



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 26, 2022

PRIVATE SESSION

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Staff:
J. Brown G. Elliott L. French T. Gingrich (Vice-Chair) B. Godkin R. Hutcheon K. McGregor J. Morning S. Ruttan (Chair) M. Elshrief (Student Trustee) E. Jackson (Student Trustee) J. Kolosov (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent J. Silver, Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services
Guests:	Recorder:
None at this time.	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ruttan called the meeting to order.

2. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION: To move into Private Session.

MOVED BY: Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Morning. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chair Ruttan asked Trustees if they had a conflict of interest to declare with any of the agenda items. There were no conflicts declared.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (private) – September 21, 2022

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

5. FOR INFORMATION

- 5.1 Safe Schools Update – Associate Superintendent Gollogly provided a safe schools update.
- 5.2 Property Update – None at this time.
- 5.3 Personnel Update – None at this time.
- 5.4 Labour Update – Superintendent McWilliams and Director Burra provided a labour update.
- 5.5 Legal Update – None at this time.
- 5.6 OPSBA Update – None at this time.

6. REPORT TO PUBLIC SESSION

Chair Ruttan called for a motion for the Board to rise and report.

MOTION: That the Board rise and report, and that any resolutions, be made public.
MOVED BY: Trustee Godkin. Carried.

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll call:

Trustees:	Staff:
J. Brown G. Elliott L. French T. Gingrich (Vice-Chair) B. Godkin R. Hutcheon K. McGregor J. Morning S. Ruttan (Chair) M. Elshrief (Student Trustee) E. Jackson (Student Trustee) J. Kolosov (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education M. Crothers, Communications Officer J. Douglas, Communications Officer S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent J. Silver, Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services
Guests:	Recorder:
	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

Chair Ruttan welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting and called the roll.

Trustee French provided the Acknowledgement of Territory. “We recognize that the Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land. But much more than this, the LDSB has committed and continues with real actions towards truth and reconciliation, leading the way in this journey for - students, staff and school communities, sometimes making mistakes, but genuinely making progress. Certainly, the glorious Fall weather this past week has demonstrated the beauty and connection to the land we are so privileged to be able to live, work and play on, and that has been cared for through history by - Indigenous partners. I look forward to seeing this continue and will personally support this in the community as an Ally.”

7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Limestone District School Board

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

SEE YOURSELF IN LIMESTONE

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

8. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

9. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION

None at this time.

10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT

Trustee Elliot stated that earlier this evening during Private Session:

- The minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting of September 21, 2022.
- Associate Superintendent Gollogly gave a safe schools update.
- Superintendent McWilliams and Director Burra provided a labour update which resulted in a motion being passed related to potential labour contingencies.
- There was no other business conducted, or motions passed in Private Session.

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

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11.1 Regular Board Meeting - September 21, 2022

11.2 Education, Policy, and Operations Committee Meeting Minutes - October 5, 2022

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

12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

12.1 Chair's Update

Chair Ruttan stated "I would like to extend my appreciation to all candidates who ran to become a Trustee of the Limestone District School Board. We appreciate your active commitment to the democratic process, to the students and staff of the Limestone District

School Board, and to the improvement of public education in Ontario.

Congratulations to those individuals who were successful in their candidacy. As elected officials, trustees must balance the demands of the community with the duties required by the Ministry of Education. This can be challenging and takes dedicated leadership coupled with a willingness to seek innovative ideas and the courage to implement them. The new Board of Trustees will start the new term of office on November 15.

Tonight's Board meeting marks the close of the fourth and final year of this Board's term in office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Trustees for the work we have done this year representing our constituents and ensuring students at the Limestone District School Board receive quality public education.

The term has not been without its challenges, including supporting teaching and learning through a pandemic, and although extremely difficult at times to balance pressures, trustees remained focused on student achievement and well-being.

I am proud of the work we have done and thank each of you for coming together, at the end of the day, in a spirit of harmony and co-operation despite differences of opinion, and intense and lengthy discussions around this horseshoe.

