



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

Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees
From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Date: May 23, 2023
Subject: **Minutes of the April 17, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting**
Origin: Marie Hammond, Chief Financial Officer

Please find attached a copy of the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on April 17, 2023.

TB/MH/II

Attachment: Minutes of the April 17, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting



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

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Durham Catholic District School Board
April 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Trustees R. Damianopoulos (Chair), M. Forster, M. Hall (arrived at 7:30)

Regrets

Trustee J. Emanuel

Director of Education Present

T. Barill

Senior Administration Present

K. Akomolafe, S. Grieve, M. Hammond, R. Rodriguez

Trustees Present

K. Beatty, J. McCafferty, M. Ste. Marie

1. Opening

Trustee Ste. Marie attended as an alternate until the arrival of Trustee Hall who joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

1.1. Memorials and Prayer

R. Damianopoulos offered the opening prayer.

1.2. Land Acknowledgement

1.3. Call to Order

R. Damianopoulos called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1.4. Approval of Agenda

Motion FC20230418-01

“THAT the Finance Committee approve the Agenda of the April 17, 2023 Finance Committee meeting”

Moved by: M. Forster, Seconded by: M. Ste. Marie **CARRIED**

1.5. Roll Call and Apologies

Trustee Emanuel sent her regrets.

1.6. Declarations of Interest

None

2. Items for Information

2.1. Delegations

2.1.1. Gail Wilson-Beier represented the Association of Professional Student Services Personnel (APSSP)

Ms. Wilson-Beier provided an overview of the services provided by APSSP and encouraged the Board to prioritize and increase these supports to better service students. A copy of the full delegation submission is attached.

M. Forster and T. Barill thanked Ms. Wilson-Beier for her input and presentation to the Committee.

3. Items for Decision

3.1. Approval and Signing of Minutes of Previous Meeting (February 6, 2023)

Motion FC20230417-02

“THAT the Finance Committee approve the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting.”

Moved by: M. Forster, Seconded by: M. Ste. Marie **CARRIED**

3.2. Business Arising from February 6, 2023 Meeting

4. Items for Discussion

4.1. Staff Reports

4.1.1. 2022/2023 Second Quarter Budget Status Report

M. Hammond walked the Committee through the Second Quarter Report comparing anticipated results versus actual year to date results. Ms. Hammond noted that there is an increase in partnership revenue and interest revenue resulting from higher interest rates and a positive cash balance throughout the first six months of the year. This additional revenue will be utilized to address cost pressures noted in supply costs, worker's compensation costs and increased utility costs, specifically gas prices. In addition to the increased revenue, there are savings noted in staff vacancies and student transportation that will be used to offset the noted cost pressures. The mid year results suggest that there will be no change in the projected provision to reserve balance as presented in the 22/23 Revised Estimates report.

M. Hall inquired why the Board was experiencing higher WSIB costs and M. Hammond noted an increase in claims where slips, trips, and falls have resulted in concussions as well as an increase in mental health claims.

M. Ste. Marie asked why there was a negative variance on the trustee expense line and Ms. Hammond advised that this resulted from a timing issue whereby the trustee memberships have all been paid for the year. No pressure has been identified in trustee expenditures.

M. Forster asked if the delayed ministry funding announcement would impact staff redundancy declarations. T. Barill and M. Hammond confirmed that due to the number of retirements and the anticipated enrolment levels for next year, there would be no redundancy notifications necessary.

4.2. Presentation

4.2.1. Budget Process and Consultation Update

Marie Hammond provided an overview of where the Board is in the Budget Process and noted that the delay in ministry grant announcements will necessitate moving the May Finance Committee meeting to May 29, 2023 from May 15, 2023. This deferral will allow staff sufficient time to review and incorporate the impacts of the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) and Priority and Partnerships Funding (PPF) announcements into the draft budget.

M. Hammond provided an overview of the results of the Thoughtexchanges put out for public input, highlighting the participation rates, key thoughts and emerging themes.

4.2.2. Change of Date for next Finance Committee Meeting - May 29, 2023

Motion FC20230418-03

“THAT the Finance Committee approve the move of the May Finance Committee Meeting from May 15, 2023, to May 29, 2023.”

Moved by: M. Forster, Seconded by: M. Ste. Marie **CARRIED**

5. Other Business

5.1 Ministry Grant Announcement

Ms. Hammond provided a high level overview of the ministry funding announcements that came out earlier in the day on April 17, 2023. The PPF funding is still outstanding, but staff received the GSN and Capital funding memos. The new funding formula for transportation was announced and incorporated into the 23/24 funding announcements. Upon initial review, it appears the new formula will result in an increase in transportation revenue for the Durham Catholic District School Board (DCDSB) which will assist in supporting the new contracts with the operators.

The ministry announced funding for administration expenses related to Remote Learning. Boards may continue to operate virtual schools and will be funded for school administration based on enrolment each year. Durham Catholic has approximately 60 students registered for virtual learning in 23/24 which will generate very little school administration funding.

The ministry has realigned Indigenous Education grants. Total provincial funding remains unchanged; however, per pupil funding for Indigenous Education courses has been significantly reduced and teachers for these courses will now be funded through a combination of the Pupil Foundation Grants and Indigenous Education Grants. Funding has been redirected to a Supplemental Indigenous Grant that will be provided to all Boards to fund provincial priorities. There is a one time realignment grant for Boards that will lose funding as a result of the change which includes DCDSB.

The GSNs include increases for wages and benefits that have been negotiated at the central bargaining table. The Covid-19 learning recovery fund has been eliminated.

5.2 Board Communications

None

5.3 Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

5.4 Closing Prayer

R. Damianopoulos offered the closing prayer.

Recording Secretary: L. Lane

Approved by:

R. Damianopoulos
Chair, Finance Committee

Marie Hammond
Resource, Finance Committee