



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 19, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll call:

Trustees:	Staff:
J. Brown G. Elliott B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) T. Lloyd K. Maracle K. McGregor J. Morning J. Neill S. Ruttan E. Eckloff (Student Trustee) A.J. O'Keefe (Student Trustee) A. Wang (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education M. Christopher, IT Programmer A. Grange, Communications Consultant M. Crothers, Communications Consultant S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent of Education A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources J. Silver, Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent of Education T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent
Guests:	Recorder:
	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hutcheon welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting and called the roll. The meeting began with and opening by Crystal Loft and Many Smart, Traditional Mohawk Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chair Hutcheon noted that due to the staff awards, private session will take place following the public meeting.

MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor and seconded by Trustee Godkin that the agenda, as presented, be approved. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chair Hutcheon asked that if Trustees have a conflict of interest, could they please identify the agenda item number. There were no conflicts declared.

4. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION

4.1 Limestone District School Board Staff Awards: Barry C. O'Connor Excellence in Education Awards, J.C. McLeod Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Chair Hutcheon invited Awards Committee member Trustee Elliott to introduce the Barry C. O'Connor Excellence in Support Staff Awards and the J.C. McLeod Excellence in Teaching awards.

Trustee Elliott remarked that it is an honour to present staff awards which recognize the exemplary service by staff to students across the Limestone District School Board. He introduced the award.

The Barry C. O'Connor Award recognizes excellence in education as provided by support staff throughout the district. This award was established to recognize support staff in the following categories: Clerical and Secretarial, Custodial and Maintenance, Educational Services Staff, Educational Assistants, Early Childhood Educators, Central Office Staff and Administrators, and Other Support Staff and Volunteers.

Trustee Elliott invited the following staff to read the citations for the Barry C. O'Connor Award winners:

Clerical and Secretarial

Associate Superintendent Talya Mckenna on behalf of Principal Molly Slate – Sandra Sands, Sydenham High School.

Educational Services Staff

Principal Michael Blackburn – Michele Miller, Educational Services

Educational Assistant

Principal Allison Croth – Susanne Casement, Perth Road Public School

Central Office Staff

Superintendent Sue McWilliams – Susan Bowles, Education Centre

Other Support Staff – Community Volunteer

Expanded Opportunities Consultant Geoff Petznick – Barry Botham

Trustee Elliott extended congratulations to the 2023-2024 recipients of the Barry C. O'Connor Excellence in Education Awards on behalf of the Trustees and introduced the next award.

J.C. McLeod was the Director of Education for the former Lennox and Addington County Board of Education from 1969 to 1983. He recognized and rewarded excellence in teaching throughout his time as director and on his retirement, he established a fund to continue this focus.

This award recognizes the outstanding contributions of individual teachers to classroom instruction or the improvement of classroom instruction, over a number of years. This distinguished award is presented annually to one teacher in the elementary panel and one teacher in the secondary.

Trustee Elliott invited the following staff to read the citations for the J.C. McLeod Award Winners:

Principal Michael Blackburn and Elementary Teacher Kristin Sturgis – Angela Moslinger

Education Consultant Melissa Baker-Cox – Kelly Pilgrim

Trustee Elliott congratulated the 2023-2024 J.C. McLeod Award winners and thanked them for their exemplary service to students and staff across the Limestone District School Board.

Chair Hutcheon called for a short recess.

4.2 Recognition of Outgoing Student Trustees.

Chair Hutcheon stated “It is my privilege, on behalf of all Trustees and senior staff to acknowledge the service of this year’s Student Trustees, Emily Eckloff, Andrea Wang, and Ava Jean O’Keefe.

All three Student Trustees are exceptional student leaders, as evidenced by their continued efforts to further develop student voice across our school district, as well as at the provincial level, bringing Limestone student voices to the Ontario Student Trustee Association.

You have all made a positive difference around this horseshoe and represented the students at

the Limestone District School Board with integrity and passion. Thank you for your work over the past year.

Next year, Urban Student Trustee Wang will be attending the University of Toronto, St. George Campus, to study life sciences, and has signed with the women's volleyball team! Attending the Fall General Meeting and having the opportunity to speak to Student Trustees across the province was a highlight for Trustee Wang.

