



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

### PRIVATE SESSION

#### Roll Call:

| Trustees:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Staff:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| J. Brown<br>G. Elliott<br>B. Godkin (Vice-Chair)<br>R. Hutcheon (Chair)<br>T. Lloyd<br>K. Maracle<br>K. McGregor<br>J. Morning (regrets)<br>J. Neill<br>S. Ruttan<br>E. Eckloff (Student Trustee) (regrets)<br>A.J. O'Keefe (Student Trustee)<br>A. Wang (Student Trustee) (regrets) | K. Burra, Director of Education<br>S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education<br>P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent<br>S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent<br>A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education<br>S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources<br>S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent<br>J. Silver, Superintendent of Education<br>C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services<br>T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent |
| Guests:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Recorder:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 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 AND PRIVATE SESSION

*MOTION: To move into Private Session.*

*MOVED BY: Trustee Hutcheon. 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) – August 23, 2023
- 4.2 Education, Policy and Operations Committee Minutes (private) – September 6, 2023
- 4.3 Audit Committee Minutes (private) – September 11, 2023

*MOVED BY: 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 – No update at this time.
- 5.3 Personnel Update – No update at this time.
- 5.4 Labour Update – Superintendent McWilliams provided a labour update.
- 5.5 Legal Update – No update at this time.
- 5.6 OPSBA Update – Trustee McGregor provided an OPSBA update.

#### 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.*

*MOVED BY: Trustee Elliot. Carried.*

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Roll call:

| Trustees:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Staff:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| J. Brown<br>G. Elliott<br>B. Godkin (Vice-Chair)<br>R. Hutcheon (Chair)<br>T. Lloyd<br>K. Maracle<br>K. McGregor<br>J. Morning<br>J. Neill<br>S. Ruttan<br>E. Eckloff (Student Trustee) (regrets)<br>A.J. O’Keefe (Student Trustee)<br>A. Wang (Student Trustee) (regrets) | K. Burra, Director of Education<br>S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education<br>P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent<br>S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent<br>A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education<br>S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources<br>S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent<br>J. Silver, Superintendent of Education<br>C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services<br>T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent<br>J. Douglas, Communications Officer<br>A. Grange, Communications Officer |
| Guests:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Recorder:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| D. Fowler, Manager Facility Services,<br>C. Downie, Assistant Manager Facility Services                                                                                                                                                                                    | S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee<br>Liaison                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

Chair Hutcheon welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting and called the roll.

Trustee Elliott provided the Acknowledgement of Territory. “The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe. 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. I’ve mentioned this before, but I moved here in 1998 and am truly grateful for the opportunities presented to me and my family in this beautiful region. I have tried to take time to learn both the history of the region and connect with the present, and I think this helps me feel like part of an interconnected community. Although this acknowledgment is only a small piece of my reconciliation, I will continue to reflect on the privilege I have as a settler and try to do better in both my thoughts and actions.”

## 7. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

### Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.

SEE YOURSELF IN LIMESTONE

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

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

Chair Hutcheon 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 Facility Services Summer Update**

Manager Fowler and Assistant Manager Downie provided an update to Trustees regarding the work that was completed over the summer. Manager Fowler highlighted that \$21,308,744 million in School Condition and Renewal funding was allocated to 290 projects. Capital projects were completed at 55 school sites including 5 new portables added this year. He emphasized that summer projects would not be possible without the support of caretaking and operational staff. Manager Fowler and Assistant Manager Downie went through some examples of completed projects including building envelope, floor refinishing, mechanical projects, interior improvements, washroom upgrades, accessibility upgrades, summer operational work and site improvement projects.

Assistant Manager Downie gave an overview of the code and regulatory summer work and inspections that take place to ensure that the Board is meeting government regulations and standards. She explained to Trustees that the annual testing, reporting and inspection of fire alarm systems, heating and cooling, elevators, drinking water, onsite wastewater, asbestos, and backflow preventers are included in this summer work. Assistant Manager Downie highlighted as an example that the school board follows the Canadian Standard for Children's Playground Equipment and Surfacing with completion of daily, weekly and monthly inspection reporting in addition to an annual comprehensive inspection and report. She said that similar procedures are followed for other governing acts including Technical Standards & Safety Authority Act, National Fire Protection, City of Kingston Water By-Law and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Manager Fowler and Assistant Manager Downie for their presentation and called upon Trustees for questions.

## 10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT

Chair Hutcheon called upon Trustee Ruttan to report on the Audit Committee Private Session from September 11, 2023.

