



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – MAY 15, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll call:

Trustees:	Staff:
J. Brown G. Elliott (regrets) B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) T. Lloyd K. Maracle K. McGregor J. Morning J. Neill (regrets) 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 P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent of Education T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources J. Silver, Superintendent of Education
Guests:	Recorder:
2024 Student Achiever Award Winners	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

Vice Chair Godkin welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting in place of Chair Hutcheon who arrived after the Student Achiever Ceremony. He called the roll.

He began by calling upon Trustee McGregor to give 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 Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to land"

7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Godkin noted an amendment to timing and a correction to the agenda.

- Private Session will be held after the completion of the agenda and will report out to Public Session before the evening adjourns.
- Education Policy and Operations Committee minutes were omitted from the agenda package however were distributed to Trustees under separate cover for Trustee's review. As a result, they will be included for approval under agenda item 11.

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

8. 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.

9. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION

9.1 Limestone District School Board Student Achiever Awards

Vice Chair Godkin invited Awards Committee member Trustee Ruttan to introduce the awards. Trustee Ruttan stated that The Limestone Student Achievers Award recognizes outstanding achievements of secondary students whose exceptional accomplishments merit recognition beyond the separate categories of awards at the school level. On behalf of the Trustee Awards Committee: Trustees Morning, Elliott and myself, we would like to thank Associate Superintendent Gollogly, Trustee Liaison Mitton, and Limestone's secondary schools, for your support with the nominations of student achievers.

Tonight, we recognize 10 exemplary graduating secondary students for their contributions to the strategic priorities of wellness, innovation, and collaboration in supporting others during the 2023-2024 school year. Recipients have demonstrated exemplary achievement in all three categories of

- (1) leadership;
- (2) positive attitude, energy, and school spirit; and
- (3) academic standing.

Students are nominated by their schools and then selected by the awards committee of the Board. On behalf of the Awards Committee and all Trustees, congratulations to this year's Student Achievers. These awards are always a highlight of the Board Meeting calendar for both

Trustees and staff.

Trustee Ruttan invited the following Administrators to read the citation for their student achiever:

Principal Anne Marie McDonald, Bayridge Secondary School – Alex Zhou
Principal Shannon Tyner, Ernestown Secondary School – Rheanna Watson
Principal Carrie Moore, Granite Ridge Education Centre – Jude Normile
Principal Darren Seymour, Kingston Secondary School – Ailsa Kerr
Principal Jen Grasse, La Salle Intermediate and Secondary School – Cole Brunet
Principal Margaret Connelly, Loyalist Collegiate & Vocational Institute – Naomi Xu
Principal Paul MacDonald, Napanee District Secondary School – Ella Rickard
Principal Kate Myers, North Addington Education Centre – Alexis Wagner
Principal Molly Slate, Sydenham High School – Silka Olvet
Principal James Bonham-Carter, Frontenac Secondary School – Hannah Upshall

Trustee Ruttan once again congratulated the Student Achievers Award winners and Vice Chair Godkin called for a short recess.

10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT – *Reported out to Public Session at the end of the Regular Board Meeting.*

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 11.1 Regular Board Meeting – April 24, 2024
- 11.2 Education, Policy, and Operations Committee Meeting – May 1, 2024
- 11.3 Audit Committee Meeting – May 6, 2024

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

12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

12.1 Chair's Update

Chair Hutcheon shared her report: " May is a very busy month for students and staff alike across our district. It is so great to see the number of students and staff participating in school extracurricular activities and opportunities happening across Limestone.

The first week of May is Mental Health Week. On behalf of Trustees, I would like to thank and extend appreciation to Laura Conboy and the Educational Services Well-Being team for the number of school resources they provided throughout the week, as well as an opportunity for schools to participate in a district-wide art project to express how compassion connects us all. Learning opportunities like these along with best practices help to strengthen supports for our students, staff, and school communities.

National Accessibility Week is coming up at the end of the month. Students and staff across Limestone will support Red Shirt Day on Wednesday, May 29, 2024. The upcoming week also allows us to draw attention to the local Inclusive Play Project (IPP). This group is raising awareness and funds to support the development of a fully inclusive playground in the Kingston area. Many schools are participating in a school challenge to bring awareness to the need to have a fully inclusive playground for students and caregivers who could benefit from it. As well as an opportunity to reflect on Limestone's efforts to become a better, more accessible, and more inclusive school board.

On a solemn note, last week, our Granite Ridge Education Centre school community in Sharbot Lake experienced a profound loss following a tragic car accident. The shockwaves of this loss reverberate throughout our educational community, leaving us grappling with grief and profound sadness.

Alex Cryer was an integral part of the Granite Ridge Education Centre and surrounding community. His absence leaves an indelible void in our classrooms, hallways, and school community. As we mourn, we must also recognize the broader impact on the entire surrounding community of Sharbot Lake. Across Limestone, we must rally together, offering solace, empathy, and understanding to those affected.

