

Agenda – Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 2025- 6:00 p.m.

Limestone Education Centre

220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario

Public Viewing: <https://bit.ly/LDSBBoardMTGFeb1925>

Private Session – 5:30 p.m.

*In accordance with the Education Act, Section 207(2) a meeting of a committee of a board including a committee of the whole board, may be closed to the public when the subject under consideration involves:

- a) The security of the property of the board;
- b) The disclosure of intimate, personal, or financial information in respect of a meeting of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or their parent or guardian;
- c) The acquisition or disposal of a school site;
- d) Decisions in respect of negotiations with employee of the board; or
- e) Litigation affecting the board.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PRIVATE SESSION

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.1. Annual Board Meeting Minutes (Private) – January 15, 2025

5. FOR INFORMATION

- 5.1. Safe Schools Update
- 5.2. Property Update
- 5.3. Labour Update
- 5.4. Legal Matter
- 5.5. Personnel Update
- 5.6. OPSBA Update

6. REPORT TO PUBLIC SESSION

Limestone District School Board

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

Public Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement: “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 THE AGENDA

8. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

9. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION

- 9.1 **Operational Plan: Literacy, a Focus on Writing Presentation** – Associate Superintendent Sartor

10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 11.1. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes** – January 15, 2025 (Pages 4-16)
11.2. **EPOC Meeting Minutes** – February 5, 2025 (Pages 17-21)

12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

- 12.1. **Chair’s Report**
12.2. **Director’s Report**

13. REPORTS

- 13.1. **OPSBA Report** – Trustee McGregor
13.2. **Student Trustees’ Report**
13.3. **Reports for Action**
 13.3.1 **School Year Calendar** – Associate Superintendent Gollogly (Pages 22-24)
13.4. **Reports for Information**
 13.4.1 **Outdoor Education** – Superintendent McWilliams (Pages 25-28)
 13.4.2 **International Education** – Bob Seitz, Executive Lead and VP of International Education (Pages 29-30)

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Limestone District School Board

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

15. NEW BUSINESS

16. CORRESPONDENCE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS

19. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

19.1. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes December 11, 2024 – (Pages 31-34)

19.2. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes January 22, 2025 – (Pages 35-37)

20. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

March 5, 2025 (EPOC)

March 26, 2025

April 23, 2025

May 7, 2025 (EPOC)

May 21, 2025

June 4, 2025 (EPOC)

June 18, 2025

21. ADJOURNMENT

Limestone District School Board

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

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2025

PRIVATE SESSION

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Staff:
G. Elliott B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) (virtual) T. Lloyd J. Maracle K. McGregor J. Morning J. Neill (regrets) S. Ruttan C. Scott A. Bukhari (Student Trustee) R. Kolosov (Student Trustee) (regrets) S. Kumar (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 T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent of Education J. Silver, Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services
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 McGregor and 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 Annual Board Meeting Minutes (Private) – November 13, 2024

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

Limestone District School Board

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

5. FOR INFORMATION

- 5.1. Safe Schools Update – Associate Superintendent Gollogly provided a Safe Schools update.
- 5.2. Property Update
- 5.3. Personnel Update – Director Burra provided some personnel updates.
- 5.4. Labour Update
- 5.5. Legal Update
- 5.6. 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 Scott. Carried.

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Staff:
G. Elliott B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) (virtual) T. Lloyd J. Maracle K. McGregor J. Morning J. Neill S. Ruttan C. Scott A. Bukhari (Student Trustee) (virtual) R. Kolosov (Student Trustee) S. Kumar (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent S. Hedderson, Associate Superintendent (virtual) A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education (virtual) T. McKenna, Associate Superintendent S. McWilliams, Superintendent of Human Resources S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent of Education J. Silver, Superintendent of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services
Guests:	Recorder:
D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services C. Downie, Assistant Manager, Facility Services P. Carson, Manager of Finance L. Conboy, Teacher, Special Education and Mental Health Lead M. West, Special Education Program Coordinator - Elementary	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

Limestone District School Board

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

Vice-Chair Godkin explained that he would be chairing the Board meeting in Trustee Hutcheon's place who joined the meeting virtually. He welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting and called the roll.

He called upon Trustee Ruttan to provide the Land Acknowledgement: "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. As a non-Indigenous person personalizing our written Land Acknowledgment, I like to find current examples of hope and positive messages. On January 4, the CBC reported on a celebration for the National Ribbon Skirt Day, the background story which was a catalyst for a movement. Years ago, I was not aware of the ribbon skirts symbol until it was covered by the press. Now when I hear about the celebration, I know the troubled history and that the skirts represent strength and identity."

7. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

8. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chair Godkin asked that if Trustees have a conflict of interest, could they please identify the item number. There were no conflicts declared.

9. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION

10. PRIVATE SESSION REPORT

Earlier this evening during Private Session:

- The private session minutes were approved from the Regular Board Meeting of November 13, 2024
- Associate Superintendent Gollogly gave a safe schools update.
- Director Burra provided a couple of personnel updates.