Trustee Ruttan stated that during private session of the Audit Committee meeting held on September 11, 2023, the following report was presented:

- Fraud Policy Review Final Report, presented by Genevieve Segu, Regional Internal Audit Manager.
- The report was for information only.
- A verbal update of the KPMG Interim/Year End Audit was provided by Lori Huber, External Auditor.
- There was no other business conducted, or motions passed in Private Session.

*MOTION MOVED By Trustee Ruttan and seconded by Trustee Godkin that the Audit Committee Private Session Report be received. Carried.*

Vice-Chair Godkin stated that during Private Session at the EPOC meeting of September 6, 2023:

- Director and myself provided an update related to a personal matter.

Vice-Chair Godkin also stated that earlier this evening during Private Session:

- The minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting (private) of August 23, 2023.
- The minutes were approved from the Education, Policy and Operations Committee Meeting (private) of September 6, 2023.
- The minutes were approved from the Audit Committee Meeting (private) of September 11, 2023.
- There was no other business conducted, or motions passed in Private Session.

*MOTION MOVED By Vice-Chair Godkin and seconded by Trustee Lloyd that the Private Session Reports be received. Carried.*

## 11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**11.1** Regular Board Meeting – August 23, 2023

**11.2** EPOC Meeting Minutes – September 6, 2023

### 11.3 Audit Committee Meeting – September 11, 2023

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

## 12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

### 12.1 Chair's Update

Chair Hutcheon stated: "Trustees, I would like to draw your attention to the Survivor flag flying here at the Education Centre, as well as other schools, as an expression of remembrance and to honour residential school Survivors and all the lives and communities continuing to be impacted by the residential school system in what is now known as Canada.

All this month LDSB schools will display either the Every Child Matters Flag or the Survivors' Flag, as an expression of remembrance.

This year, National Orange Shirt Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation fall on Saturday, September 30, so schools will honour the day on Friday, September 29.

The Limestone District School Board has a commitment to both teaching and learning the truth, and taking strides towards meaningful action that reflects reconciliation and right relations with the Indigenous community in Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington.

I would encourage everyone to learn more about the history of residential schools and engage in meaningful discussions about the effects of residential schools, the ongoing impact, and the legacy they have left behind.

We have much to celebrate at Limestone and I would like to take a moment to recognize a few significant achievements by students and staff.

Student Sekai Chikodzi was presented with the City of Kingston Youth Volunteerism Award at Kingston's Intercultural Arts Festival. The LCVI student was recognized for amplifying the voices of Black and racialized students and creating spaces for their experiences in the school environment. She planned several activities during Black History and Futures Month in February, including a Black Panel of Excellence.

Trustee Brown also participated in the opening ceremonies of the City of Kingston's Intercultural Arts Festival.

Thank you, Trustee Elliott, for sharing photos of these two significant events.

And Liv Rondeau, Vice-Principal of Indigenous Education is one of the Inaugural Kingston Young Professionals 40 Under 40 award winners announced by Kingston Economic Development for her dedication “...to creating spaces within education and the community that allow Indigenous peoples to connect to language, culture and each other...”

Limestone has many students and staff who have been recognized for their contributions to their schools and communities as well as innovative practices in the education sector. These are but a few. And that concludes my report.”

## **12.2 Director’s Update**

Director Burra stated: “Good evening, Trustees, and the viewing public. Overall, and all things considered, I am very pleased to report that Limestone has had a very positive start to the 2023-2024 school year. While there is always room for improvement, it is amazing to see everything come together with over 20,000 students and almost 3,000 staff starting the school year in 60 Limestone sites and virtual school.

Preliminary enrolment numbers show growth within the Limestone community with an increase in both elementary and secondary students. Today was Day 12 of the 2023-2024 school year for students, and it has been wonderful to have students back in schools and to see various activities like sports, clubs, field trips, and great learning already underway helping to support the overall Limestone student experience. We must all recognize and have great gratitude for the time and efforts of staff and community members to make all these extracurricular activities a reality for students. Later this week, I will be starting my visits to schools, and I greatly look forward to seeing, hearing, and feeling the energy and excitement of learning and fun in schools.