In the days ahead, let us honour Alex's memory by strengthening our bonds. We must create spaces for open dialogue, encourage kindness, and ensure that no one walks this path of grief alone. Together, we can navigate this difficult journey and emerge stronger, united in compassion.

And that concludes my report

12.2 Director's Update

Director Burra stated "Good evening Trustees and the viewing public.

It is hard to believe that it is already the middle of May and only six weeks remain in the 2023-

2024 school year. As everyone knows, this is a very busy season in schools across the board. The annual science fair and heritage fair occurred in recent weeks. A full range of secondary athletics' seasons are underway and now all elementary schools are in the thick of a very hectic track and field season. Thinking back to where we were only three and four years ago, it is wonderful that the wide range of student activities and experiences are alive and well in Limestone. We know these types of activities and experiences are critical for student well-being and engagement.

As Trustees know, it is also a busy season for us as we prepare budgets for the 2024-2025 school year, and there are several upcoming budget meetings as part of our annual budget process. I think it is fair to say we do have some concerns based on our analysis of the budget and implications for Limestone. As Trustees know, transportation funding and special education funding have been two areas of concern in recent years, and both areas will continue to be pressure points moving into the next school year. I would also add another increasing pressure exists with unfunded statutory benefits. While we have seen salary increases for most labour groups through more recent negotiations and the Bill 124 remedy, funding has changed with regard to CPP and EI benefit increases. This places an additional budgetary strain that will only increase if it is left unaddressed.

As Trustees are also aware, based on the OPSBA budget analysis, while there has been an increase in overall total dollars in education, there has been a decline when you take into account inflation. A good example to illustrate this point is that the CPI was 3.9% for 2023, the increases to funding to cover facility operation increases has not kept pace. Consequently, we will continue to feel a strain and tightening of our financial resources and flexibility to make any local, funding decisions.

Tonight's award celebration of the Limestone Student Achievers is yet another reminder of the important work we do to support the education of local children and youth, and placing focus on the students we serve. The 10 students we honoured this evening are exceptional young people that we can expect to see phenomenal things from in the next chapters of their lives. While it is wonderful that we annually honour the Limestone Student Achievers in May, we also will be honouring almost 2,000 Grade 12 graduates at the end of June. Before those end-of-year graduations, we will have an opportunity at the June 5 Education, Policy, and Operations Committee meeting to celebrate and honour the Skills Ontario Competition winners. As a short preview, Limestone had 38 secondary students representing eight schools compete in the provincial championships last week. In addition, we had 16 elementary students representing

four schools also attend. As usual, Limestone students received some hardware: a gold and bronze in auto paint and a gold in outdoor powered equipment. And a team of Grades 7/8 students from Southview won a bronze for construction. Also of note, two former LDSB grads who took part in the post-secondary competition came away with a silver in forestry and a gold in auto collision repair.

I would also like to highlight that early in May, over 150 Limestone students and staff took part in the One Earth, One Chance ECO-Conference at Bayridge SS. Over 25 workshops were offered and the event had Limestone's own Dan Hendry and former LDSB employee Cedric Pepelea as the keynote speakers.

While writing my monthly director's reports for this meeting, like all others, I am reminded of the many, many fantastic things happening in schools to help support Limestone students. This does not mean things are always perfect, but taking a step back and seeing what is occurring in schools every day for the benefit of students is an important perspective to maintain when we see challenges.

Speaking of challenges, just as the chair commented, I do have to mention the tragedy that struck the GREC school community and the greater Sharbot Lake area late last week. It is tragedies like this that put everything in perspective and force us to value the simple things that we frequently take for granted in our busy lives. I think I speak for all of us in saying our thoughts are with the impacted families and the wider community during this difficult time.

In closing, I would like to highlight a few upcoming events: LDSB will again be participating in the Greater Napanee Pride Parade June 1, and the Kingston Pride Parade on June 15. We are encouraging LDSB families, students, and staff to walk with us again. We need to continue our journey to have everyone see themselves in Limestone. We still have much work ahead of us, but events like this are important steps on that path. And finally, Trustees should have received an e-mail earlier today with graduation dates and times in the last few school days of June for planning purposes.

That concludes my report for this evening, Chair Hutcheon. Thank you."

13. REPORTS

13.1 OPSBA Report – Trustee McGregor

Trustee McGregor provided her update:

- Ontario Not For Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) has looked at OPSBA's General By-Laws

with relation to compliance and found there were a couple of changes required to be in compliance. Moving forward, only Directors will have voting rights and the alternate representatives will not. This is in relation to financial liability and only the Directors will be responsible for financial decisions. This could have impact on changing the dates of elections to the spring of each year so that the new Director will be available for the AGM. This means Boards will still elect a Director Delegate & Alternate but only the Director will have voting rights.

- Wednesday May 22, 2024 at 12:30 pm is an information session on Education Workers collective agreement ahead of the June 5 vote.