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

*MOVED By Trustee Elliott and seconded by Trustee Scott that the Private Session Report be received.
Carried.*

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11.1 Annual Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2024

Limestone District School Board

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

- 11.2 Nominations Board Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2024
- 11.3 Special Board Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2024
- 11.2 EPOC Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2024

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

12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

12.1. Chair's Report

Vice-Chair Godkin read Chair Hutcheon's report. He stated: "I would like to extend a Happy New Year to Trustees, senior staff students, staff and families of the Limestone District School Board. As we begin a new year, I would like to take a moment to mention the work immediately before us, including the coming 2025-2026 school year calendar, and our review and approval of the Board's operating and capital budgets.

As School Board governors, Trustees play a key role in shaping the conditions for a high-quality education for every student. While in office, Trustees balance a range of responsibilities—setting the Board's strategic direction, creating policies, managing resources, engaging with the community, and holding our system accountable. This requires continuous learning and growth.

At Limestone District School Board, we believe professional development is essential for everyone—staff, students, and Trustees alike. Lifelong learning helps us all grow, ensuring we can meet the demands of our roles and responsibilities to the highest standard. For Trustees, this means continuing to build knowledge and expertise—both individually and as a group—so we can guide our Board effectively and tackle the complex issues we face.

The Ministry of Education has also emphasized the value of professional learning for Trustees. In a virtual meeting last fall, the Ministry confirmed that this kind of development is important and that public funds can appropriately be used to support it.

The upcoming Ontario Provincial Education Symposium for Trustees next week is a great opportunity for Trustees to continue growing in our roles. This professional learning offers sessions on topics directly affecting the role of Trustee, and the broader environment within which school boards operate. I am confident you will find it valuable learning.

Limestone District School Board

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

In closing, I would like to wish best of luck to secondary students on their upcoming exams, and for the successful completion of semester one. That concludes my report.”

12.2. Director’s Report

Director Burra stated: “Good evening Trustees and the viewing public. While it is already the middle of January, and the holiday season seems like a distant memory, Happy New Year to everyone.

The New Year always is a time of reflection, both thinking about the year behind, and the year ahead. In education, there is always more work to do, and as a board, we continue to have significant work ahead. The stakes of our work are incredibly high when we consider the future of every student we serve. Annual EQAO results, summaries of Human Rights Complaints, and school climate data, all of which we shared in the fall, all serve as good reminders of the critical undertakings ahead of us as a board. As we continue forward with our LDSB Strategic Plan, it will be important for us to remember for whom this work matters, and emphasizing the need for all staff to make a positive difference in the lives of the students we serve. This means continuing to strive for improvement in student learning, achievement, and well-being. It also means we must continue to do what we can in making sure there is a positive culture in Limestone for the benefit of all students, families, and staff. Last week I had the pleasure of visiting several schools as part of the Ministry Math visit to Limestone and it was wonderful to see the significant impact of our learning in this area in action in multiple classrooms. Our work matters and makes a difference. I offer my thanks and appreciation to the central team led by Associate Superintendent Hedderson, and the impressive work occurring due to the efforts of staff in Limestone schools.

While it is only January, preliminary preparations are already underway for the 2025-2026 school year. In the next few weeks, we anticipate the release of provincial funding to help support our planning for next year. Choices program information has been shared with the community and students will be engaging in those processes. In addition, last week, this week, and in the next couple of weeks, secondary schools are engaging with Grade 8 students and families to provide information to further support the transition to secondary school in the fall. In addition, more senior secondary students will be considering expanded opportunities available for the fall, and the Kindergarten registration process for the youngest Limestone learners will also begin. This time of year also means secondary summative assessments and exams start in the next few days, and report cards for students K-12 are just around the corner in February.

Given recent cyber incidents impacting an adjacent school board, local police authorities, and the largest Student Information System providers in North America, I want to emphasize that Limestone has not been

Limestone District School Board

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

impacted by any of these incidents. Our Student Information System is Aspen, and the one PowerSchool tool we use was not impacted by their recent cyber breach. I bring this issue up for a couple of reasons: while we have not been impacted at this point, it is likely more a matter of when as opposed to if. The reality is that these types of incidents are occurring more and more frequently, and it is critical for us to continue to prioritize cyber safety and security measures. On occasion, increasing our cyber measures can impact ease of use, but this is necessary to maximize our level of protection.

While teaching and learning must continue to be a focus in schools to support student learning and well-being, it is important to remember the range of great activities occurring in schools. Here are just a few examples: the Robotics event and competition at Calvin Park/LCVI this past weekend; the Youth Imagine the Future Festival and Gallery in December, and the recent engagement with Grade 7-12 sites to name the upcoming educational campaign focused on vaping and screen time, are just three recent and current examples.

This evening, Trustees, the agenda contains several updates: the multi-year capital and school renewal project plan, the revised estimates for Quarter 1 of the 2024-2025 school year, and an update on the mental health operational plan.

That concludes my update for this evening.”

