



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 29, 2023

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 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 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 Godkin called the meeting to order.

2. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION: To move into Private Session.

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

3. 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.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (private) – February 22, 2023

MOTION MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd and 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 – Director Burra provided a personnel update.
- 5.4 Labour Update – Superintendent McWilliams and Superintendent Young 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

Vice-Chair Godkin 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 McGregor and seconded by Trustee Neill. Carried.*

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 M. Elshrief (Student Trustee) E. Jackson (Student Trustee) J. Kolosov (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education M. Christopher, IT Programmer A. Grange, Communications Consultant J. Douglas, Communications Consultant S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources J. Silver, Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services
Guests:	Recorder:
Geoff Petznick, Specialist High Skills Major & Skilled Trades Consultant Dan Fisher, BCIP Teacher Andrew Rochette, Student Zak Ferreirahe, Student John Armitage, Community Builder	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

Vice-Chair Godkin welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting. He indicated that he would be chairing the meeting as the Chair is attending remotely this evening. He called the roll.

Trustee Neill 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 Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land."

7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED BY: Trustee Elliot and seconded by Trustee McGregor that the agenda, as presented, 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 Tri-Board Transportation Support – Erin Provost

Vice-Chair Godkin called upon Erin Provost to provide her delegation. She stated “Good evening, I am here on behalf of 1200 Education support workers for the Limestone District School Board that stand in solidarity with the transportation planners for Tri-Board. We have already sent you a letter to alert you to a pending strike situation and to implore you to intervene to resolve the labour dispute before a major disruption occurs that will affect transportation for students who attend our schools. The workers employed by Tri-Board Transportation consortium are our fellow CUPE members. They plan and arrange school busses and other transportation services for students at Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District School Board, Hastings Prince Edward District School Board, and Limestone District School Board. These seven frontline workers have their own collective agreement with Tri-Board – they are not subject to the Ontario School Boards Collective Bargaining Act nor are they covered by the central collective agreement between CUPE’s Ontario School Boards Council of Unions (OSBCU) and the Council of Trustees’ Associations (CTA) and the Crown. During bargaining to renew their contract which expired on August 31, 2022, appropriate wages remain the major unresolved issue. The transportation planners at Tri-Board are aware that they are substantially underpaid compared to the planners who are employed by other transportation consortia in Ontario and these workers are seeking a wage increase that would bring them closer to the average. Right now, they are the lowest paid of similar transportation planners across the province, earning 19% below the average. With inflation rising, and every day costs increasing, this is unacceptable. Your transportation planners are ready to strike if necessary to achieve a wage increase that would bring them closer to the provincial average wage for transportation planners. The cost to settle this dispute and avoid a strike is a tiny fraction of your budget, which works out to be about \$6500.00 for Limestone. Please direct your senior staff who are on the Tri-Board Transportation board of directors, to give your transportation planners a fair wage increase with the reasonable labour-market adjustment they need so they won’t continue to be underpaid for doing the same work as planners employed by other Ontario transportation consortia.”

Vice-Chair Godkin Thanked Erin for her delegation and called upon Trustees for questions of

clarification.

9.2 Tri-Board Transportation Support – Velma Storms & Colleen Lavergne

Vice-Chair Godkin invited Velma Storms and Colleen Lavergne to provide their delegation. They stated: “Good evening, my name is Velma Storms and my name is Colleen Lavergne. Together, Colleen and I are Tri-Board employees and members of CUPE 1479 unit 3 who have been working without contract since September 2022. Tri-Board consists of six transportation planners, who have a combined total of more than 90 years of experience. We are responsible for 30,000 students transported on 623 buses travelling over 88,000 KM daily to 135 schools within the LDSB, HPEDSB & ALCDSB. Since our collective agreement expired this past September, our negotiating committee has met with Tri-Board Admin on several occasions and have failed to table a reasonable offer on wages. Our employer has informed us that there is no money in their mandate to accommodate this request. However, in recent weeks have posted a new NON-union position to increase the overall operating budget. We are the lowest paid transportation planners in the province of Ontario. Currently 19% below the average pay rate. We are not asking for this, we are asking for 5.6% to bring us up to the next lowest wage level of our peers of transportation planners. This amount breaks down to less than \$7000 per school board. Looking at the overall school board budget, is this miniscule amount that we are asking for worth the disruption that a strike will cause in busing, especially in the frequent requests for changes in day-to-day transportation.”

Vice-Chair Godkin thanked Velma and Colleen and called upon trustees for any questions of clarification.

9.3 Expanded Opportunities Building Construction Internship Program (BCIP)

Associate Superintendent Hedderson welcomed staff, students, and guests to provide an overview for trustees on one of the Specialized High Skills Major programs at Ernestown Secondary school. BCIP allows for students to select programs that highlight their individual interests, strengths and goals which allows for personalized pathways of learning for smoother transitions to post-secondary destinations of choice. He invited students Andrew Rochette and Zak Ferreira to present on their experience in the program. The students presented a plaque to John Armitage for the support he provided as he has been present for the first and now the hundredth, house built by students in the program.