Earlier today in downtown Kingston, there was a protest and counter-protest focusing on a perceived lack of respect for parent rights. While we have legal responsibilities under the Ontario Human Rights Code, as a school board, and cannot accept any hate in schools, we must be conscious of the feelings of alienation and lack of faith in public institutions that exists for some people in the communities we serve. Like in so many other areas in education and society at large, as members of the community, we must continue to emphasize the importance of respecting differences in perspective and being open to dialogue to the maximum extent possible. However, as I indicated in messaging yesterday to families and staff in response to the planned demonstrations: we want to make it unequivocally clear that Limestone stands in support of all protected grounds of the Ontario Human Rights Code. The Ontario Human Rights

Code is not a checklist where some grounds outweigh others, and the protected grounds include gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation. We stand with all students, staff, and families, in protecting all grounds under the Code. It is important to remember that the Code is the law in Ontario, and we have a moral and legal obligation to ensure that it is upheld.

Trustees may have noticed the Orange “Survivors’ Flag” flying on the second flagpole at the Education Centre. Schools with a second flagpole are doing the same, and schools without a flagpole will display the flag prominently in the school. I should note that schools also prominently displayed the Pride Progress flag inside or just outside of their buildings today, and you may have noticed this flag in the foyer window. Looking ahead to the next 10 days, a wide range of activities will be taking place in schools and the community to honour Orange Shirt Day, and the third annual National Truth and Reconciliation Day on Saturday, September 30. This day will be recognized in Limestone on Friday, September 29. This is a critical date to recognize the harm and trauma of the Residential Schools system, to honour the survivors and their families, and continue our collective learning and journey of reconciliation. Schools continue to have a critical role in supporting this journey and ensuring the truth is known about Residential Schools and their legacy in Canada.

In the next couple of weeks, we will be kicking off the annual United Way of KFL&A campaign in Limestone. I invite all Trustees to join this effort. As an incentive to Limestone employees, I will again be contributing \$1 for every staff member who provides a one-time, or regular, payroll deduction to support the campaign. No amount is too little, and every dollar matters in supporting some of the most vulnerable children, youth, and families in the communities we serve. With almost 3,000 employees in Limestone, I am hoping to contribute almost \$3,000 to this year’s campaign.

Finally, I would like to bring to Trustees’ attention the professional learning focus we have launched in Limestone for the 2023-2024 school year. At this stage of the pandemic, we must continue to hone our craft to best serve students. While this work will not be completed this year, I think it is critical to highlight its importance in ensuring schools are making a difference for all students today, and into their futures. We need all Limestone students to find purpose in school, to find value in school, and to find hope in school. We know this is not the case for all students. While we do have to track, monitor, and report on the 11 indicators in the provincial Student Achievement Plan, we must continue to centre those students in the margins who are

currently underserved, and not currently finding success. As a result, our system focus this year for professional learning, continues to centre our attention on students, and continuing the work we started last September focused on three inquiry questions: First, for whom is the current education system not working and why? Second, how do I/we know? And third, what can I/we try to do differently to make a difference? It is only through improving outcomes at the individual student level will we see macro-level improvement on the province's three core priorities and the Student Achievement Plan.

As just one example of the commitment of LDSB educators to this critical work, we had over 200 educators sign-up for professional learning focused on early reading and the new curriculum in the first eight hours the learning was made available for registration. All educators want to make a difference in the lives and destinies of children and youth. Our continued journey of inquiry will focus our collective efforts. I look forward to more discussion and updates regarding our progress in the coming days, weeks, months, and years.

Thank you, Chair Hutcheon. That concludes my report."

## **13. REPORTS**

### **13.1 OPSBA Report – Trustee McGregor**

Trustee McGregor advised Trustees that she will be attending the OPSBA Board of Directors meeting taking place Friday September 22, 2023. She will bring a more fulsome report at the next board meeting.

### **13.2 Student Trustees' Report**

Trustee O'Keefe stated "The first Inner Student Council meeting was held on September 12th at LaSalle Secondary School. Trustees O'Keefe, Wang and Eckloff were in attendance. All the Leads were present with regrets from Bayridge Secondary School and North Addington Education Centre. The meeting began with the Limestone District School Board (LDSB) land acknowledgement read by Trustee Wang.

As this was the first Inter Student Council (ISC) meeting the meeting began with the introductions of the council's teacher advisors including Mr. Morrow, Mr. Payne and Ms. DiRocco. Trustees O'Keefe and Wang reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the ISC and the critical role each Co student council president plays in their school and how their voices, feedback and input are influential voices representing their school's student interests. Further,

Trustees O’Keefe and Wang talked about the objective of the ISC, what information will be shared, and the location and time of meetings. Each ISC representative then introduced themselves and the school they are representing.