13. REPORTS

13.1 OPSBA Report

Trustee McGregor provided her update:

- The Public Education Symposium will take place in Toronto January 24-25, 2025. This will be a great opportunity for Trustees to attend the 15 workshops offered on a variety of topics.
- Typically, an Advocacy Day would follow the conference where Trustees in teams of three would visit MPPs to share the key priorities of OPSBA. This day has been postponed with no dates set as of yet due to delay of the Provincial Legislature.
- The next Board Meeting is scheduled for February 22-23, 2025.

13.2 Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustee Bukhari stated: “Good evening trustees and the viewing public. Our January Inter-school Council meeting took place on January 7th chaired by Student Trustee Kumar and Student Trustee Kolosov.

To start our meeting, we were privileged to have Andrea Barrow, the LDSB Equity and Inclusion Consultant, do a presentation on Black History Month to help student groups be proactive in their plans to

Limestone District School Board

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

recognize Black History month in schools. We covered topics such as why we recognize Black History Month, the Ministry's upcoming inclusion of Black History in elementary and Grade 10 History curriculums, as well as the Black History lessons that LDSB students and the equity team worked to create. During the presentation, the council had a chance to see what events different schools were planning to run to recognize Black History Month. Andrea Barrow also displayed a series of Black History Month resources that she had created to help ensure all schools would have materials to display. The council was able to provide valuable feedback on what kind of resources would be best utilized at their sites and look forward to working collaboratively with other student groups to recognize Black History Month.

Schools this month begin to wrap up the work from the Youth Homelessness Initiative that began in November following an impactful presentation by Kim Hockey from the United Way KFL&A.

Kim's presentation included shocking and relevant statistics about the prevalence of youth homelessness, and inspired students to take action in supporting those who were struggling and breaking down stigmas and stereotypes. Kim provided ISC with a number of posters and resources to build awareness in schools and also shared a moving student-led video project. Link to video here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srKu-uxClG4&list=PLkrrA7VMjfDd2tL-L1gMizv9_BMtrYr5u

Council members shared a number of exciting activities and events dedicated to raising money and support for the fight against youth homelessness; including food, clothing, and toy drives, as well as fundraisers that raised over \$1000.

In conversation about challenges students were facing at their school sites, many schools mentioned that vandalism and vaping in the bathrooms has become an increased issue.

Trustees may recall from August that vape detectors were installed in two high schools as a trial run. Council members shared that installed vape detectors in their school bathrooms were not acting as effective deterrents for vaping and were not providing accurate notices to admin. Students shared that vaping and crowding in bathrooms has remained a consistent issue throughout the school year with little change since the detector's installment.

To wrap up our meeting, we discussed the next Student Trustee elections happening in February and ensured that all members were on the same page about the elections.

This concludes our report for the January ISC meeting. Thank you."

Limestone District School Board

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

Associate Superintendent Gollogly added a note about the efficacy of the vape detectors as a deterrent. She explained that there was a delay in the delivery due to a change in approved detectors by the Ministry. As a result, active working detectors were installed very recently so more information about their impact will have to be brought back at a later time.

Student Trustee Kolosov shared information about the progress and launch of the Knowledge Sharing Program. She explained that this program is for self-identified Indigenous high school students who will be paired with one another to discuss culture and form connection on a personal and/or school level. Student Trustee Kolosov has been working on this program with Elementary Indigenous Student Support Teacher Jessi DiRocco. She shared an update on some of the school visits she has completed. Recently she visited LCVI meeting with Indigenous students who provided feedback about adding a personalization to the Land Acknowledgements provided during announcements.

13.3 Reports for Action

13.3.1 Multi-Year Capital and School Renewal Project Strategic Plan

Superintendent Young introduced the report. Starting in 2011-2012 the Board prepared a 10-Year Capital-School Renewal Project Plan (the Plan) that is updated each year. The purpose of the plan is to highlight proposed school renewal project activities under the following project types: heating/ventilation/AC; electrical; structure, communications (ITS); site improvements; conveyance; lighting; interior renovations; plumbing; and building envelope.

At the June 5, 2024, Regular Board Meeting, the 2024-2025 budget was approved including a capital budget consisting of \$21 million in School Renewal funded projects.

Facility Services Manager Dave Fowler and Assistant Manager Charlyn Downie reviewed details of the plan. The Capital and School Renewal Project Plan was developed based upon the VFA Building Condition reports for all schools; assessing local needs with school staff, analysis from maintenance work orders; knowledge from facilities, trades and maintenance staff, and expertise from engineering and other consultants. She highlighted that project consideration also incorporates a connection to Board priorities and goals which includes improving accessibility, green initiatives, security and improving student and staff experiences at our sites. Assistant Manager Downie noted that capital projects are classified as a capital project once it is over the \$10,000 threshold. Another condition is that the result of the project better or extends the life of the building system. School input and programming needs is a very critical component which is incorporated through the creation of a facility improvement plan in collaboration with Principals who bring that school community voice.

Limestone District School Board

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

The Multi-Year Capital plan includes an updated 2024-2025 listing of \$21,071,289 projects by school or various schools, which is outlined in Appendix A. Project work estimates are based upon the best available project scope and costing information at the time of evaluation.

For the 2023-2024 to 2032-2033 school years, the 10-year plan includes an estimated \$4,500,000 in proposed annual school renewal project activity per year, based upon prior year Ministry funding levels. This year, there is a new requirement to list all of the projects on the board's website which included completed 2024 projects as well as projects in planning and in progress.

