

## Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2026

### PRIVATE SESSION

#### Roll Call:

<b>Trustees:</b>	<b>Staff:</b>
G. Elliott B. Godkin R. Hutcheon (approved virtual) T. Lloyd (Vice-Chair) J. Maracle K. McGregor (Chair) J. Morning (approved regrets) J. Neill S. Ruttan C. Scott M. Comeau (Student Trustee) (regrets) R. Kolosov (Student Trustee) (regrets) S. Ismail (Student Trustee) (regrets)	K. Burra, Director of Education M. Blackburn, Associate Superintendent P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services M. Crothers, Communications Consultant
<b>Guests:</b>	<b>Recorder:</b>
	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Lloyd called the meeting to order.

### 2. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND PRIVATE SESSION

*MOTION: To move into Private Session.*

*MOVED BY: Trustee Scott and seconded by Trustee Elliott. Carried.*

### 3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Vice-Chair Lloyd 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) – January 14, 2026
- 4.2. Education, Policy, and Operations Committee Meeting Minutes (Private) – February 4, 2026

#### Limestone District School Board

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

*MOVED BY: Trustee Scott 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
- 5.3. Labour Update
- 5.4. Personnel Update – Trustees Discussed a Personnel Update.
- 5.5. Legal Update – Superintendent Young provided a Legal Update.
- 5.6. OPSBA Update

## 6. REPORT TO PUBLIC SESSION

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

*MOTION: That the Board rise and report.*

*MOVED BY: Trustee Elliott. Carried.*

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Roll Call:

<b>Trustees:</b>	<b>Staff:</b>
G. Elliott B. Godkin R. Hutcheon (virtual) T. Lloyd (Vice-Chair) J. Maracle K. McGregor (Chair) J. Morning (approved regrets) J. Neill S. Ruttan C. Scott M. Comeau (Student Trustee) R. Kolosov (Student Trustee) S. Ismail (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education M. Blackburn, Associate Superintendent M. Crothers, Communications Consultant S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education (virtual) T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services
<b>Guests:</b>	<b>Recorder:</b>
Principal Kate Myers Staff Caitlin Turcotte PSW Student Luciana Xavier Vandermeer	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

### Limestone District School Board

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

Chair McGregor welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting and called the roll. She provided the Land Acknowledgement: “The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek 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.”

## **7. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

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

## **8. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Chair McGregor asked that if Trustees have a conflict of interest, could they please identify the item number. Trustee Maracle advised that, out of an abundance of caution regarding agenda item 9.1, he serves as a cultural advisor for the Practical Nursing and Personal Support Worker (PSW) programs at First Nations Technical Institute.

## **9. PRESENTATION/DELEGATION**

### **9.1 LDSB Continuing Education: A Closer Look at the Personal Support Worker Program**

Associate Superintendent Blackburn welcomed Principal Kate Myers, staff member Caitlin Turcotte, and student Luciana Xavier Vandermeer. An overview of Continuing Education programs was provided, with a focus on the PSW program as a strong example of Ministry-supported community partnership. Principal Myers outlined the six Continuing Education programs offered: International and Indigenous Languages, Adult English as a Second Language (ESL), Get Set (Skills Education and Training), teacher-assisted self-study/correspondence credits, fee-for-service interest courses, and the PSW program.

The PSW program, normally tuition-based, has been tuition-free for approximately five years through Ministry funding, currently committed until March 31, 2026. The program operates as a “living classroom” in partnership with the County of Lennox and Addington at the John M. Parrott Centre long-term care home, supported through multiple funding waves, with an additional application pending. The accelerated five-month program emphasizes dignity, respect, compassion, and real-world learning, integrating students early into the long-term care environment. The program includes 330 hours of theory and lab instruction, 110 hours of supervised placement, two additional 100-hour unsupervised placements, and the opportunity to earn six secondary school credits where applicable. Successful completion of the provincial PSW exam is required.