10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT

Trustee Elliot stated that earlier this evening during Private Session:

- The minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting (Private) of February 22, 2023.
- Associate Superintendent Gollogly provided a safe schools update.
- Superintendent McWilliams provided a Labour update.
- Superintendent Young also provided a Labour update.
- Director Burra provided a Personnel update.
- There was no other business conducted, or motions passed in Private Session.

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

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11.1 Regular Board Meeting – February 22, 2023

11.2 Education, Policy and Operations Committee – March 8, 2023

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

12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

12.1 Chair's Update

There is no Chair report this evening.

12.2 Director's Update

Director Burra stated: "Good evening, Trustees and the viewing public. This past Saturday and this evening aside, weather-wise it appears that spring is upon us. As I indicated in my last report, as we head further into the spring season, preparations for 2023-2024 continue to ramp up. A critical component of this planning and preparation is the overall budget. As people are aware, the provincial government released the full provincial budget last week. That being said, we still await the GSN information and Ministry memos that accompany the specific funding for Limestone. Consequently, to date, the only information we have is the general budget information that was released last week. So, while we continue to prepare for next year, some critical decisions will have to wait until we see our specific budget allocations.

As Trustees are aware, there have been a number of engagement opportunities for the

students, families, and staff in the past few weeks: the ongoing special education review, the school year calendar, and the budget survey are prime examples. Engagement on the strategic plan will also get underway this spring.

This evening Trustees had the opportunity to hear about the Building Construction Internship Program. This is a long-standing, showcase program in Limestone and you can clearly see it has a tremendous impact on the students involved, and is a wonderful opportunity for community partnership while supporting the clear need for affordable housing in the area. We will continue to highlight critical student pathway programs at our meetings so Trustees, and the general public, have a good understanding of the range of programs and pathways available to students in Limestone. There is much to celebrate, and ensuring choices for students and families in pursuing pathways is a critical priority.

This evening there are three reports on the agenda. We have the 2023-2024 school year calendar for decision, and two reports for information: a student equity census update and an eLearning update. I think it is important to emphasize the census data that will be shared tonight is still in the process of being shared with critical stakeholders and it will be important to not draw too many conclusions until the full report is made public in the coming weeks. So, while we are sharing a handful of highlights of the data, so Trustees are aware of the type of data contained in the upcoming report, understanding the full gamut of the data is critical. It should also be understood that the upcoming report is the second of several reports that will be forthcoming in the months ahead. This data is very important in understanding the student experience in Limestone and, like all data, this data will provide guidance to us moving forward but also be the start of further conversations about the data to fully understand it and create meaningful change. Experiences of the data and the report will vary and, in many cases, will be individualized based on personal experiences.

A range of reactions should be anticipated, and while many aspects are concerning for a variety of reasons. I think it is also affirming of challenges that different people and communities have faced. We will now have systematic and formal data to help create change, and historical, or current, incidents or experiences can be seen as part of a larger context and narrative, as opposed to individual or disparate events. The data calls for action and change, and there is no denying that work lies ahead to ensure Students See Themselves in Limestone.

Finally, I would also like to highlight a few student activities that have occurred recently, and that are scheduled in the coming weeks. Communications consultant Douglas will share some

visuals on screen while I provide a short recap.

Before the March Break, six schools took part in the No. 9 sustainability project, and this week some Indigenous students in Limestone were part of a rocket launch activity with Queen's engineering.

These are just two examples of a wide range of activities and partnerships that are occurring in Limestone schools. I would also like to highlight two upcoming events. There will be an Entrepreneurship Showcase on April 12 at Queen's where secondary students will present their ideas to local entrepreneurs; and on April 25 the Limestone Learning Foundation is sponsoring psychologist Robin Hanley-Dafoe for a virtual speaking engagement with secondary students. The focus of her presentation is on coping strategies and resiliency. I should note that the LLF will also be supporting some additional virtual speaker events for elementary students as well, but those events are still being planned.

That concludes my report."

13. REPORTS

13.1 OPSBA Report – Trustee McGregor

Trustee McGregor provided her update:

- Last Saturday was the Regional Meeting in Stittsville at a brand-new school. Trustee Godkin attended as well as all 5 Boards. She highlighted that the school had some exciting, innovative features and setup.
- OPSBA representatives were present to speak about current priorities.
- Guest speaker: Student Achievement Through Equity (SATE) which is a pilot project presentation offered from Ottawa-Carleton DSB. It highlights students who are not performing well and if there is a link to poverty.
- There was an opportunity to speak about Board updates.
- Competition coming up for a scholarship related to the trades which is a committee which Trustee McGregor sits on.
- Trustee McGregor is the Vice-Chair for Eastern Region. She chaired her first meeting at the Executive Council in Toronto.
- OPSBA President Cathy Abraham and the new Executive Director, Stephanie Donaldson are planning a visit to Eastern Region.
- There was discussion around the moratorium around school closures.