Vice-Chair Godkin thanked Superintendent Young, Manager Fowler and Assistant Manager Downie and called upon Trustees for comments or questions.

MOTION MOVED by Trustee Ruttan and seconded by Trustee Lloyd that the Board approve the Multi-Year Capital and School Renewal Project Plan; and that a revised copy of the 10-Year Capital and School Renewal Project Plan be posted on the board's website. Carried.

13.4 Reports for Information

13.4.1 2024-2025 Revised Estimates and Interim Financial Report for Q1

Superintendent Young called upon Manager Paula Carson to share the report on the 2024-2025 revised estimates and interim financial operating expenditures for Quarter 1.

Manager Carson noted that the projected Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) for the 2024-2025 school year is the basis on which most Ministry grants are calculated and is based upon the average of enrolment at two established counts (October 31st & March 31st) in the school year. Overall enrolment is expected to be 185 ADE higher in the 2024-25 school year than originally forecasted in the budget with the elementary panel increasing by 36 students, and the secondary panel increasing by 149 students.

Manager Carson advised that for the Operating Budget Revenue, reflects a \$11.7M increase in Core Education Funding Operating Allocation. This funding was previously known as the Grant for Student Needs (GSN). The main changes are an increase of \$7.1M due to updates to funding benchmarks and table amounts arising from the settlement of the 22 to 26 central labour agreements. She stated that other increases include \$3.5M related to increased enrolment and a \$1.6M increase due to changes to the Principals and Vice-Principals funding model.

Other government grants increased by \$1.6M due to new Responsive Education Program (REP) grant announcements. This funding was previously known as PPF funding.

Limestone District School Board

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

Manager Carson reviewed the Operating Budget Expenditures which reflect a total increase of \$14.7M. The main changes are related to a \$7.5M in salary costs related to the 2022-26 central labour agreements being settled at rates higher than originally projected. This includes an increase of \$4.8M for classroom teachers, and \$1M for Principals and Vice-Principals. The salary and benefit cost of the additional 35 FTE added was \$2.5M, which includes a \$1M increase for classroom teachers. Other changes include \$1M for additional short term educational assistant support, and a \$1M increase in textbooks and supplies supporting the Indigenous and REP funded programs.

The increase of \$1.1M for the Other Non-Operating Expenses category includes \$1M for additional expenditures for the temporary Educational Assistants seconded to Jordan's Principle.

Manager Carson advised that in Quarter 1 for the period ending November 30, 2024, the Board has spent \$74.7M or 24% of our \$312.7M operating budget. This is comparable to the 26% spent in Quarter 1 of the 2023-24 fiscal year.

Vice-Chair Godkin thanked Superintendent Young and Manager Carson and asked Trustees for questions.

13.4.2 Mental Health Operational Plan 2024-2025

Superintendent Gillam introduced his report. He reminded Trustees that it is a Ministry requirement for each school board to have a three-year Mental Health and Substance Use Strategy Action Plan. He welcomed Mental Health Lead Laura Conboy and Special Education Teacher Melissa West to provide some highlights of the plan.

- Curriculum GLC 20 – Two modules from the Ministry of Education, delivered by educators. There is one new and one updated mental health literacy expectation within the 2024 Career Studies course.
 - Module I: Strategies for managing stress and navigating balance
 - Module II: Knowing when, where, and how to seek support
- In the fall of 2023, Kids Help Phone resource packages were distributed to all schools.
- Enhancements have been made to online self-referral links for secondary students.
- Every Grade 9 student will receive a self-referral postcard with information on how to access supports. These students are targeted because of early intervention.
- Kids Have Stress Too! An evidence-based program developed by Psychology Canada for Grades 1-8 students run by student support counsellors.
- One Stop Talk: Students have the ability to connect with a therapist in real-time and a referral can be made if further support is needed.

Limestone District School Board

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

- Identity-affirming support: Professional learning opportunities through School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO).
- Working with School Administrators and based on school school-based referrals, Social Workers provide 1-to-1 support for students in Grades 6 to 12.
- The FourthR is a skills-focused and relationship-based pilot program for Grades 7 to 9 in collaboration with LDSB Equity Team and KFL&A Public Health. Four schools will participate in the pilot: J.G. Simcoe, Welborne, Enterprise and W.J. Holsgrove.
- PreVenture Program: LDSB moved from a pilot to scale up this program by expanding the offering from three to five sites. Feedback was collected through a survey with 72 surveys completed.
- PPM 128: Collecting data on the relationship between social media and suicidal ideation. Collaborating with Associate Superintendent Gollogly and KFL&A Public Health. Formal training is offered to regulated health professionals related to PPM 128.
- Relationship-based approaches and the Third Path: Educational Services Leadership team has bi-weekly meetings to complete focused professional development. Carousel session was offered to administrators to further implement this program.