Indigenous Student Trustee Eckloff will be attending Trent University, majoring in Indigenous Environmental Studies. Meeting with the ISC representatives to play the spirit day events and getting to see everyone participate in the activities was a highlight for Student Trustee Eckloff.

Rural Student Trustee O'Keefe will be attending McMaster University in social sciences. All of the Inner Student Council Meetings were a highlight for Student Trustee O'Keefe, as she enjoyed meeting people and forming friendships with all of the student representatives.

We thank all three of you for your leadership, strong advocacy, and dedication to your role as Student Trustees, and wish you good luck with your future endeavours!

On behalf of your fellow trustees and the senior staff of the Limestone District School Board, it is my honor to present honorariums to each of you, recognizing your term of office, and to help further your studies. Congratulations!"

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 Regular Board Meeting – May 15, 2024

5.2 Budget Committee Meeting – May 22, 2024

5.3 Education, Policy, and Operations Committee Meeting – June 5, 2024

5.4 Budget Committee Meeting – June 5, 2024

MOVED BY Trustee McGregor and seconded by Trustee Neill that the minutes, as presented, be approved. Carried.

6. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

6.1 Chair's Update

Limestone District School Board

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

SEE YOURSELF IN LIMESTONE

Chair Hutcheon shared her report: “Good evening, Trustees, and the viewing public. I would like to once again, on behalf of the Trustees of the Limestone District School Board, acknowledge and congratulate this year’s staff award recipients.

It is hard to believe that another school year is almost complete, and lots of celebrations are underway for our graduates, staff, and our partnerships within our communities. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, congratulations to all for the incredible efforts underway, everyday, that continue to support student learning within the safe and welcoming environments across Limestone.

June is a busy month across our District and includes both National Indigenous People’s Day on Friday (June 21) and Pride Month. We are honoured to have tonight’s meeting begin with an opening from the Traditional Mohawk Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga in advance of National Indigenous People’s Day on Friday.

As many of you know, Limestone participated in both the Greater Napanee Pride Parade in early June, and the Kingston Pride Parade this past Saturday. It was wonderful to see the number of Limestone students, staff, and families participating in both parades.

I would also like to highlight new information we just received yesterday regarding a couple of student awards from OPSBA:

Ailia Syeda from Frontenac Secondary School was selected as the recipient of the 2024 Jack A. MacDonald Award of Merit. This award is given annually to an exceptional student for exemplary achievements in academics, leadership, and community service.

Ella Rickard from Napanee District Secondary School was awarded an OPSBA Certificate of Recognition.

Grace de Varennes From Sydenham High school was awarded an OPSBA Certificate of Recognition.

Congratulations to Ailia, Ella, and Grace. All three will be recognized in a couple of weeks at the OPSBA Annual General Meeting.

As we are marking the end of another academic year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude. As a school board and community, when faced with any unprecedented challenges throughout the school year, we preserved, adapted, and thrived. Our students excelled academically and creatively. It has been wonderful over the past month to celebrate our students and staff including Student Achievers, the Skills Ontario and Skills Canada teams, as

well as tonight's Staff Awards winners. Their achievements reflect the dedication of our educators and the supportive environment we foster.

I express my heart-felt gratitude to the entire Limestone District School Board community. Together, we have navigated challenges and celebrated successes. May our shared commitment to education propel us toward a brighter future. I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer. This concludes my report."

6.2 Director's Update

Director Burra stated "Good evening, Trustees and the viewing public. I am pleased to provide you with my update tonight as we enter the last ten days of the 2023-2024 school year.

June is always a time of reflection as we complete one school year and continue preparations for the next school year. It is also a time of change as we see students graduate from secondary school, staff retire, and many staff and students prepare for transitions. It is also a time of celebration across the system as students graduate and enjoy end-of-year activities and celebrations. We were able to enjoy some celebrations this evening with the annual Limestone staff awards. We heard, and saw, some great examples of people focused on doing the very best they can to support students and learning in LDSB.