As this year ends, may we take a moment to be thoughtful and acknowledge some of the achievements attained over the term, including:

- Navigating and continuing to manage the delivery of education through the COVID-19 pandemic
- The opening of Kingston Secondary School and Module Vanier
- Establishing the community Equity Advisory Committee and the Umoja Black Advisory Committee
- Launch of the Human Rights Reporting Form for students and staff
- A continued focus on anti-racism work and equity and inclusion with the administration of the first-ever Student Census
- the election of the first Indigenous Student Trustee
- Major labour disruptions in the first year of the term

Limestone District School Board

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

SEE YOURSELF IN LIMESTONE

- the renaming of École Maple Elementary School
- unanimous vote for an Indigenous Trustee appointed to the Board
- New mental health and substance use strategy

On behalf of this Board of Trustees, I wish to acknowledge the leadership of retired Director Debra Rantz and Director Krishna Burra, along with Limestone's Senior Staff over the last four years, for the development and delivery of initiatives that support student transitions, career paths, character development, and interventions that ensure success for all students.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for always being student-focused, and for supporting all of us through this term. Through all of this, Trustees remained focused on making decisions that effectively served all students. And that concludes my report."

12.2 Director's Update

Director Burra stated: "Good evening trustees and the viewing public. We have been very fortunate in our area to be enjoying some fantastic weather the past few days. Having visited a few schools this week and attending a couple of events: the KSS Leadership Camp, and the official Grand Opening/Beginning of the Loughborough PS Teaching Kitchen and Greenhouse; it is clear that educators and students have been taking advantage of learning opportunities outdoors. In addition, I look forward to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the outdoor tennis and pickleball courts at NDSS later this week.

We are also at the point of the year where Elementary Athletics have wrapped up fall seasons and have started late fall/winter extracurricular activities, and secondary athletics have already started, or will be starting, playoffs very shortly. I know I stated this last month, but feedback from students and staff has been resoundingly positive that all of these types of activities have been able to continue or have resumed for younger learners to start the 2022-2023 school year.

I am happy to report that thus far Limestone has achieved 80% of our target of \$50,000 for United Way fundraising this fall. We are hopeful that we will exceed our goal in the coming weeks as the campaign concludes. We all know that these funds are essential in supporting some of the most vulnerable children, youth, and families in the Limestone community.

In the next couple of days, an update will be sent to families sharing a range of information including the following items: we will again be sharing information for accessing tutoring services and information related to ventilation in each building. In addition, we will also be

sharing e-learning opt out information for secondary students, an update regarding the election outcome and the addition of an Indigenous Trustee, an update on the progress in working with the student census data, a reminder for people of the public health guidance regarding masking for 10 days after the onset of illness, and a labour update ensuring clarity for families around which employees within Limestone fall under the CUPE umbrella.

As trustees are aware, CUPE employees in Limestone encompass all clerical staff, custodial staff, EAs, ECEs, maintenance staff, library technicians at secondary, and most of Information Technology Services. We are hopeful that the provincial parties involved in bargaining can arrive at a fair agreement and avert any potential job action. As the media has reported, CUPE will be in a legal strike position toward the end of next week. Given all of the critical and highly valued roles CUPE encompasses in Limestone, there is no question operational viability in Limestone would be challenged to different extents depending on whether we experience a partial or full withdrawal of services.

I would like to express congratulations to the incumbent trustees who were re-elected earlier this week. I look forward to continuing to work with you to best serve students, families, and staff in Limestone. For several months we have known that we would be saying goodbye to Trustees French and Gingrich when we start the new term of the Board in mid-November. I know more will be said to acknowledge them later in the meeting. As the chair has indicated, this current Board has accomplished some very significant work. While more work remains, it is critical to pause and reflect on the positive accomplishments that have been achieved. I am confident that as a Board we can continue to make progress to better serve students, families, and staff as we move into the next term of office.

Thank you Chair Ruttan, that concludes my report.”

13. REPORTS

13.1 OPSBA Report – Trustee McGregor

Trustee McGregor indicated that she attended her first meeting. Some of the highlights included the following:

- A request that trustees make every Land Acknowledgement more customized with a personal note attached to it.
- Susan Humphries, who is the Eastern representative, expressed concerns surrounding the Code of Conduct. OPSBA has been asked to put together a committee to create a clear definition of what the Code of Conduct means across all jurisdictions.

