



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 24, 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

Vice-Chair Gingrich called the meeting to order.

2. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION: To move into Private Session.

MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Vice-Chair Gingrich asked Trustees if they had a conflict of interest to declare with any of the agenda items. Trustees Godkin and Elliott excused themselves during Item 5.4 Labour Update.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2022

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

5. FOR INFORMATION

- 5.1 Safe Schools Update – No update at this time.
- 5.2 Property Update – No update at this time.
- 5.3 Personnel Update – No update at this time.
- 5.4 Labour Update – Superintendent McWilliams provided a labour update and Director Burra discussed a labour update.
- 5.5 Legal Update – No update at this time.
- 5.6 OPSBA Update – No update at this time.

6. REPORT TO PUBLIC SESSION

Vice-Chair Gingrich 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:
None at this time.	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

Chair Ruttan welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting and called the roll. She also welcomed Indigenous Student Trustee Julia Kolosov, Rural Student Trustee Elayna Jackson and Urban Student Trustee Mohammed Elshrief.

Chair Ruttan provided the Acknowledgement of Territory. “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 Metis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land. I would also like to acknowledge the Pope’s recent visit and I am hoping that his words are a part of our reconciliation journey.”

7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED BY: Trustee Godkin and seconded by Trustee McGregor 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 item number. There were no conflicts declared.

9. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION - None at this time.

10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT

Vice-Chair Gingrich stated that earlier this evening during Private Session:

- The minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting of June 15, 2022.
- Superintendent McWilliams provided a labour update and Director Burra discussed a labour update.

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

MOTION MOVED By Vice-Chair Gingrich and seconded by Trustee Hutcheon that the Private Session Report be received. Carried.

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11.1 Regular Board Meeting – June 15, 2022

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

12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

12.1 Chair's Update

Chair Ruttan stated: "Welcome back Trustees. We look forward to welcoming students, families, and staff to a new school year in just two weeks.

I hope that staff and trustees have had an opportunity this summer to relax and rejuvenate, spending valuable time with family and friends. I have certainly enjoyed the privilege of enjoying some quality family time this summer.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Indigenous Student Trustee Kolosov, Rural Student Trustee Jackson, and Urban Student Trustee Elshrief. Thank you for taking on the vital role of representing the students of Limestone. Student voice is crucial around this horseshoe, and we look forward to your reports and updates throughout the year.

School board trustees perform one of the most important roles in education, proving a critical link between school boards and the communities they serve.

Nominations for the upcoming municipal elections closed last week, and although there were some ridings where candidates were acclaimed, there are also healthy races in others.

I would like to acknowledge those current trustees and members of the public who have put their names forward to serve students and families of Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington in the upcoming municipal elections.

Candidates were acclaimed in the Town of Greater Napanee, with Tiffany Lloyd being uncontested, Trustees Morning in Portsmouth & Sydenham in the City of Kingston, Trustee McGregor in Central Frontenac, Addington-Highlands, and North Frontenac, and myself, representing South Frontenac, were also acclaimed.

Trustees Elliott, Godkin, Brown and Hutcheon good luck with your campaigns.

Trustee Gingrich will not be running again as a Trustee for Countryside, Kingscourt-Rideau & Williamsville, but has entered the municipal elections vying for the position of City Councillor. Trustee Gingrich thank you for your service to students and families of Limestone and good luck with your campaign.

Trustee Laurie French will be retiring from her role and the end of this term, after representing the Town of Greater Napanee since 2000. There is still lots of work ahead of us until then, and we will acknowledge Trustee French's service at a future board meeting.

Provincial labour negotiations are underway and the Ontario Public School Boards Association, through which this board of trustees is represented, will continue to negotiate in good faith with unions representing all education workers with the best interests of students in mind. We appreciate and value all the contributions Limestone employees bring to public education.

We know students, their families, and staff are excited for a new school year, and we are too, welcoming 99% of students back to in-person learning, and approximately 200 students enrolled in virtual school for the upcoming school year.

Limestone continues to follow provincial and local public health recommendations regarding COVID-19 protocols and are doing our best to ensure a safe and healthy environment for everyone.

Most health and safety requirements remain unchanged from the previous direction that school boards received at the end of the 2021-2022 school year, and we remain optimistic that the return to a more normal school experience will continue this fall.