Vice-Chair Godkin thanked Superintendent Gillam, Ms. Conboy and Ms. West 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

19. COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION

19.1 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2024

19.2 Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes – October 24, 2024

19.3 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2024

Limestone District School Board

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

20. FUTURE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

February 19, 2025

21. ADJOURNMENT AND MOVE INTO PRIVATE SESSION

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

The Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

PRIVATE SESSION

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Staff:
G. Elliott B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) (virtual) T. Lloyd J. Maracle K. McGregor J. Morning J. Neill S. Ruttan C. Scott A. Bukhari (Student Trustee) R. Kolosov (Student Trustee) S. Kumar (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services
Guests:	Recorder:
	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

22. FOR INFORMATION

- 22.1. Safe Schools Update
- 22.2. Property Update
- 22.3. Personnel Update – Director Burra provided a personnel update.
- 22.4. Labour Update
- 22.5. Legal Update
- 22.6. OPSBA Update

23. REPORT TO PUBLIC SESSION

Limestone District School Board

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

Vice-Chair Godkin called for a motion for the Board to rise and report at the February 19, 2025, Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: That the Board rise and report.

MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor. Carried.

Limestone District School Board

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

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)

Education, Policy and Operations Committee Meeting Minutes – February 5, 2025

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Staff:
G. Elliott B. Godkin (Vice-Chair) R. Hutcheon (Chair) T. Lloyd J. Maracle K. McGregor (regrets) J. Morning J. Neill S. Ruttan C. Scott A. Bukhari (Student Trustee) (regrets) R. Kolosov (Student Trustee) (regrets) S. Kumar (Student Trustee) (regrets)	K. Burra, Director of Education M. Christopher, IT Programmer J. Douglas, Communications Consultant P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent J. Silver, Superintendent of Education S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent
Guests:	Recorder:
	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Godkin welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided the Land Acknowledgement: “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. I’ve always been supportive of Indigenous People; I have gained over the last few years a much deeper understanding and appreciation of the connection to the land. I have been blessed last summer to visit Denmark to where my roots are from to experience this overwhelming connection. We should be eternally grateful for the warmth that let us arrive here in the first place. It is important to be mindful of how to protect this land for the future by listening and our willingness to learn.”

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Trustee Scott that the agenda be approved. Carried.

Limestone District School Board

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

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts declared.

4. REPORTS FOR ACTION

4.1 Trustee Code of Conduct

Director Burra introduced his report. He noted that at the Board meeting of August 21, 2024, Trustees were made aware that further adjustments to the Trustee Code of Conduct were likely in order to ensure compliance with emerging Ministry regulations. He indicated that the following Ministry regulations and bills have guided the proposed changes:

- Bill 98: the Better Schools and Outcomes Act, 2023
- Regulation 312/24 Code of Conduct Regulation, July-August, 2024
- Regulation 306/24 Integrity Commissioners and Process for Alleged Breaches of the Code of Conduct, Current Implementation

Director Burra provided an overview of the changes and implications outlined in the Code of Conduct:

- Intended consistency in processes (complaint & resolution) across Ontario DSBs.
- Delineation between an informal process (appendix A) within 20 business days, and a formal complaint process (appendix B) Potential internal resolution of a formal notice of breach, or referral to an Integrity Commissioner (appendix C).
- More severe sanctions (appendix C – page 12-13 of the package) can only be levied by an Integrity Commissioner.
- A formal appeal process to a panel of Integrity Commissioners.
- Clarity of private/public communication (appendix C – page 16 of the package).
- It should be noted that all costs associated with the formal processes are to be borne by the DSB.

Director Burra concluded by opening the floor for questions and comments. After discussion, Chair Godkin proceeded with the proposed motion for Policy 5 with a small housekeeping change.

MOTION MOVED By Trustee Lloyd that Trustees approve the edits as outlined in Appendix A with an amendment to change the word 'following the Formal Complaint Procedure' to 'via the Formal Complaint Procedure' in Section 1 (page 7 of the agenda package). Carried.

Chair Godkin thanked Director Burra for his report.

5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 Operational Plan: Literacy, 2024-2025

Limestone District School Board

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

Associate Superintendent Sartor presented her report. She shared the five areas of Literacy Operational Focus:

- System implementation of Early Reading Screening.
- Strengthening data-driven decision making and foundational literacy instruction.
- Improving teacher efficacy in evidence-based writing instruction.
- Supporting system-wide tiered literacy supports (Lexia, Empower).
- Deepening community awareness of effective community supports.

Associate Superintendent Sartor shared the progress through the implementation of Early Reading Screeners for K to 2 students. She reviewed what an early reading screener is:

- Early reading screening is a universal screening and progress monitoring assessment that measures early literacy skills.
- Acadience Reading identifies children at risk for reading difficulties and determines the skills to target for instructional support.
- Acadience Reading is comprised of six brief measures that function as indicators of the essential skills that every student must master to become a proficient reader.
- These measures will be used to monitor the development of literacy skills in order to provide timely instructional support.