Trustees O’Keefe and Wang led the group through icebreaker exercises with the goal of learning about other council members. A brainstorming session was then held where groups of council members talked about their goals, ideas and objectives for their schools this term. In turn, each group shared their ideas with others. Trustees and council members reported this exercise to be an exciting way to start their term. Students talked about similar engagement issues and came up with creative ideas and methods to bring students together. Engagement ideas included ideas such as; events to recognize special awareness days/months like Black History Month, pairing up with a local elementary school to run sports tournaments, food drives for local community non-profit organizations, career days, and buy-outs to attend school events.

Trustees also asked each council member to write a letter to their future selves and to write down the changes they want to see in their schools, events they would like to run, what they are looking forward to in their term and lastly give themselves advice on how to be a successful co-president and how to measure success in themselves and their school.

Before closing the meeting, the council talked about the criticality of communication and preferred methods of group communication. The group established methods of communication to share information and to send important information relative to upcoming meetings and the responsibilities of council members.”

Chair Hutcheon thanked Student Trustee O’Keefe for her report.

### **13.3 Reports for Action – None at this time.**

### **13.4 Reports for Information**

#### **13.4.1 Virtual School Update**

Associate Superintendent Sartor introduced her report. She began by briefing Trustees on the history of virtual school as an option for elementary and secondary students. Virtual school experienced the highest enrollment during the first full school year following the onset of the pandemic, which was the 2020-2021 school year. Approximately 8-10% of all Limestone District School Board students were enrolled in Elementary virtual school.

In the spring of 2023, the Ministry of Education announced that it is no longer mandated, but optional, for school boards to offer virtual school programming. Due to a decrease in enrollment at the elementary level, it was recognized that in order to offer a fulsome virtual option for elementary students a partnership with additional school boards was required. Currently, LDSB has been collaborating with the Renfrew County District School Board and the Kawartha Pineridge District School Board to offer virtual programming. Associate Superintendent Sartor noted that prior to enrollment of any out of district student(s), Director Burra follows up with the student's current school board Director before being accepted into virtual school. There has been a significant collaboration between all three boards as well as Finance teams, Human Resource teams, Program teams and staff.

With regard to Secondary virtual school, operation continues as in previous years with set timetables for students in Grades 9-10 and student enrolled credits using the Ontario eLearning consortium for Grades 11-12.

Associate Superintendent Sartor acknowledged the hard work of Principal Lambert and Vice Principal Andrecyk for their commitment to reaching out to families, communicating well with students, and ensuring a successful start-up.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Associate Superintendent Sartor and called upon Trustees for comments or questions.

#### **13.4.2 Curriculum Revisions**

Superintendent Silver introduced her report on curriculum revisions. She explained that there have been a variety of curriculum changes in recent years that have been brought to Trustees however the focus this evening is on the significant number of changes and revisions that are in effect for this school year. Superintendent Silver gave a high-level overview of some of the changes which include:

- Grades 1-8 Social Studies, History and Geography Curriculum
- Grades 1-8 Language Curriculum
- Grade 9 Destreamed English (ENL1W)
- Grade 10 Digital Technology and Innovations in the Changing Word (ICD2O)

- Mental Health Curriculum
- Technology Curriculum

Superintendent Silver advised that after January 2024 there is an expectation that there will be changes to Mental Health curriculum for Grades 7-8 as well as a new compulsory Technology course for Grades 9 or 10. She will continue to bring forward changes as the Ministry of Education releases more information.

### **13.4.3 School Climate Update**

Associate Superintendent Gollooly introduced her report. She reminded Trustees that school boards are required to conduct school climate surveys at least once every two years. Associate Superintendent Gollooly advised Trustees that another school climate survey will be available to students late November -December 2023. She reinforced the importance of this school-based data for providing important indicators that will enable schools to create responsive, site-specific, equity actions to create a more equitable and inclusive school climate.

Associate Superintendent Gollooly noted that on the November 10, 2023, PA Day, school staff will have an opportunity to review the survey results in advance of the board-wide rollout. Information will also be provided to students and families in mid-November. In addition to these releases, students will be given class time to complete the survey with answers being anonymous. She advised Trustees that this report is for information purposes.

Chair Hutcheon thanked Associate Superintendent Gollooly for her 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 SEAC June 14, 2023

## **20. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

October 4, 2023 (EPOC)

October 18, 2023

November 15, 2023 (Annual Meeting)

November 20, 2023 (Nominations/Special Meeting)

December 6, 2023 (EPOC)

January 17, 2024

February 7, 2024 (EPOC)

February 28, 2024

March 6, 2024 (EPOC)

March 27, 2024

April 24, 2024

May 1, 2024 (EPOC)

May 15, 2024

June 5, 2024 (EPOC)

June 19, 2024

## **21. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.