In recent weeks and months, many graduating Limestone students have received significant scholarships and admissions to universities, colleges, and apprenticeships or have developed work plans for next year. With secondary graduations just over a week away, I know Trustees and senior staff can look forward to hearing the plans of LDSB grads at those celebrations and honouring the graduates of 2024.

In reflecting on the 2023-2024 school year, or any other school year, I think it is important to again remember Kathy Freston's wise words: "The goal is progress, not perfection." In education, the stakes are always high for each learner, and there is always more we can do to serve each student. During this school year, two good examples that indicate progress is being made but that more work remains, are the current changes we are making to elementary special education service delivery based on the Special Education Review and the feedback we collected during that process, and the additional Student Census Sense of Belonging Report we released this past fall. Both engagements provide us with voice and direction for moving forward.

As Trustees are aware, further engagement occurred this year to finalize the new LDSB Strategic Plan and to ensure we collected voice from the communities we serve regarding budget priorities. These are just two examples.

Given June is National Indigenous History Month, and Friday is National Indigenous Peoples Day, Trustees should be aware that there are a range of activities supported by the Limestone Indigenous team, as well as Knowledge Keepers in schools providing a range of learning for students.

As just one example, the Indigenous Education team will be engaged in a wide range of activities scheduled to occur at City Park as part of the local Indigenous community's celebration of this important date. The Indigenous team is supporting and facilitating many elementary LDSB classes visiting the park on Friday. You can look forward to hearing more about this in one of this evening's reports.

June is also Pride month, and like the last couple of years, Limestone formally participated in the third annual Greater Napanee Pride Parade earlier this month, which was a great success, and we also had a very strong presence this past weekend for the Kingston Pride Parade. We must continue to take a strong stance in support of human rights, and against hate in the communities we serve.

In closing, I want to offer my congratulations to all students graduating from Limestone and to staff entering their last ten days of work with Limestone. There is much to be proud of in Limestone and I have a great deal of gratitude and humility in serving as its Director. Thank you also to the Board of Trustees for your continued collaboration, strong support of public education, and advocacy. While all of us around this table may not always agree on everything, I think we can all be proud of the way we conduct ourselves and work together for the betterment of Limestone students. Thank you, Chair Hutcheon; that concludes my report for this evening."

7. REPORTS

7.1 OPSBA Report – Trustee McGregor

Trustee McGregor provided her update:

- The Healthy Democracy Scholarship closes on June 28th for students who make a positive contribution to their community. If you are aware of deserving student, you are

encouraged to submit a nomination.

- OPSBA on behalf of school boards won the 2010-2012 Copyright litigation which resulted in Limestone District School Board receiving funds.

7.2 Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustee Eckloff read her report: "Good evening trustees, we had our last ISC meeting on June 4th where Trustee O'Keefe and Trustee Wang chaired the meeting. We invited the incoming co-presidents from each school, who already had elections, to the meeting so they could get a small sense of what meetings would look like. This meeting consisted of a potluck brought in by students and a discussion of the year, the end-of-year event, what we think went well, what we think we could improve on, and whether we achieved our goal of increasing spirit.

Each school had a different year-end event, some hosted carnivals, and some hosted barbeques. We went around the table to share the events at each school that happened throughout the day and how they went, for example, many schools had bouncy castles and face painting which some said was their most popular event. Each school had some sort of teacher-inflicted event in which students calculated either the number of balls thrown to dunk a teacher, how many people donated to pie a teacher or how many tickets were bought to pie a teacher.

We then discussed how we improved spirit within the schools, how the board-wide spirit days went, and how those have improved spirit. Some schools saw a difference in spirit with select spirit days, other schools saw little to no spirit with the spirit days. The main issue we ran into was the advertisement and getting the word out inside schools. We also took this opportunity to come up with ideas on what the future incoming student council presidents could work towards to increase areas of focus around their schools.

Finally, we ended the meeting with questions. Ava, Andrea, and I said our goodbyes to the current ISC reps and gave words of advice to the incoming ISC crew."

Chair Hutcheon thanked the Student Trustees for their report.