She shared the measures and examples of the tools that will assist teachers with knowing where students might need some support. These are:

- First sound fluency
- Letter naming fluency
- Phoneme segmentation fluency
- Nonsense word fluency
- Oral reading fluency

Associate Superintendent Sartor shared a timeline of the ongoing resources and supports for families related to these screeners. A graphic was created to share general information about early screeners with families and caregivers. Once each student was screened, a personalized letter would then be sent home to families and caregivers to share individual student data. Depending on what the data showed, families may have received a follow up communication to further discuss the results and plan next steps. Additionally, resources have been created by educators to support families to work on literacy at home. Family literacy nights, events through the public library, and KEYS have been offered as additional support to families.

Limestone District School Board

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

Associate Superintendent Sartor shared that LDSB's learning journey began in March of 2020 ahead of early screeners becoming mandatory for September 2024. In the 2021-2022 school year, an asynchronous course on structured literacy was offered over the summer with over 400 educators signing up to participate. Subsequently, a writing team of 30 educators formed to build structured literacy resources for system implementation. In 2022-2023, LDSB decided to do a pilot project at eight schools of four different learning sessions on how to launch this work into the system. This was further supported by learning coaches. In 2023-2024 funding was available to further support this training.

Associate Superintendent Sartor shared that LDSB is in a collaborative partnership with the ETFO Executive which allows for the review of screener documentation by ETFO before sharing information to the system. This collaboration has led to common messaging being sent out at the same time ensuring alignment to support the early screener initiative. She noted that this is not common practice across the province and that she is very proud of this ongoing partnership.

Associate Superintendent Sartor concluded by sharing next steps:

- Continue to support strong tier 1 literacy instruction and data literacy.
- Continue to support instructional leadership with administrators.
- Support mid-year screener for all students below benchmark.
- Analyze the school and system data to determine next steps.

Chair Godkin thanked Associate Superintendent Sartor for her presentation and called upon Trustees for questions.

5.2 School Year Calendar Process and Options for 2025-2026

Associate Superintendent Gollogly presented to Trustees the three calendar options for the 2025-2026 school year. Consultation through a survey has been sent out to LDSB students, staff and families. She reminded Trustees that there are three school boards in the Tri-Board Consortium: Limestone District School Board, Hastings Prince Edward County District School Board and Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board. Limestone representatives from each labour partner, and the Parent Involvement Committee met on January 16, 2025 to provide input on the options.

Associate Superintendent Gollogly noted that an approved school year calendar will need to be submitted to the Ministry of Education prior to the March 1, 2025, deadline. She will present the survey results to Trustees at the February 19, 2025 Board meeting with a calendar option for approval.

Limestone District School Board

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

Chair Godkin thanked Associate Superintendent Gollogly for her report and called on Trustees for questions.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

7. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

9. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

March 5, 2025

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Hutcheon that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Limestone District School Board

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

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)

Administrative Report: School Year Calendar for 2025-2026

Regular Board Meeting

February 19, 2025

Purpose and Link to the Strategic Plan/Goal: Student Learning, Achievement and Well-Being

To share an overview of the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar consultation results and to approve next year's calendar. This item is tied to the Strategic Plan Goal, Improve Responsiveness and Service to Families, Staff, and Community Partners.

Background

Provincial Regulation 304 School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days requires that a regular school year start on or after September 1 and end on or before June 30. Every school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days.

In Limestone District School Board, the 194 school days are made up of seven PA Days and 187 instructional days. Examination days for secondary schools fall under instructional days.

Regulation 304 requires the following school holidays:

- Every Saturday and Sunday
- Labour Day – September 1, 2025
- Thanksgiving Day – October 13, 2025
- Ten (10) consecutive days for Winter Break- December 22, 2025 – January 2, 2026
- Family Day – the third Monday of February – February 16, 2026
- Five (5) consecutive days for March Break – March 16, 2026 – March 20, 2026
- Good Friday and Easter Monday – April 3, 2026 – April 6, 2026
- Victoria Day – May 18, 2026

The Board shall submit an approved school year calendar to the Ministry of Education by March 1, 2025. A school year calendar that deviates from Regulation 304 must be approved by the Ministry of Education and is referred to as a modified calendar.

Limestone District School Board

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

The three school boards in the Tri-Board Consortium (LDSB, HPEDSB, and ALCDSD) have traditionally agreed upon a common calendar to share transportation costs. The Consortium agreement and practice indicate two key considerations: (1) should a board decide not to conform to the common calendar, that board must continue to pay for the transportation as arranged in the common calendar; and (2) this board is also required to assume 100% of the transportation costs for days of transport outside of the common calendar. In Limestone District School Board, each day of independent transportation would cost more than \$65,000.

Current Status and Next Steps

Survey Results

When the survey closed on February 3, 2025, a total of 4,500 responses were received. The breakdown of respondents included 71% families, 21% staff, and 8% students/other.

Calendar Option 3 was the most selected, chosen 45.7% of the time:

- 43.5% of families
- 53.6% of staff
- 47.2% of students/other

Option 1 received 27.66% support, while Option 2 was selected by 26.64% of respondents.

These results closely aligned with survey findings from both the Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board and the Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board.

School Board and School Year Calendar Committee Follow up

The results of the survey were reviewed by LDSB's School Year Calendar Committee and the other co-terminus school boards. Based on the results, all three Boards will be recommending that the Trustees approve Calendar Option 3 for the 2025- 2026 school year.