13.2 Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustee Wang read her report: "In our May interschool council meeting, most schools were present to share insight on their updates and past achievements of respective student councils. Trustee Eckloff and Trustee O'Keefe chaired the meeting to receive updates on schools with their position for the upcoming board-wide spirit week. In order to increase incentive, the trustees will ensure posts to be made and displayed on social media. Each school is organizing varying events. For example, KSS is hosting a BBQ whereas LCVI is running a carnival. The winner with the greatest percentage of school body participation will win a handmade trophy. Additionally, Trustee O'Keefe organized a brainstorm session to formulate a calendar to familiarize future incoming student council members with ideas of past spirit day ideas and dance themes. Trustee Eckloff finalized the meeting by leading a discussion of strengths and weaknesses of interschool council and what incomings should know to succeed in their positions. Additionally, many schools pointed out an area of focus for next year, which is the allyship responsibility of inter-council representatives and support at events in various schools"

Chair Hutcheon thanked Student Trustee Wang for her report.

13.3 Reports for Action – None at this time.

13.4 Reports for Information

13.4.1 Operational Plans: Student Success

Superintendent Silver introduced her report on the Student Success Operational Plan. She Noted that report includes information from the beginning of the Student Success initiative which began in 2003. She reviewed the three strategic plan goals of focus for her presentation:

- Improve graduation rates and preparedness for future success for all groups of students
- 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.

Superintendent Silver shared some examples of how students are supported across different tiers as well as some examples to support the overall grad rate and preparedness. One of the initiatives is to continue building awareness of Expanded Opportunities programs that exist to support student pathways of choice. By using Ministry funding, opportunities have been created to deepen these connections to pathways and support learning for Guidance, Lead Success Teachers and Coop Teachers. These opportunities also extend to Administrator professional learning development as well.

Superintendent Silver concluded her report by sharing data and graduation rate of students in the Expanded Opportunities programs.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Superintendent Silver and called upon Trustees for questions.

13.4.2 Operational Plans: Early Years Leadership Strategy

Superintendent McDonnell introduced her report and made note that this strategy is a Ministry of Education directive. She explained that this strategy is reviewed and shared with the Ministry of Education on an annual basis and included specific goals, expectations and monitoring associated with it.

Superintendent McDonnell focused her presentation on how improving responsiveness and service to families, staff and community partners is supported through this strategy. She reviewed one of the goals which is broken down in two parts:

1a: Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) and Community Partner Engagement: Building Trusting Relationships

1b: CMSMs and Community Partner Engagement: Supporting Children with Special Needs

Superintendent McDonnell emphasized that this goal is predicated on engagement and collaboration. The intent of this goal and the strategy purpose is to ensure that school boards are working very closely with community partners to action the Ministry goals.

She used the example of connecting and re-engaging with community childcare providers and referenced how these relationships were fractured as a consequence of the pandemic. Through

collaboration with the CMSMs and through the establishment of the Childcare Advisory Committee, these connections are already being reinstated. Supplementary to strengthening relationships, collaboration and understanding, resource creation including the creation of a consent to share information process has assisted in ensuring a seamless day for all children in our programs.

She concluded by sharing a graphic showing statistics on the number of current Limestone childcare locations across the Board and how work will continue to foster these partnerships and collaborations.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Superintendent McDonnell and invited Trustees to ask 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

None at this time.

19. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

19.1 Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting – March 5, 2024

20. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

June 19, 2024

21. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 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 Lloyd. Carried.

PRIVATE SESSION

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Staff:
J. Brown G. Elliott (regrets) B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) T. Lloyd K. Maracle K. McGregor J. Morning J. Neill (regrets) S. Ruttan E. Eckloff (Student Trustee) (regrets) A.J. O'Keefe (Student Trustee) (regrets) A. Wang (Student Trustee) (regrets)	K. Burra, Director of Education S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent of Education T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources J. Silver, Superintendent of Education
Guests:	Recorder:
None at this time.	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

22. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Godkin called the meeting to order.

23. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION: To move into Private Session.

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

24. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

25. ACTION ITEMS

1.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (private) – April 24, 2024

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

26. FOR INFORMATION

- 26.1 Safe Schools Update – Associate Superintendent Gollogly provided a safe schools update.
- 26.2 Property Update – None at this time.
- 26.3 Labour Update – Associate Superintendent McKenna provided a Labour update.
- 26.4 Legal Update – None at this time.
- 26.5 Personnel Update – Associate Superintendent McKenna provided a Personnel update.
- 26.6 OPSBA Update – None at this time.

27. 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

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

28. REPORT TO PUBLIC SESSION

Trustee Godkin stated that earlier this evening during Private Session:

- The minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting (Private) of April 24, 2024.
- Associate Superintendent Gollogly provided a safe schools update.
- Associate Superintendent McKenna provided a Personnel update and a Labour update which resulted a motion being passed.

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

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

29. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.