- The property assessment scholarship will end this year and currently OPSBA is finding a way to make a new scholarship which is underway.
- Northern representatives indicated a shortage of school bus drivers.
- Peel does not have enough EA's.
- There is a new program with Peel and U of T to pilot incentive to youth with barriers who are interested in pursuing teaching which will offer one university credit when graduating high school.
- PES has indicated that there could be a 50% turnover of trustees.
- A letter was sent to OPSBA requesting that the Ministry extend their electronic meetings until the end of the year.
- There will be an Advocacy Day at Queens Park on November 28 where trustees will be paired with MPs.
- There were some inconsistencies with municipalities and the election including confusion with paperwork. It was proposed that this should be rectified before the next election.
- The OPSBA Directors watched Module #20 A Journey Towards Truth & Reconciliation.
- The OPSBA Directors wore orange shirts in support of National Truth & Reconciliation Day.
- OPSBA's Election Promotion Phase 1 reached 646,000 people. 2677 followed up with requests for additional information. Phase 2 will promote getting people out to vote
- Congress 2023 will be in Banff.

13.2 Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustee Kolosov stated: "This meeting was the first in-person event in three years. Although this forum had a hybrid participation, most school representatives attended in person and several members participated virtually. It was great to discuss face-to-face our meeting items, such as school initiatives, goals for the year, and new student engagement. At this interschool council meeting, we extended an invitation to Indigenous school representatives to ensure their direct participation, provide a platform to share ideas, and have a greater Indigenous voice at the Interschool council level and incorporate best practices of the Indigenous culture within different schools around the board. The environment and tone of the discussion were very positive and productive and each school representative was eager to participate.

As a group we facilitated a round-table discussion about our goals and initiatives for this school year. For the month of October/ November, schools are working on Halloween spirit days, pep-rallies and dances to bring back the school spirit.

- NDSS is starting their Hogwart's teams' points system where teams are split up by grade and work together to compete against different activities and challenges
- LCVI is running a clothing drive for Ukrainian refugees and LaSalle is running a food drive through the Greenwood neighbourhood to collect non-perishable items from the community to give back to the less fortunate in the community
- Bayridge Environmental Club shared their Green school initiative with the student council and noted the positive impact that having an outdoor classroom, "food forest" and green eating area on the property has had on students.

All schools outlined that they are working collaboratively to increase engagement and encourage grade 9 students to get involved in their schools. One of the post-pandemic trends seen at schools is a lack of representation in younger grades since the students did not get to experience being introduced to student council and other different school clubs that are available at schools. Representatives have discussed that they would like to increase the accessibility of programs to different grades by running initiatives, fairs and establishing a communication system for students to communicate and provide feedback to the student council about their events.

We discussed the different practices that our respective schools use for playing the Canadian anthem. Some schools have designated days where they do not play the anthem in order to provide an opportunity for students to reflect on the negative legacy of the residential school system. Other schools have decided not to play the anthem on the Truth and Reconciliation Day/week. There is one school that plays the Canadian anthem regularly and allocates some time after the anthem for the students to reflect on the past wrongs committed in the residential school system or brings in speakers who share their experience of being part of the residential school system. There are also schools that play the Canadian anthem regularly.

As a committee, we had a discussion of the timing of our interschool meetings and incorporated the member's feedback to adjust our online meetings to coincide with lunch

break and to schedule our in-person meetings in the first half of the day so that we could minimize the class attendance disruptions and encourage consistent participation at meeting for all school representatives.

OSTA-AECO Conference Update:

This past week, all student trustees attended the fall student OSTA-AECO Conference in Toronto. As one of the first items in the conference, we discussed many relevant and interesting items including the OSTA-AECO mission and vision statements and discussed the strategy for strengthening student voice and working collaboratively, while using the student survey results from previous years to form this year's strategies for student engagement and success.