Recommendations

That the Trustees approve Calendar Option 3 for the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar.

Prepared by: Patty Gollogly, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Program Services: School Climate and Community Engagement

Reviewed by: Krishna Burra, Director of Education

Attachment: Appendix A: School Year Calendar 2025-2026 Option 3

Limestone District School Board

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

School Year Calendar 2025 - 2026

Legend ▶ **H** - Statutory Holiday **E** - Scheduled Examination Day **P** - Professional Activity Day **B** - Board Designated Holiday ☒ Half Day

Option 3

Month	Number of Instructional Days	Number of Professional Activity Days	Number of Scheduled Examination Days	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	5th Week
August 2025				M T W T F 1	M T W T F 4 5 6 7 8 H	M T W T F 11 12 13 14 15	M T W T F 18 19 20 21 22	M T W T F 25 26 27 28 29
September 2025	20	1	0	1 2 3 4 5 H P	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	27 28 29 30
October 2025	21	1	0	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
November 2025	19	1	0	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
December 2025	15	0	0	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
January 2026	14	1	5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
February 2026	19	0	0	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
March 2026	17	0	0	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
April 2026	19	1	0	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
May 2026	19	1	0	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
June 2026	14	1	5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
July 2026				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	
TOTAL	177	7	10					

Note: The 2025-2026 calendar provides for 196 possible school days between September 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which three days must be designated as professional activity days with respect to specific provincial education priorities as outlined in the Policy/Program Memoranda 151 and up to four extra days may be designated by the board as professional activity days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days. The boards may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days.

Administrative Report: Gould Lake Outdoor Education Centre Programming

Regular Board Meeting

February 19, 2025

Purpose and Link to the Strategic Plan/Goal: Student Learning, Achievement and Well-Being

To provide Trustees with an overview of Outdoor Education Programming for the 2024-2025 school year, including summer programming and to demonstrate how Outdoor Education programming supports student well-being/sense of belonging, participation/engagement in class time, and time focused on learning. It also focuses on improving responsiveness and services to families, staff and community partners.

Background

Gould Lake Outdoor Centre has been committed to providing quality outdoor educational programming that is safe and fun, and provides participants with increased knowledge, understanding, respect and appreciation for themselves, their peers, and the environment since 1974. Dennis Reed, a Frontenac County teacher at the time, created Outreach under the name *"Summer Experience '74"*.

The base of operations for all Gould Lake programs is at the Gould Lake Conservation Area. Located at the south end of Gould Lake, this area provides the perfect place for students to be introduced to their program and to learn the necessary skills and knowledge required for them to prepare for their upcoming adventure.

Gould Lake Outdoor Centre is a year-round facility that provides children and youth opportunities to experience physical and mental challenges in a positive, safe and inclusive learning environment, facilitated by experienced, skilled, and knowledgeable leaders.

Summer programs complement one another by continually developing and building on skills, leadership training, and experience. Programs are intended to develop the confidence required for students to become self-reliant individuals who actively contribute to society in a positive manner.

Outdoor education programming has been popular with students, during the school year and over the

Limestone District School Board

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

summer, with an average of 500 students participating across different summer programs, in addition to classes that travel to Gould Lake during the school year to engage in outdoor education. Last year, 7400 elementary students and 219 secondary students visited Gould Lake during the school year. Gould Lake staff visited Clarendon Central School (Archery and primary program) and LCVI's School to Community class in the fall. All LDSB schools are offered a school visit if they are having issues with bussing or accessibility. Most classes choose to come to the Gould Lake Outdoor Education Centre for the unique experience.

Program Objectives

The staff at Gould Lake Outdoor Education Centre are committed to:

1. Ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of all program staff and students.
2. Creating fun, exciting, positive, and rewarding experiences for all participants.
3. Modelling and encouraging mutual cooperation, teamwork and collaboration.
4. Promoting personal growth for every participant through
 - a. Quality experiential and educational programming adapted to meet the individual needs of students.
 - b. The development of self-reliance and self-confidence.
 - c. Rewarding opportunities where students are encouraged to challenge themselves, work independently and in groups, and to set and achieve personal goals.
5. Promoting an individual's ability to live and work successfully in a group through:
 - a. Programs designed to provide an awareness of group strengths.
 - b. Promoting an understanding of each individual's strengths, weaknesses and uniqueness.
 - c. Encouraging students to work to become a cohesive group founded on trust, respect, openness, and common goals.
6. Cultivating awareness and respect for the natural environment around us by
 - a. Creating an interest and curiosity towards nature.
 - b. Allowing students to examine the wilderness around them and to develop a sense of responsibility for and belonging within it.
 - c. Promoting environmental stewardship.
7. Engaging students in the Ontario Curriculum in a unique learning environment.

Support for Gould Lake Outdoor Education Centre

Friends of Outreach (F.O.O.)

F.O.O. is a charitable trust fund that was formed in 1996 by Gould Lake staff and parents, the primary

Limestone District School Board

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

function of which is to raise money to support eligible students with tuition fees. F.O.O. raises funds through public donations, Gould Lake staff initiatives, and the sale of F.O.O. merchandise during the summer and at the Annual Summer Slideshow.

