action as it relates to education.

- Highlights of the presentation include:
  - Mental Health and Well-being of Indigenous Students.
  - Professional development and capacity building to deliver Indigenous courses and infuse perspective in other disciplines.
  - Direct support for the success and increased graduation for Indigenous students.
  - Engagement and collaboration with local Indigenous partners and organizations.
  - Amplifying Indigenous student voice.
  - Indigenous Education:
    - Community Partners
    - Land-Based Learning
    - Infused Perspective
    - Partnerships
    - Visiting the Papal Visit/Science PD
  - Staff responded to questions from Trustees.

#### 2.3.2. DCDSB Numeracy Action Plan

- Mike O'Neill, Superintendent of Education, Dan Allen, Board Math Lead, and Concetta Siqueira, Numeracy Support Teacher, shared highlights of the implementation and monitoring of the Math Achievement Action Plan for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Highlights of the presentation include:
  - Review of 2024 Numeracy Action Plan
  - Mathematics Priority Schools
  - Priority School Report Card Data
  - Primary Diagnostic Data
  - Junior Diagnostic Data
  - Attitudinal Data
  - Attendance Data
  - Supporting Students with Special Education Needs in Numeracy
  - Use of Assessment Data
  - Next Steps
- Staff responded to questions from Trustees.

#### 2.4. Delegations

None.

2.5. Student Trustees Report

The Student Trustees provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights from the presentation include:

- Student Trustee Responsibilities
- Be the voice of students in Durham Catholic
- Show Leadership
- Student Voice Forum
- Promote Catholic Values and Education
- Senate Star
- Be Involved in OSTA-AECO

2.6. Order Paper: Resolutions Approved for Implementation

Received for information.

2.7. Minutes and/or Reports from Committee Meetings

The minutes and/or reports from Committee meetings were received for information. Trustees were provided an opportunity to ask questions.

2.7.1. Ad Hoc Committee for Enhancing the Use of Public Transit – May 22, 2024

2.7.2. Finance Committee – May 28, 2024

2.7.3. Special Education Advisory Committee – June 4, 2024

2.7.4. Finance Committee – June 10, 2024

2.8. Staff Reports (for information)

The following staff reports were received for information. Trustees were provided an opportunity to ask questions.

2.8.1. Community Use of Schools – Group Type Update

2.8.2. Administrative Procedures for Information

2.8.3. Indigenous Education Update

2.8.4. Numeracy Achievement Action Plan Update

3. Items for Decision

3.1. Consideration of Motions for which previous notices has been given.

None.

3.2. Motions to be read in Open Session from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of June 17, 2024

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-04 – Ratification of the Tentative Local Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board and the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel representing Chaplains

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board ratify the tentative local agreement dated May 24, 2024, as negotiated locally under the *School Board Collective Bargaining Act (SBCBA)*, which provides for renewal of the Collective Agreement between the Board and the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel (APSSP) representing Chaplains.

Motion moved by K. Beatty and motion seconded by J. Emanuel.

CARRIED

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-05 – Ratification of the Tentative Local Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board and the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel representing Student Services

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board ratify the tentative local agreement dated May 31, 2024, as negotiated locally under the *School Board Collective Bargaining Act (SBCBA)*, which provides for renewal of the Collective Agreement between the Board and the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel (APSSP) representing Student Services.”

Motion moved by R. De Souza and motion seconded by K. Beatty.

CARRIED

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-06 – Motions Deemed Read

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Motions as deemed read from the In Camera session of the June 17, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.”

Motion moved by K. Beatty and motion seconded by M. Ste. Marie.

CARRIED

3.3. Business arising from previous meetings

None.

3.4. Staff Reports (for decision)

Staff responded to questions from Trustees as they arose.

3.4.1. 2024-2025 Budget and Priorities Report

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-07 – 2024-2025 Budget and Priorities Report

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the 2024-2025 Budget and Priorities Report.”

Motion moved by K. Beatty and motion seconded by M. Hall.

CARRIED

3.4.2. Policies for First Reading

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-08 – Director’s Performance Appraisal Policy (PO204 – First Reading

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the First Reading of the revised Director of Education Performance Appraisal Policy (PO204).”

Motion moved by K. Beatty and motion seconded by M. Ste. Marie  
CARRIED

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-09 – Director’s Performance Appraisal Policy (PO204) - Interim

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board declare the Director of Education Performance Appraisal Policy (PO204) as an interim Policy pending Third and Final Reading.”

Motion moved by K. Beatty and motion seconded by M. Ste. Marie.  
CARRIED

4. Other Business

4.1. Board Communications

None.

4.2. Director’s Report

In addition to the written report that Director Barill provided in the board agenda, she offered the following comments.

- I would like to offer commendations to Principal Diana Assenza, teacher Mark Prior, and staff at St. Bernadette Catholic School in Ajax. It is not uncommon for our school administrators, educators, and staff to go above and beyond the call of duty, however, I feel compelled to make this special recognition tonight in light of a life-threatening incident that occurred last week when a young adult volunteer in the school suddenly lost consciousness. Mrs. Assenza, assisted by Mr. Prior, responded immediately and proceeded to perform life-saving CPR and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Thanks to their extraordinary efforts, they were able to restore vital signs with the person before emergency services arrived on scene. My deepest gratitude and respect goes out to them both and to the other members of the St. Bernadette Staff whose collective response to an emergency potentially saved a life. They have not only our gratitude but the profound appreciation of the young person’s family for their quick thinking and actions.