Since September 2024, 78 students have enrolled, with a 71% completion rate and a 100% employment rate among graduates, exceeding provincial targets. Wrap-around supports help reduce barriers by

### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

covering items such as scrubs, footwear, transportation, rent, and groceries. Strong provincial and local demand for PSWs was noted, particularly in light of upcoming long-term care builds. The program meets provincial curriculum standards and has completed quality assurance certification. Ms. Turcotte spoke to the supportive learning environment, the value of the living classroom model, and the program's focus on dignity, independence, individualized care, privacy, and safety. Ms. Xavier Vandermeer shared her experience as a recent graduate, highlighting the program's high standards, strong supports, and impact on her personal and professional development.

Chair McGregor thanked the team for their presentation and opened the floor to questions.

## **10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT**

Trustee Lloyd stated: "During Private Session following at the February 4 Education, Policy, and Operations Committee (EPOC) Meeting, Associate Superintendent Hedderson and Associate Superintendent Blackburn provided a Legal and Property Update.

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

Earlier this evening during Private Session, the private session minutes were approved from the January 14, 2026, Regular Board Meeting and the February 4, 2026, EPOC Meeting. Associate Superintendent Gollogly provided a Safe Schools update, Superintendent Young provided a legal update, and Trustees discussed a Personnel update.

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

*MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd and seconded by Trustee Scott that the Private Session Report be received.  
Carried.*

## **11. APPROVED ABSENCES**

Chair McGregor indicated that Trustee Hutcheon is joining the meeting virtually which was approved prior to the meeting as per the by-laws. She also indicated that regrets were received from Trustee Morning to have her absence from tonight's meeting due to reasons outlined in Policy 15. Chair McGregor called for a motion:

*MOVED BY: Trustee Elliott and seconded by Trustee Scott that Trustee Morning's absence be approved.  
Carried.*

## **12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair McGregor asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:

### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

- 12.1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2026
- 12.2. Education, Policy, and Operations Committee Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2026

Trustee Godkin indicated that he would like to separate 12.2. Education, Policy, and Operations Committee Meeting minutes from February 4, 2026. Trustee Godkin shared a statement on behalf of Trustee Neill: “In accordance with LDSB Policy 15, section 2.3.0, Trustee Neill requests that the Board officially approves his absence from the February 4, 2026, Education, Policy, and Operations Committee meeting and amend the current minutes. Trustee Neill was unable to attend that meeting face-to-face or virtually due to criteria outlined in Policy 15. He missed this meeting due to extenuating circumstances. He appreciates Trustees considering his request to have his absence approved.”

*MOVED BY Trustee Godkin and seconded by Trustee Scott that the minutes, as amended, be approved.  
Carried.*

Chair McGregor called for a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2026.

*MOVED BY Trustee Godkin and seconded by Trustee Scott that the minutes, as presented, be approved.  
Carried.*

### **13. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

#### **13.1. Chair’s Report**

Chair McGregor stated: “As we gather for our February meeting, I want to take a moment to recognize the energy across our schools as we begin a new semester. Hallways and classrooms are buzzing, and it’s been wonderful to see students engaged in winter activities that support learning, well-being, and connection during these colder months.

Looking ahead, we will soon be launching our 2026-2027 budget survey. This is an important opportunity for members of the public to share their feedback and perspectives as we begin planning the budget for the next school year. Community input plays a meaningful role in informing our budget-making process, and we encourage families and community members to participate when the survey opens.

I would also like to highlight Pink Shirt Day on February 25. Schools across the district will be recognizing this day as a visible show of our shared commitment to kindness, inclusion, and respect. We are proud of the many ways our schools foster safe and welcoming environments where every student feels they belong.

#### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

Thank you to our students, staff, and school communities for the positive start to the semester and for the important work happening each day across our district. That concludes my report.”

### **13.2. Director’s Report**

Director Burra stated: “Good evening Trustees and the viewing public. It is hard to believe, but we are already a few weeks into the second half of the 2025-2026 school year. First term and first semester report cards have been sent home or are going home this week, secondary students are making course selections for next year, Choices at 9 programs have completed their processes, Choices at 7 programs will be making decisions soon, March Break is just around the corner, and planning is well underway for the 2026-2027 school year. Preparations for next year will continue to ramp up and we eagerly await the release of the budget for next school year that may well be delayed given Queen’s Park is in recess until March 23. I have a number of highlights and upcoming events that I would like to share this evening.