- The Education Labour Relations Symposium is coming up April 26, 2023.
- The Annual General Meeting is also upcoming in June 2023 at Blue Mountain.

13.2 Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustee Elshrief stated: "Dear Board Members,

I am pleased to provide a report on the Interschool Council meeting held on Tuesday, March 21st, 2023. The meeting was chaired by Student Trustees Elayna Jackson and Julia Kolosov, and the minute-taker was Student Trustee Mohammed Elshrief.

Julia Kolosov, the Indigenous student trustee, opened the meeting by presenting the land acknowledgement provided by the board. Elayna Jackson, the rural student trustee, facilitated the roll call of the present representatives and the introductory icebreaker.

The school representatives mentioned notable upcoming and completed events. KSS is beginning plans for a Model U.N. event, LSS hosted a Candygram and Locker decoration event, North Addington is finishing up clothing orders and will be hosting chess tournaments next Tuesday, and FSS is planning a spring initiative. LCVI successfully hosted a Black History Month and Black Hair Excellence event, which received positive feedback and is likely to become a tradition at the school. Upcoming events at LCVI include a semi-formal and a tech talk.

Student Trustee Elayna Jackson led the board meeting recap and highlighted discussions on the school year calendar survey, board discussions, and how snow days are determined in the Tri-Board.

During the breakout activity, representatives shared best practices, notable/useful events, and most appreciated activities.

The action item from the meeting is that student trustees will continue to regularly canvas all committee members about presenting their respective school initiatives at future Interschool Council meetings and showcasing notable discussions relevant to students discussed at the Limestone District School Board meetings.

The next Interschool Council meeting is scheduled for April 18th, 2023, from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. at the LDSB Board Office.

Thank you for your attention, and please let me know if you have any questions."

Vice-Chair Godkin thanks Student Trustee Elshrief and called upon Student Trustee Kolosov to

provide her update “With Trustee Maracle’s initial suggestion, we have started working on the development of the mental health initiative for Indigenous students attending the school board. Trustee Maracle and I are working to assemble a list of contacts and resources of Indigenous supports available within the community along with some opportunities to get involved in the local Indigenous community. Our plan is to create this website and make this information available online to all students within LDSB through the school board website so that interested students can easily connect and reach out for support. We will also produce some posters and use some other communication strategies to communicate this initiative once it is ready to be rolled out. We are hoping to receive your suggestions for the design and roll out of this initiative. Your feedback will be very much appreciated.”

Vice-Chair Godkin thanked Student Trustee Kolosov for the update and called upon Trustees for questions or comments.

13.3 Reports for Potential Action

13.3.1 School Year Calendar

Vice-Chair Godkin welcomed Associate Superintendent Gollogly. She reviewed the results of the survey which closed on February 21, 2023. She stated that based on the results, all three Boards will be recommending that the Trustees approve Calendar Option 1 for the 2023-2024 School Year.

MOTION MOVED by Trustee Godkin and seconded by Trustee Brown that Trustees approve Calendar Option 1 for the 2023-2024 school year. Carried.

13.4 Reports for Information

13.4.1 Update on the See Yourself in Limestone Student Census 2020 -

Superintendent McDonnell introduced her report. She indicated that the purpose of the report is to provide an update and next steps of the report on student data collected in 2020. Superintendent McDonnell reinforced the purpose of the Student Census, highlighting some key objectives:

- Identify and address systemic barriers.
- Expand on our strengths.
- Cultivate classrooms and schools that eliminate discriminatory biases.
- Create more equitable outcomes and inclusive learning objectives.

- Support student achievement and well-being.

Superintendent McDonnell emphasized that this is the first time school experience data collected reflects so many different identity variables. With this data there is an opportunity to look at system-wide patterns of school experience at the Board level. She took trustees through samples of the data and indicated that the report will be released in Spring 2023. This will be the first in a series of reports that will be released over the next 18 months.

Vice-Chair Godkin thanked Superintendent McDonnell and asked trustees for questions.

13.4.2 eLearning Update

Associate Superintendent Hedderson introduced the report and provided his update. He reinforced that eLearning is offered as an opportunity for students to take courses which are delivered entirely online. He also explained how eLearning differs from virtual school. He reviewed the background of eLearning and how the credit system works. Currently, eLearning is offered to students at every secondary school as there is a new requirement for graduation which includes completion of two online credits. He indicated that enhancements to the eLearning experience are ongoing with a focus on student's ability to expand upon their passions and interests in an online format.

Vice-Chair Godkin thanked Associate Superintendent Hedderson for his report and called upon trustees for 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 Parent Involvement Committee Meeting – October 6, 2022

19.2 Parent Involvement Committee Meeting – November 17, 2022

19.3 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting – December 14, 2022

20. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.