7.3 Reports for Action – None at this time.

7.4 Reports for Information

7.4.1 Operational Plan: Indigenous Education Update

Superintendent Gillam began by introducing his report. He shared a snapshot of the operational plan and explained the six areas relating to the Student Achievement Plan (SAP). He began by referencing the four main goals of focus:

- Improve student well-being/sense of belonging, participation/engagement in class time and time focused on learning.
- Improve math & literacy learning and achievement for every student.
- Improve graduation rates and preparedness for future success for all groups of students.
- Improve responsiveness and service to families, staff, and community partners.

Superintendent Gillam shared a chart that links the Strategic Plan to the six main goals of the Board Action Plan which includes:

- Improving student achievement for self-identified Indigenous students.
- Indigenous language revitalization.
- Land-based learning.
- Engagement and collaboration with local Indigenous partners.
- Increasing student and educator knowledge of Indigenous history, perspectives, contributions and ways of knowing.
- Increasing culturally-responsive well-being supports.

Superintendent Gillam recognized the hard work of the Indigenous Education Committee (IEC). He reminded Trustees that the IEC was repurposed in November of 2023. The IEC has oversight of the Board Action Plan and has been effective, efficient and well attended at all levels. This committee also aids in connecting with the local Indigenous community, Knowledge Keepers, Elders and families & caregivers. He highlighted the work, events and opportunities that occurred this school year in the Indigenous Education portfolio:

- Annual Lake Ontario Park Days
- Allyship Café
- Skátne/Yonkwateweyénhstha Monthly meeting for all teachers to come together to learn about Indigenous-informed pedagogy.
- NAC 10 PD
- Language Leads PD

- Hide Workshop
- Annual NAC 10 days with KSS – 10 classrooms from Kingston Secondary School spent the day learning from Indigenous community members.
- Indigenous Student Leadership circle.
- Métis workshops with Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuck.
- Visit with Marsha Ireland.
- Learning about Food.
- Basket weaving
- NBE PD Grade 11 NBE English (understanding contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voices).
- Loom beading & Math.
- Christy Jordan-Fenton author.
- Art Exhibit with Jaylene Cardinal & Dakota Ward.

Superintendent Gillam concluded by sharing a video of five students who are learning Algonquin and Kanyen'kéha taught across LDSB by Danka Brewer and Tahnee Bennett. Finally, he invited everyone to join their local Indigenous Peoples Day at City Park later this week.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Superintendent Gillam for his report.

7.4.2 Operational Plan: French as a Second Language

Associate Superintendent Hedderson introduced his report. He reviewed some of the supporting strategic plan goals including:

- Improve student well-being/sense of belonging, participation/engagement in class time, and time focused on learning.
- Improve literacy learning and achievement for every student.
- Improve graduation rates and preparedness for future success for all groups of students.

Associate Superintendent Hedderson explained that we are currently in the final year of the three-year plan of provincial goals for French as a second language in English speaking school boards. He highlighted some of the strategies and actions that link into the provincial framework which include:

- Increasing student confidence in speaking French using cross-curricular opportunities and grants for (FSL) educators.
- Increasing student achievement in FSL literacy through reading, screeners and training in

Acadienne Français.

Associate Superintendent Hedderson shared some examples of the work completed including honouring Indigenous ways of knowing and doing in FSL classrooms and building awareness and understanding of expanded opportunities and pathways options for student while speaking French. He outlined some of the FSL educator professional learning highlights:

- Neurolinguistic approach course for FSL educators (K-12, French immersion and Core French educators).
- Universal screeners (Acadienne Français) for K-2/3 FSL Immersion educators, SSTs, VP/SSTs and ECEs.
- More training for *Correcteurs* for the *Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française*.

He concluded by sharing a graph of the increase in the percentage of students studying FSL until Graduation which depicted a significant increase in 2023-2024 aligning well with Provincial objectives.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Associate Superintendent Hedderson and called upon Trustees for questions.

7.4.3 Math Achievement Action Plan Update

Associate Superintendent Hedderson noted that this is the final update that he would be bringing to Trustees ahead of writing the final report. He began with some snapshots of work completed by students across the Limestone District School Board. He reminded Trustees about the three Provincial Priority Actions:

- Math content knowledge for teaching.
- Fidelity of the Math curriculum.
- Knowing the Math learner.