- I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Assistant Superintendent Daniel Stargratt for his leadership in Indigenous Education and his dedicated efforts to support the Board during his time here. My congratulations to him as he embarks in the fall on his new position as Superintendent of Program Services at Simcoe-Muskoka Catholic DSB. While he will be missed, we wish him all the best in his new Board.
- As this is my last regular Board Meeting, I would just like to extend my deepest appreciation to the Board of Trustees, the Senior Admin Team, the staff in the Director's wing, all of the employees, past and present with whom I have had the pleasure of working. Thank you for all that you do and have done, each and every day to serve our students and the Durham Region Community. It has been a blessing to have learned, worked, prayed, and played in the Durham Catholic District School Board and a tremendous honour to have played a role in its leadership these past 17 years – I will be forever grateful.

#### 4.3. Chair's Report

Chair Forster provided the following report:

##### **Recognition**

- As a Catholic community, June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Throughout the month of June, we are invited to reflect on the profound significance of the Sacred Heart in our spiritual journey. The Sacred Heart calls us to mirror Jesus' love and serves as a guiding light as we endeavour to embody His love in our daily lives.
- On June 13, we celebrated our staff who are or have, retired in the 2023-2024 school year at our Retirees Dinner. It was a lovely opportunity to recognize Durham Catholic staff for their dedication and years of service. We want to extend our best wishes to all staff who are retiring.

##### **Upcoming Events**

- The 9th Annual #ForeTheKids Golf Tournament is taking place on Tuesday, August 22 at Deer Creek Golf and Banquet Facilities. The day includes golfing and/or dinner. All proceeds will go to the Durham Catholic Children's Foundation. Registration is open, and sponsorship opportunities are available. Please visit [DurhamCatholicFoundation.ca](http://DurhamCatholicFoundation.ca) for details.

##### **2023-2024 Acknowledgements.**

- I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Trustees for all their work this year and for putting your faith in me as Chair. I



appreciate all the support from all in our Durham Catholic community as we strive to listen, learn and live in faith together.

- Thank you to all our staff for your efforts and dedication throughout the year. We continue to witness our Catholic values in action as students, families, and staff helped others with their acts of kindness, empathy and compassion.
- A special thank you to the Senior Administration Team for your dedication and for your commitment to our mission to be an inclusive Catholic learning community that inspires every student to achieve their full potential through faith and education. We appreciate your continued support of students, staff and families.
- I want to extend our sincere gratitude to Liz Beckstead, Executive Officer to the Board of Trustees for supporting us throughout the school year. I don't know what we would do without you!
- My sincere thanks also to Faeron Pileggi, Senior Manager of Communications. Ms. Pileggi's inspired work for Durham Catholic is greatly appreciated.
- Finally, I want to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to Director Barill for her 36 years of service and leadership to Durham Catholic. During the past 17 years, as part of the Senior Admin Team, Tracy has attended over 250 Board meetings (not including special board or committee meetings) – and this is her last Regular Board Meeting with the Durham Catholic District School Board! You have led the board with grace, compassion and empathy, navigating through challenging times, and pushing the board forward in our new mission. You leave an indelible mark on all those who have had the good fortune of working with you. Working closely with you has been one of the perks of serving on this Board. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish you all the very best as you embark on your retirement and thank you for your service and dedication to DCDSB. May the Lord bless you and guide you as you enter this well-deserved stage of your life.
- I pray that you all have a happy and restful summer and look forward to seeing you again in September.

#### 4.4. Trustee Questions

None.

#### 4.5 Motion to Adjourn

**Motion:**

B2024-06-17-10 – Adjournment

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of Monday, June 17, 2024.”

Motion moved by M. Ste. Marie and motion seconded by J. Emanuel. CARRIED

4.6 Closing Prayer

Student Trustee Walsh offered a closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

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Monique Forster, Chair of the Board  
Durham Catholic District School Board

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Tracy Barill, Director of Education  
Durham Catholic District School Board

Recording Secretary: L. Beckstead

# Appendix 1

## Notice of Motion – Trustee Membership on Board Advisory Committees

May 27, 2024

WHEREAS, the Board has identified listening as a foundational practice of the current multi-year strategic plan and has made a commitment to build better understanding of the needs of each member of our community by creating spaces and establishing intentional practices to listen, with the ears of the heart, to all voices; and

WHEREAS committees have been established within DCDSB for senior staff to engage with specific communities to build better understanding of the lived experienced of equity-deserving groups, namely the DCDSB Indigenous Education Circle, the DCDSB Anti-Black Racism and Black Excellence Committee and the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS these committees provide a venue for equity-based community input and feedback; and

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees is committed to our mission to be an inclusive Catholic learning community that inspires every student to reach their full potential through faith and education; and

WHEREAS the Board values respect, reconciliation, and learning; and

WHEREAS it is beneficial to Trustees to have direct insight into the ideas, concerns and/or work of equity-deserving groups;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that an ad hoc committee be formed which will convene on a maximum of three occasions in September-October 2024. The committee will:

- a. examine best practices and bring recommendations to the Board for how to improve communication and build stronger relationships between the Board of Trustees and the three abovementioned Board advisory groups;
- b. have a maximum of 8 participants;
- c. will report back to the Board at the October 28, 2024, Regular meeting of the Board;
- d. and after bringing forward recommendations to the Board, the committee will be dissolved.

Kim Beatty, Trustee, Oshawa