District School Board
Ontario North East

Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 6:15 pm
Schumacher Board Office and Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Howard Archibald
Dennis Draves
Crystal Hewey – Vice-Chair
Steve Meunier
Brian Peever
Rosemary Pochopsky
Doug Walsh
Larry Wiwchar

EXCUSED TRUSTEE ABSENCES

Bob Brush
Jonathan Byer, Chair

STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Sawsan Alahmed
Andrew Cull
Summer Nickoshie

STUDENT TRUSTEES ABSENT

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Lesleigh Dye	Director of Education
Lisa Edwards	Superintendent of Business/Finance and Treasurer
Kirsten Elvestad	Superintendent of Education
Al McLean	Superintendent of Education and Human Resources
Chad Mowbray	Superintendent of Education

RECORDING SECRETARY

Melanie Demers	Executive Assistant to the Director of Education Lesleigh Dye

STAFF PRESENT

Melanie Demers	Executive Assistant to the Director of Education, Lesleigh Dye
Andréanne Denis	Communications Officer
Larry Souliere	Information Services Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER
The Regular Session meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Vice-Chair Hewey

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
The meeting opened by respectfully acknowledging being situated on the Traditional Territory of the Cree, Ojibway and Oji-Cree people of the Mattagami First Nation, located in Treaty 9 Territory, and the Métis who have chosen to settle in this area.

QUORUM
9344-25 PEEVER / MEUNIER

THAT the Board approve the absence of the following Trustees from the December 2, 2025, meeting of the Board:
Chair Byer
Trustee Brush

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
9345-25 WALSH / MEUNIER

THAT the Board approve the agenda for the Meeting of the Board dated December 2, 2025, addition of 11.0 OPSBA update

CARRIED

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Trustees were asked to declare conflicts of interest as they arise and must do so in writing in the log kept in the Chair's office.

Trustees declaring a conflict are to disconnect from Microsoft Teams at the time of the discussion and will receive a text from the Director of Education / Secretary of the Board when they are welcome to join.

CONSENT AGENDA
9346-25 WALSH / PEEVER

THAT the Board approve the consent agenda.

CARRIED

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY
Minutes of the Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NIL

CHAIR'S REPORT
Chair Hewey, on behalf of absent Chair Byer, summarized the results of the trustee self-assessment, highlighting positive feedback on strategic plan outcomes, community involvement, and the role of student trustees, while noting interest in increased discussion of provincial issues.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS
9347-25 WIWCHAR / WALSH

THAT the Board approve the Governance and Policy Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
7.1 Director's Report
7.2 Director's Annual Report

STAFF REPORTS
8.1 Trustee Expenses: 2025 OPSBA Northern Regional Meeting
8.2 Strategic Plan Vignette
8.3 Mentorship Pilot Project

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT
Student Trustee Nickoshie's working group consists of six (6) students, with a project focused on High Support Inclusivity and Understanding. Student Trustee Nickoshie has shared questions with students to design an action plan for implementation this year. Questions include how the school can be more inclusive, and what types of activities students wish to see this year. Allowing students to coach and teach sports, having input in student council, and have students in high support classes participate in sports.

Student Trustee Cull's working group is focusing on a mentorship program, with goal of engagement for grade 9 students and leadership opportunities.

Student Trustee Alahmed discussed career awareness projects, where her working group included inviting guest speakers to schools and building an accessible website with resources.

Student Trustees attended the OSTA-AECO Fall general meeting, which provided excellent learning opportunities and engagement with other Student Trustees from boards across the province.

REPORTS FROM ADVIOSRY COMMITTEES AND STATUTORY COMMITTEES
NIL

OTHER BUSINESS
OPSBA Update
Trustee Pochopsky provided an update on the OPSBA governance refresh, detailing proposed changes to the board of directors' structure, cost-saving measures, and the upcoming vote, with discussion on financial implications and board representation.

TRUSTEE MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (Introduced at a Previous Meeting)
NIL

TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION (Discussion for Next Meeting)
NIL

CORRESPONDENCE / ANNOUNCEMENTS
NIL

ITEMS FOR FURTURE MEETINGS
15.1 February 2026: Strategic Plan Monitoring of Goals and Actions
15.2 April 2026: Strategic Plan Monitoring of Goals
15.3 September 2026: Strategic Plan Year-End Monitoring of Goals and Actions

District School Board
Ontario North East

ADJOURNMENT
9348-25 PEEVER / ARCHIBALD **THAT** we do now adjourn

CARRIED

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD **CHAIR OF THE BOARD**