He reviewed work completed from February-June 2024 in Grade nine at four priority Secondary Schools in the areas of program planning, assessment and evaluation and professional learning.

Associate Superintendent Hedderson reminded Trustees about the associated actions of the Phase II MAAP which include a Math content/curriculum focus, pre-assessment, review resources & plan for learning, intervention & post-assessment as well as monitoring for impact. He shared some updated information of Board Phase II KPIs in K-12 Math:

- % of schools who have engaged families and their school communities to support different ways of understanding and doing mathematics
- % of educators planning the core math block in response to student data collected from multiple, frequent assessment opportunities.
- % educators using a digital math tool (technology) to support student mathematics learning at home and at school, and to understand current student understanding and provide targeted supports.

Associate Superintendent Hedderson shared some metrics utilized in K-10 Math including statistics on how students, staff, caregivers and families are accessing math tools including MathUP (staff only) and Knowledgehook. Looking ahead, the focus will be on Equity and targeting disparities, developing the MAAP, Updating the KPIs and developing the new Math Action Team.

Associate Superintendent Hedderson explained what the system reports will look like next school year.

He concluded by sharing some sample actions to build family support for improved outcomes in Math and highlighted some of the community outreach including the Ontario Association for Mathematics Education (OAME) Family Math Morning.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Associate Superintendent Hedderson and called upon Trustees for questions.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

11. NOTICE OF MOTION

None at this time.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Elliott announced that his wife, April Elliott has accepted the role as the first Vice-President of the local Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO).

13. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

- 13.1 Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – April 17, 2024
- 13.2 Indigenous Education Committee Minutes – March 19, 2024
- 13.3 Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – May 13, 2024

14. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

August 21, 2024

15. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND PRIVATE SESSION

Chair Hutcheon Called for a motion for the Board to move into private session:

MOTION: To move into Private Session.

MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor and seconded by Trustee Godkin. Carried.

PRIVATE SESSION

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Staff:
J. Brown G. Elliott B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) T. Lloyd K. Maracle K. McGregor J. Morning J. Neill S. Ruttan E. Eckloff (Student Trustee) A.J. O'Keefe (Student Trustee) A. Wang (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent of Education A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources J. Silver, Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent of Education T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent
Guests:	Recorder:

None at this time.

S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

15. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION: To move into Private Session.

MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor and seconded by Trustee Lloyd. Carried.

16. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Vice-Chair Godkin asked that if Trustees have a conflict of interest, could they please identify the agenda item number. There were no conflicts declared.

17. ACTION ITEMS

17.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (private) – May 15, 2024

17.2 Education, Policy & Operations Meeting Minutes (private) – June 5, 2024

MOTION MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor that the minutes listed in Action Items, Private Session, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

18. FOR INFORMATION

18.1 **Safe Schools Update** – None at this time.

18.2 **Property Update** – Director Burra provided a property update.

18.3 **Labour Update** – None at this time.

18.4 **Legal Update** – None at this time.

18.5 **Personnel Update** – None at this time.

18.6 **OPSBA Labour Update** – None at this time.

19. REPORT TO PUBLIC SESSION

Vice-Chair Godkin called for a motion for the Board to rise and report.

MOTION: That the Board rise and report to public session.

MOVED BY: Trustee Godkin and seconded by Trustee McGregor. Carried.

20. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT

Trustee Godkin stated that during the Private Session of the May 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting:

- The private session minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting of April 24, 2024.
- Associate Superintendent Gollogly gave a safe schools update.
- Associate Superintendent McKenna gave a labour update which resulted in a motion and Personnel update.

There was no other business conducted, or motions passed in Private Session.

During the Private Session of the June 5, 2024, Education, Policy and Operations Committee Meeting:

- Superintendent Young gave a property update.

There was no other business conducted, or motions passed in Private Session.

Finally, earlier this evening during Private Session:

- The private session minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting of May 15, 2024 and the EPOC Meeting of June 5, 2024.
- Director Burra gave a property update.

There was no other business conducted, or motions passed in Private Session.

I move that this report be approved.

MOTION MOVED By Trustee Godkin and seconded by Trustee McGregor that the Private Session Report be received. Carried.

21. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor and seconded by Trustee Lloyd that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.