A full complement of summer learning opportunities for both students and staff was offered by Limestone, and this fall, Limestone will continue to offer literacy and numeracy tutoring programs and mental health supports for students at risk who have been impacted by learning disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

LDSB continues to work with KFL&A Public Health and other community agencies to support a COVID community recovery plan that addresses the mental health and wellness of children, youth, and families, as well as a safe and healthy return to school.

And that concludes my report.”

12.2 Director’s Update

Director Burra stated: “Good evening, Trustees and the viewing public joining us online or in-person. I am pleased to provide you with my update tonight as we prepare for the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

I hope everyone found space for some holiday time this summer to enjoy time with family and friends. Obviously with the summer season schools were not running as they do for the other ten months of the year. However, there was lots of activity for students this July and August. Over 200 students participated in Camp Read-A-Lot, almost 1,300 students participated in some form of tutoring sessions, and over 500 secondary students participated in summer session earning credits. In addition, over 400 students participated in outdoor education programming offered at some schools, at Gould Lake, and/or on outdoor education trips. Trustees will receive a report in September providing more details regarding the range of summer programs that occurred in July and August. In addition, a considerable amount of facilities work occurs in schools during the summer and Manager Fowler will provide a summary of this work in September as well.

We are greatly looking forward to welcoming back staff and almost 20,000 students as the school year starts. While 99 per cent of students will be in face-to-face classrooms, Limestone continues to offer a virtual option for almost 200 students. Regardless of the format of learning, Limestone will continue to meet students where they are and support student well-being. Mental health and well-being are essential conditions for learning of all students.

As Trustees and the viewing public are aware, a couple of weeks ago the provincial government confirmed that the health and safety measures in place for the start of the school year will resemble those in place this past June. As a summary this includes the following: based on the advice of the CMOH, masks will not be required for students, staff, and visitors in schools, school board offices, or on student transportation; I should note that KFL&A Public Health continues to encourage the use of masking in indoor, congregate settings; high-quality masks will continue to be provided for those students and staff who want them; schools will continue to be provided with a supply of Rapid Antigen test kits for staff or student use; staff and students are still expected to screen prior to attending work or school, and stay home when ill; there is continued emphasis on hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette; as well as continued emphasis on cleaning; and continued focus on maximizing fresh-air intake, use of HEPA units in Kindergarten classrooms and areas without full mechanical ventilation and/or partial ventilation; use of MERV 13 filtration where possible, and continued investment in ventilation infrastructure. I should note that updated ventilation information will be posted on our website for the start of next week. As always, Limestone continues to work closely with KFL&A Public Health in ensuring that we are supporting the health of students, staff, and the community. Given the current context, like we have done the past couple of years, if family circumstances require a potential change of learning format, we will do the best we can to accommodate changes starting next week.

While the pandemic continues to evolve, we must all continue to be prepared for change. Similarly, as the chair noted, given labour negotiations are ongoing, we will need to adapt as required, and we will continue to update families if or when circumstances change. At the moment, we know that schools will be welcoming students back on September 6 and expect a full range of activities to be available for students to start the 2022-2023 school year. We all know the resumption of these extracurriculars like sports and clubs, full arts programming, field trips, and celebrations in 2021-2022 were very well received. As Trustees know, all of these student activities are made possible by the generous time provided by staff and some community members. I think I speak for everyone in expressing our gratitude to the staff and community members that provide these valuable experiences and services to Limestone students. Throughout the past couple of years, we have seen the value and importance of schools and staff providing much more than learning for students. As I mentioned in June, the return of more normal operations in schools and the opportunities for a wider range of

experiences this past spring, was well-received by students, staff, and the wider Limestone community.

If school operations are impacted, or require alteration, due to the pandemic, or due to the status of provincial negotiations, we will keep the Limestone community informed and continue to support the system to the best of our abilities.

And finally, I would like to highlight the fact that hundreds of Limestone educators will be participating in our Summer Institute tomorrow. We are very pleased to be able to provide this valuable learning opportunity to staff again in a face-to face format. This is just one example of learning that Limestone educators have been participating in this summer. As we all know, learning is a journey, not a destination, and we must always model learning to support the system and do the best we can to serve students. We hope to be able to offer a range of professional learning for staff that has not been possible the past couple of years.

That concludes my report.”

13. REPORTS

13.1 OPSBA Report – Trustee McGregor

Trustee McGregor indicated that negotiations are now underway. She also advised that Penny Mustin, Director of Labour Relations, since 2013 with OPSBA has retired, however she will stay on until OPSBA finds a replacement.

