

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING NO. 15**

Board Room/Microsoft Teams  
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2024 JAN 23  
7:30 P.M.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

Ellen Chambers (Chair)  
Donica LeBlanc (Vice Chair)  
Pat Johansen  
Ron Oikonen  
George Saarinen  
Scottie Wemigwans

Leah Vanderwey  
Emily Drake (Indigenous Student  
Trustee)  
Morgann De Franceschi (Student  
Trustee)

**ABSENT WITH REGRET:**

Trudy Tuchenhagen  
Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business

**SENIOR ADMINISTRATION:**

Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education (virtual)  
AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education  
Jane Lower, Superintendent of Education  
Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education  
Heather Harris, Superintendent of Education (Director Designate)

**FEDERATION/UNION REPRESENTATIVES:**

Angelina Tassone, Lakehead District School Board Principals/ Vice Principals  
Angela Lee-Wiwcharyk, Lakehead District School Board Managers

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Johansen

Seconded by Trustee Saarinen

*"THAT the Agenda for Regular Board Meeting No. 15, January 23, 2024 be approved."*

**CARRIED**

2. Resolve into Committee of the Whole – Closed Session

Moved by Trustee Wemigwans

Seconded by Trustee Vanderwey

*"THAT we resolve into Committee of the Whole – Closed Session with Trustee Chambers in the chair to consider the following:*

- *Confirmation of Committee of the Whole – Closed Session Minutes*
  - *Regular Board Meeting No. 12 (Special)*
    - *November 22, 2023*
  - *Regular Board Meeting No. 13*
    - *November 28, 2023*
- *Personnel Matters (017-24)*
- *Personnel Matters (018-24)*
- *Personnel Matter*

*and that this meeting shall not be open to the public pursuant to Section 207 (2) of the Education Act as amended."*

CARRIED

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CLOSED SESSION:**

3. Committee of the Whole – Closed Session items were dealt with in their entirety.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

4. **Report of Committee of the Whole – Closed Session**

Moved by Trustee Johansen

Seconded by Trustee LeBlanc

*“THAT the report of the Regular Board-Committee of the Whole – Closed Session be adopted with the following recommendations therein:*

*‘THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole – Closed Session Minutes of Regular Board Meeting No. 12 (Special), November 22, 2023.’*

*‘THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole – Closed Session Minutes of Regular Board Meeting No. 13, November 28, 2023.’*

*and*

*‘THAT the Memorandum of Settlement, Appendix A to Report No. 018-24, as negotiated between the Lakehead District School Board and the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario Lakehead Elementary Teachers Local Bargaining Unit effective September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be ratified by the Board, and that the Officers of the Board be authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Board and affix the corporate seal thereto.’*

*‘THAT the Memorandum of Settlement, Appendix A to Report 017-24, as negotiated between the Lakehead District School Board and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation (OSSTF) representing OSSTF, District 6A, Student Support Professionals’ Bargaining Unit effective September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2026, be ratified by the Board, and that the Officers of the Board be authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Board and affix the corporate seal thereto.’*

**CARRIED**

5. **Delegations/ Presentations:**

6. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Trustee Saarinen

Seconded by Trustee Oikonen

*"THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the Minutes of Annual Board Meeting, December 5, 2023."*

*and*

*"THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the Minutes of Regular Board Meeting No.14, December 19, 2023."*

CARRIED

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION:

7. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Report

Trustee Sitch informed the Board that, along with Director Pharand, Chair Chambers, Trustee Johansen and Trustee LeBlanc, he will be attending the OPSBA Public Education Symposium from January 25-26, 2024. Trustee Sitch informed the Board that the next OPSBA Directors meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2024.

8. Student Trustee Report

Morgann De Franceschi, Student Trustee, presented her January report to the Board. Items addressed in the report included: her continued goals in her role as student trustee; a school visit to Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute to meet with the members of their Student Activities Council; attending the first planning meeting for Student Senate as well as attending her first Virtual Student Senate on November 29, 2023; monthly Mentorship meeting on December 8, 2023, with Trustee Saarinen and guest, Director Pharand, as well as attending and volunteering at Kindergarten Registration night at École Elsie MacGill Public School on January 15, 2024. All trustees questions were addressed.