The province's Education Minister, Stephen Lecce, briefly participated at the meeting discussing the government's goals which included the gradual approach of changing the education system for the better (modernization of the curriculum), strengthening equity and strengthening Northern school communities including providing schools with internet, necessary resources, and student services. He also talked about the focus on providing a variety of school courses to rural schools so that students' career pathway and course options are not limited as a result of their geographical location. Minister Lecce described his focus on student well-being and mental health services, particularly in the post-pandemic environment.

OSTA-AECO encourages collaboration among student trustees through many different working groups. For example, the Indigenous relations working groups that I am part of will work with the environmental group on several projects. As part of our Indigenous relations working groups, we discussed how our board is advancing Indigenous education. I outlined to the working group's members what our school is doing to support Indigenous students and make their school experience a positive one. I spoke about our Indigenous Leadership Council, having Indigenous reps at Interschool Council, having the addition of the Indigenous Trustee role, running support initiatives such as Indigenous knowledge-sharing and the alternative education program for self-identified Indigenous students to approach learning through a traditional approach. We had a representative from the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) and she spoke of the importance of mental health support for students. I

found this speaker and presentation to be the most informative and relevant from this conference as she demonstrated that she was very passionate and knowledgeable of the field she works in. I met with her after her presentation, and we spoke about our family histories and exchanged contacts. She would be a great resource for any school initiatives related to mental health in the future.

13.3 Reports for Action

None at this time.

13.4 Reports for Information

13.4.1 LDSB Strategic Action Plan – End-of-Year Report

Director Burra invited Senior Staff to the podium to present the Strategic end-of-year report for the 2021-2022 school year. He indicated that this is a requirement outlined in the Education Act for review on an annual basis. The progress of specific actions uses the traffic light system which is designed to operationalize the achievement of the strategic goals. Director Burra noted that due to the circumstances of the pandemic, some of the progress has been uneven due to the inability to engage in professional learning due to staff shortages among occasional and casual staff. The evaluations framework will also be reviewed for 2017-2022 with each outcome being assessed on its status 5 years into the 5-year plan. Director Burra reminded trustees that the strategic plan was extended by one year which is what has been historically done during an election year. In 2023 a renewal or review of the strategic plan will be completed.

Superintendents Gillam, McDonnell, McWilliams, Silver, and Associate Superintendents Gollogly, Hedderson and Sartor presented progress highlights as referenced in the report in each of the three pillars of Wellness, Innovation and Collaboration.

Chair Ruttan thanked the Superintendents and Associate Superintendents and called upon trustees for comments or questions.

13.4.2 Strategic Action Plan – Areas of Focus 2022-2023

Director Burra referred trustees to the Strategic Action Plan with Areas of Focus in the agenda package. He explained that the goal for this year was to eliminate duplication across the different areas of focus. Adjustments to language in each category was included to create a more all-encompassing, consolidated grouping which will help for a more coherent

interpretation of the Strategic Plan.

Chair Ruttan thanked Director Burra and asked Trustees for any questions.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

15. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION

None at this time.

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS

18.1 Announcement – Bravo Awards

Chair Ruttan congratulated Communications Consultants Maddie Crothers and Jane Douglas on receiving two national awards from the Canadian Association of Communicators in Education (CACE).

18.2 Recognition of Outgoing Trustees

Chair Ruttan read a citation for outgoing Trustee Gingrich and Director Burra read a citation recognizing outgoing Trustee French.

19. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

19.1 Parent Involvement Committee May 5, 2022

19.2 Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee May 10, 2022

19.3 Special Education Advisory Committee September 14, 2022

20. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

November 16, 2022 (*Initial/Inaugural Meeting – Chair/Vice selection*)

November 21, 2022 (*Nominations Committee/Special Meeting*)

December 7, 2022 EPOC
January 18, 2023
January 26-28, 2023 - OPSBA Education Symposium
February 8, 2023 EPOC
February 22, 2023
March 8, 2023 EPOC
March 29, 2023
April 26, 2023
May 3, 2023 EPOC
May 17, 2023
June 7, 2023 EPOC
June 8-10, 2023 OPSBA AGM
June 21, 2023

21. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.