13.2 Student Trustees’ Report – None at this time.

13.3 Reports for Action

13.3.1 Short-Term Borrowing Resolution

Superintendent Young indicated that the purpose of the report was to recommend a short-term borrowing resolution for the 2022-23 school year to meet cash flow requirements. The *Education Act* requires the Treasurer of the Board furnish to the bank a copy of the resolutions authorizing the borrowing of the funds. Superintendent Young reviewed the report with Trustees.

Chair Ruttan called upon Trustees for comments or questions.

MOTION MOVED by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Morning that the Board authorize the signing officers of the Board to enter into agreements with the Royal Bank of Canada for the following:

- 1. The borrowing of funds to meet operating requirements to a maximum of \$20 million for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Carried.*

13.4 Reports for Information

13.4.1 Interim Financial Report – Q3

Manager Carson indicated that the purpose of the update is to report on the interim financial operating expenditures for the period September 1, 2021, and she noted the report does say 2022, but it should read 2021 to May 31, 2022 (Quarter 3).

Manager Carson stated that the 2021-2022 interim financial report was presented to the Board on April 27, 2022, and provided operating expenditures for the period September 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022 (Quarter 2).

Manager Carson reviewed Appendix 1 of the 2021-2022 interim financial report for quarter three with Trustees. The report indicates a spending level of 77 per cent. This is comparable to the 75 per cent spending level reported for the same period last year.

Manager Carson advised that the Board is on target to end the 2021-2022 fiscal year within the budgeted deficit of \$1,835,765.

Chair Ruttan thanked Manager Carson and called upon Trustees for comments or questions.

13.4.2 Indigenous Trustee Update

Superintendent Gilliam indicated this update is related to the process and timeline for the appointment of an Indigenous Trustee by the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ).

Superintendent Gilliam stated that in consultation with MBQ Education Director, Heather Green, and the MBQ Council are creating a posting that will go out shortly to interested candidates for the role of an Indigenous Trustee for the Limestone District School Board as per Regulation 462/97. The posting will contain information about Limestone, as well as the role of

the trustee, and has a specific item in there, that they are asking the particular person to bring the voices of all Indigenous peoples, beyond just the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte. The anticipated date of an appointment will coincide with the fall municipal election and the new Board.

Superintendent Gilliam indicated that at present there is no concern from the MBQ if Reciprocal Education Agreement (REA) student numbers fall to zero. They are confident that some students will continue to attend NDSS. If the number does fall to zero, consultation will occur, and any adjustments could potentially be made prior to the next trustee election in 2026. Staff continue to review policies for potential implications with the addition of a tenth trustee. Edits will be brought to the Board for approval when this process is complete.

Chair Ruttan thanked Superintendent Gillam and called upon Trustees for comments or questions.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14.1 School Pedestrian Safety Working Group Recommendations

Associate Superintendent Gollogly stated that City Council passed a motion directing City staff to establish a School Transportation Safety Panel. As of two weeks ago that has been established and it is comprised of the City of Kingston, Limestone District School Board, Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board, Tri-Board Student Transportation, Kingston Police, and KFL&A Public Health representatives. These people are all responsible for implementing, operating, and managing various components of student safety at school sites as students arrive and leave. The panel works collaboratively to provide expertise to inform decision making, and assessing and addressing school related transportation and safety issues.

Associate Superintendent Gollogly advised that this panel is very much in its infancy. Through the year she will be reporting back to provide panel updates and informing the Board what direction or what issues have arisen.

Associate Superintendent Gollogly noted that at this time the school street program, through Kingston Coalition for Active Transportation (KCAT) will continue at Winston Churchill Public School. KCAT will coordinate and operate the program independently. A protocol/template will be developed in the fall which will detail how this program could potentially function at other sites. This “playbook” will look at the successes at Winston Churchill and see how we can apply

this to other sites, knowing that other sites are quite different. We are currently collaborating with KFL&A Public Health, and Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board to develop street safety curriculum that will be available to all elementary schools this fall. The target audience will be Kindergarten to Grade 6 learners.

Chair Ruttan thanked Associate Superintendent Gollogly and called upon Trustees for comments or questions.

15. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION

None at this time.

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None at this time.

19. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

None at this time.

20. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Regular Board Meeting – September 21, 2022

21. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.