One significant highlight occurred on February 4 just before our EPOC meeting when a Black History kick-off event was held at LCVI. While I know Senior Staff and some Trustees were able to attend most of the event due to our EPOC meeting, there were several performances highlighting the significance of Black History in Canada and the local region. It should also be noted that this February is the 30th anniversary of Black History Month in Canada. A big thank you to teacher consultant Andrea Barrow and students and staff of LCVI for hosting this event. I should also note that the very impressive banners highlighting significant Black Canadians that were displayed at the event are now part of a travelling historical exhibit that will be making the rounds at different secondary schools this month and some elementary schools in the spring. Andrea Barrow has also created a range of resources to support Black History Month in LDSB schools, as well as resources to support curriculum delivery in schools.

A significant upcoming event is what we are hoping will be an outstanding Skills Competition at St. Lawrence College next week on February 25 and February 26. Almost 500 Limestone students, Grades 4 to 12, will be participating across over 25 secondary events and six elementary events. The Skills Competition is yet another example of community partnership that showcases critical skills events, and the local community college.

Winter KASSAA seasons have either ended or will be ending prior to March Break. Tomorrow evening the girls volleyball championships will be held at St. Lawrence College, and Friday evening St. Lawrence hosts the boys’ basketball finals. It should be noted that LDSB has one team in two of the finals and both teams in the other two finals.

#### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

I would like to also highlight Limestone’s participation in larger community initiatives that involve multiple local partners in supporting more services for children and youth in areas across Limestone. The Unnamed Youth project and the ACES and Resilience Coalition of KFL&A. Both of these initiatives bring together partners to better serve children and youth. This is exciting work that provides hope and support for many youth requiring improved services and/or access to services.

One final highlight that I will draw Trustees’ attention to is our continued emphasis on collecting voice from the communities we serve. Tonight, Associate Superintendent Gollogly will share an overview of the school year calendar feedback and look for Trustee approval of the 2026-2027 calendar. As mentioned by Chair MacGregor, in the next couple of weeks or so, we will be providing an opportunity for input on the 2026-2027 budget. Additionally we will also gauge interest from families in virtual school programming for next year. And finally, in the spring, all Limestone families will have the opportunity to respond to a family engagement survey. Limestone school communities and staff are critical partners, and our schools are representative of the communities we serve; we have a responsibility to be responsive to community voice and changing circumstances.

And on a final note, I would like to thank all Limestone staff who contributed to the 2025 United Way campaign. We just received the final tally and LDSB staff contributed almost \$50,000 to the campaign which provides critical supports to meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable people in KFL&A, including students and families we serve.

Thank you, Chair McGregor. That concludes my report.”

## **14. REPORTS**

### **14.1. OPSBA Report**

Chair McGregor shared that she will be attending the OPSBA regional meeting scheduled for February 28, to be held virtually. The meeting will review proposed draft changes to the organizational structure including an opportunity to provide input regarding the inclusion of representation from each board at local regional tables. Following this meeting, the membership will vote on the proposed amendments on March 12, 2026.

### **14.2. Student Trustees’ Report**

#### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

Student Trustee Ismail stated: “Good afternoon, Trustees and members of the public. We held our Interschool Council (ISC) meeting February 10, chaired by Mia Comeau and Rachel Kolosov. It was a special meeting to host elections for incoming Student Trustees for the 2026-2027 school year.

This year, elections took place differently, as there were partial Tri-Board Transportation cancellations on that day. As a result, the elections took place in a hybrid format. Candidates were able to participate in the elections remotely or in-person to ensure the elections remained accessible for students.

We’ve had a total of 13 candidates; three Indigenous, four Rural, six Urban, who’ve shown interest and took part in elections for the Student Trustee. It has increased from previous years and shows that more students are feeling empowered to take part in governance and student leadership. During the election period, we had set a goal to increase visibility and the number of applications, made possible especially thanks to the efforts of the communications team. Within the Council as well, we have spent time during our meetings to brainstorm ways schools can raise awareness for the positions as well.

Last month, the Interschool Council was invited to support a board initiative connected to a provincial conference for Directors and Supervisory Officers across Ontario, centered on the theme Leaders as Agents of Change. The goal of the project, run by Associate Superintendent Sartor and Ms. Grange was to create a short compilation video that gathers student voices and lived experiences.