9. Indigenous Student Trustee Report

Emily Drake, Indigenous Student Trustee, presented her January report to the Board. Items addressed in the report included: a school visit to Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute (WCVI) to provide volunteer experience and build cultural connections; on December 23, 2023, she attended a virtual meeting with the Indigenous Student Trustees' Council to review and provide revisions to OSTA-AECO's goals and calls to the government; On December 8, 2023, she started tutoring Indigenous youth, focusing on exam prep, culminating activities and building better study habits; met with Principal McDonnell on December 18, 2023, and January 15, 2024, to discuss Indigenous-based issues that students may be experiencing; invited LDSB's secondary schools to celebrate National Ribbon Skirt Day on January 11, 2024 (the National event date was on the weekend so students missed out on wearing their skirts to school); her "word of the day" council met at WCVI to discuss future plans for the initiative. All trustees questions were addressed.

10. Updates from the Chair/ Director

Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education, took the time to celebrate the presentations by motivational speaker Karl Subban. All sessions with students, parents and staff were well received. Director Pharand reminded the Board that it is nearing the end of the semester for LDSB's secondary schools, so it is a busy time for students and staff, with exams, culminating activities. In elementary schools, it is the end of term, and report cards will be going home to parents in early February. Chair Chambers informed the Board of the trustees' Informal Session on December 11, 2023, in which trustees' were able to experience the Big Map presentation and see how it is used as a learning tool in the schools.

11. Information Technology - Update (021-24)

Heather Harris, Superintendent of Education, introduced Will Fredrickson, Chair, Information and Technology Committee, and John Loovere, Supervisor of Computer Services, who presented the report. All trustees' questions were addressed.

12. Lakehead Public Schools International Education Report ( 021-24)

Jane Lower, Superintendent of Education, introduced Stephen Johnson, International, Student Coordinator along with International Education Students, Ryan and Lisa who presented the report. All trustees' questions were addressed.

13. Demographic Census Report (022-24)

Sherri- Lynne Pharand, Director of Education, introduced Anthony Jeethan, Human Rights and Equity Advisor, who presented the report. All trustees' questions were addressed.

14. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the following minutes:

- September 13, 2023;
- October 18, 2023;
- November 15, 2023; and
- December 13, 2023.

All trustees' questions were addressed.

15. Miiniwewinan: Indigenous Education advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Heather Harris, Superintendent of Education, presented the following minutes:

- September 21, 2023; and
- November 2, 2023.

All trustees' questions were addressed.

16. Parent Involvement Committee Minutes

Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education, presented the following minutes:

- May 1, 2023; and
- September 11, 2023.

All trustees' questions were addressed.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

17. Recommendations from the Board Advisory Committee (020-24)

Policy Review – 8061 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (007-24)

Moved by Trustee LeBlanc

Seconded by Trustee Vanderwey

*“THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the review of 8061 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Policy, as indicated in Report No. 007-24 and update any other Lakehead District School Board policies where Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee is referenced.”*

CARRIED

18. Recommendations from the Board Advisory Committee (020-24)

Policy Review – 3020 Legal Representation (010-24)

Moved by Trustee Leblanc

Seconded by Trustee Johansen

*“THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the review of 3020 Legal Representation Policy, as indicated in Report No. 010-24.”*

CARRIED

19. Recommendations from the Board Advisory Committee (020-24)

Policy Review – 7030 Human Rights and Workplace Harassment Policy (011-24)

Moved by Trustee Leblanc

Seconded by Trustee Sitch

*“THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the review of 7030 Human Rights and Harassment Policy, as indicated in Report No. 011-24.”*

CARRIED

20. Recommendations from the Board Advisory Committee (020-24)

Policy Review – 3040 Transportation Policy and Procedure ( 014-24)

Moved by Trustee Leblanc

Seconded by Trustee Saarinen

*"THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the review of 3040  
Transportation Policy and Procedure, as indicated in Report No. 014-24."*

CARRIED

21. Ad Hoc and Special Committee Reports

22. New Reports

23. New Business

24. Notices of Motion

25. Information and Inquiries

26. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Saarinen


Seconded by Trustee LeBlanc

*"THAT we do now adjourn at 9:41 p.m."*

CARRIED

CONFIRMED BY THE BOARD – February 27, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
~~Chair~~  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
~~Secretary~~  
Chair