



We're Putting Wellness First



We're Turning Innovation into Action



We're Committed to Collaboration

Chair's Initial Address – December 11, 2019

It is a privilege to continue to serve as Chair of the Limestone District School Board. Thank you to my nominators, Trustees McGregor and Brown, and thank you fellow Trustees for your confidence in acclaiming me to this position.

I will serve and fulfill my duties as Chair with integrity and mutual respect for, students, staff, each other, and the broader communities we serve.

I would like to congratulate Trustee French on being elected Vice-Chair, and both congratulate and thank other Trustees for putting their names forward to serve on committees, where much of the work of the Board is accomplished.

I know the first year has not been without its challenges, the landscape of public education in Ontario is ever changing much like the world in which we live. Our responsibility is to maintain and enhance public education across our district through our governance and advocacy.

As we formulate policy, approve operating and capital budgets, and monitor the Board's Strategic Plan, we remain focused on putting wellness first, turning innovation into action, and being committed to collaboration. Student achievement and well-being remain the focus of all Board decisions.

The responsibility for ensuring the best possible outcomes rests with everyone: families, school councils, community partners, employees, Senior Staff, and Trustees. We recognize the commitment of everyone to this end.

As outlined in Board policy "...Trustees serve large constituencies, and fulfilling the representational role is challenging. A democratic system entitles everyone to a voice but does not ensure that everyone will always be content with decisions that are made. Although a Trustee must serve their community as an elected representative, their primary task is to act as a member of a corporate board, and to be accountable for the collective decisions of the Board and the delivery and quality of educational services."

Trustees of this Board will continue to advocate for public education through our membership in the Ontario Public School Boards Association, and by working collaboratively with staff and our communities to ensure students have expanding opportunities, in all pathways, to help them achieve success and well-being. As we begin a new term, we must all be committed to working collaboratively to meet these objectives, together.

In closing, I would like to extend my appreciation to staff, families, and Limestone's school communities, for the outstanding work on behalf of our students this past year. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

Suzanne Ruttan,
Chair, Limestone District School Board of Trustees

SEE YOURSELF IN LIMESTONE

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.

Suzanne Ruttan (Chair) | Debra Rantz (Director of Education and Secretary) | Craig Young (Treasurer)



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