We were able to gather participants from Kingston Secondary School, Granite Ridge Education Centre, and Napanee District Secondary School, and over the past few weeks, those students shared their thoughts and experiences to a variety of prompts. Their voices, representing local student perspectives, are valued and being brought to conversations provincially. This concludes our February ISC report. Thank you.”

### **14.3. Reports for Action**

#### **14.3.1. Recommended School Year Calendar 2026-2027**

Associate Superintendent Gollogly presented a report recommending approval of the 2026-2027 school year calendar. It was reported that approximately 3,700 responses were received through the consultation process, with the majority submitted by families (approximately 80%), followed by staff (approximately 20%), and a small percentage from other community organizations.

It was noted that, across the three boards, Option 1 was consistently rated as the preferred calendar. However, Option 1 was identified as having financial implications for certain employee groups due to a proposed August start date. As a result, alternative options were reviewed to balance interest group feedback with operational and financial considerations.

#### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

Option 2 was presented as the recommended calendar, as it most closely aligns with Option 1 while avoiding significant financial impact. It was noted that Option 2 begins on September 1, includes standard Professional Activity days, provides a board-designated break day prior to March Break, and concludes with a Professional Activity day on June 29. Based on consultation feedback and operational considerations, approval of Option 2 for the 2026-2027 school year calendar was recommended.

*MOTION MOVED by Trustee Ruttan and seconded by Trustee Neill that Trustees approve the recommended Calendar Option 2 for the 2026-2027 School Year Calendar. Carried.*

#### **14.4. Reports for Information**

##### **14.4.1. Trustee Distribution**

Superintendent Young presented a report regarding Trustee determination and distribution in preparation for the 2026 municipal election. It was noted that this report is brought forward on a cyclical basis and that Trustees who served during the previous review in 2021-2022 were acknowledged for their work, as the last process involved extensive discussion and adjustments to electoral boundaries.

Trustees were directed to the agenda package, which includes background information on electoral boundaries, legislative requirements, and key timelines related to the upcoming municipal election. It was reported that the Ministry has advised that it will not be issuing a new Trustee determination and distribution report for 2026, therefore, the existing 2022 report remains the reference document. Key dates outlined in the report provide a general timeline for nominations, filings, and voting, noting that specific dates may vary slightly.

Superintendent Young reported that LDSB currently has nine elected Trustee positions, consistent with provincial legislation governing boards with an electoral population between 100,000 and 149,999. Based on current projections, the Board's electoral population for 2026 is approximately 141,856, and as a result, the allowable number of elected Trustees will not change for the upcoming election. The Board will continue with nine elected Trustees, in addition to the Indigenous Trustee.

Legislative requirements were reviewed, including the Board's obligation to pass a resolution regarding the designation of low-population municipalities. It was noted that Limestone has, for several elections, designated the northern portion of the Board as low-population municipalities in order to ensure reasonable representation, and this approach remains consistent with past practice.

Trustee responsibilities in advance of the 2026 election were outlined, including finalizing the determination and distribution, approving Trustee honoraria for the next term, and appointing a compliance audit committee. These items will be brought forward in future reports for Trustee approval.

#### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

Trustee distribution maps and population data were reviewed, including ward-level information for Kingston. It was noted that there has been no notification of changes to Kingston’s electoral wards and that only minor population variations were identified since the previous election. While some student populations were not fully reflected in the current data, these figures will be updated in a subsequent report. Overall, it was reported that the existing ward-to-Trustee distribution remains well-balanced, reflecting the effectiveness of the adjustments made during the previous review.

Chair McGregor thanked Superintendent Young and opened the floor for questions.

## **15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None at this time.

## **16. NEW BUSINESS**

None at this time.

## **17. CORRESPONDENCE**

None at this time.

## **18. NOTICE OF MOTION**

None at this time.

## **19. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None at this time.

## **20. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION**

- 20.1. Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2025
- 20.2. Indigenous Education Committee Meeting Minutes – November 27, 2025
- 20.3. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – December 10, 2025
- 20.4. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2026

## **21. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

March 11, 2026

## **22. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

### **Limestone District School Board**

The Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.