Denis Reed Fund

This fund was established in recognition of the founder of the Outreach Program, upon his retirement, and is also used to support students with tuition subsidization.

Gould Lake Charitable Trust

The Gould Lake Charitable Trust Fund is used for the further development of Gould Lake programming. It can provide funds to assist in purchasing new equipment such as canoes and kayaks as well as to support other Gould Lake initiatives.

Adam Woogh and Annie Casson Fund

Established in 2011, this fund is used to further assist students with tuition subsidization

Summer 2024 marked the 50th Anniversary of Gould Lake Outdoor Centre Summer Programming. A celebration and fundraiser was held in August to celebrate this milestone that included past and present Gould Lake students and staff, members of the school board, as well as members of the community.

Current Status

Gould Lake Outdoor Education Centre continues to support the Ontario Curriculum throughout the school year by offering LDSB students a variety of opportunities to engage with and learn through nature. A variety of summer programs continue to be offered through day camps, held at different locations across the district, for younger students. These include Nature Camps for students in Grades 1 to 4 and Outdoor Escape for students in Grades 5 to 7.

Increasingly advanced courses continue to be offered for more experienced students who are looking to build on previously learned knowledge and skills. These include Quest for Students in Grades 7 and 8, Girls Adventure Program for students identifying as female in Grades 7 and 8, Outreach programs for students between grades 9 and 11, Outdoor Skills for students in Grades 10 and 11 as well as the Wilderness Instructor Course for students in Grades 11 and 12.

Currently, there are 530 students registered for upcoming summer programs.

Additionally, Gould Lake staff collaborate with the Indigenous Education Team to support Indigenous ways of knowing and learning. For example, staff have engaged in professional development with teachers over five different sessions this past fall learning math on the land. Staff also collaborate with the Indigenous Education Team to support and enhance the Voyager program to engage Indigenous perspectives.

Limestone District School Board

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

To foster accessible programming, a new all terrain wheelchair was also purchased to support students attending Gould Lake field trips and summer programs.

Next Steps and Communication Plan

A presentation at the Board Meeting on February 19, 2025, will accompany this report and provide more detailed information on Outdoor Education programming in Limestone.

Recommendations

That Trustees receive this report for information.

Prepared by: Susan McWilliams, Superintendent of People, Strategy, Engagement, & Records & Information Management

Reviewed by: Krishna Burra, Director of Education

Limestone District School Board

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

See Yourself in Limestone

Administrative Report: International Education

Regular Board Meeting

February 19, 2025

Purpose and Link to the Strategic Plan/Goal: Student Learning, Achievement and Well-Being

It is with great pride that the Limestone District International Education Office (IEO) facilitates students from around the world to travel to Kingston to learn. In addition to the core beliefs of the LDSB, the IEO focuses on **Care, Responsiveness** and being **Globally Connected**. The International Education program supports increased diversity and enrolment in Limestone schools, and provides valuable learning experiences for many secondary students.

Background

The IEO started in 1998 in Limestone and has grown and developed over the last 27 years. The program hosts an average of 120-130 students each year to learn, stay and study in Limestone.

Although the department has grown past pre-pandemic enrolment levels, the IEO is always continuing to support careful and deliberate growth. Over the last five years the IEO has expanded school offerings to include seven schools. The finances gained in the program have been used to grow ESL support to schools like Loyalist CVI, Kingston SS, Bayridge SS and the district ESL program. In addition, schools that host IEO students are supported financially in their school budgets.

Current Status

The program keeps careful watch on global trends to identify which countries are interested in studying in Canada. In the past, students from the Pacific Rim made up over 90% of the program enrolment. In 2019 this approach was starting to shift, and the pandemic years demanded a change in thinking about where and why our students were coming to Limestone. Currently there is a more balanced approach to enrolment with the IEO hosting students from over 15 different countries and five continents. This balance is important moving forward as global trends, politics, and economies can swivel quickly.

Limestone District School Board

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

See Yourself in Limestone

There are many unique reasons why students choose Limestone including:

- Kingston is a safe, medium-sized, centrally located city in Ontario.
- The Ontario Education system is seen as a high-quality system globally.
- The LDSB runs a comprehensive and supportive ESL program.
- Limestone runs its own Homestay family hosting program.
- The IEO has two full-time Homestay Coordinators that support hosting families.
- Safe and free City of Kingston transit.
- Students in the program are provided 'activity trips' to experience Ontario.
- There are proven positive education/social outcomes for past students of the program.
- Culture of care in the IEO Program.
- Each school has dedicated staff working with International Students.

Students usually travel to Kingston via Air Canada in either September or February. With Air Canada not flying to Kingston currently, students arrive at either Montreal (YUL) or Toronto (YYZ). The Program provides a 'free window' in which the IEO staff pick up the students at those airports.

Homestay families are currently the limiting factor for growth in the department. The IEO continues to promote the IEO in Kingston through social media, word-of-mouth connections, and school presentations. We have also added shorter term programs (like one semester), to have potential homestay families consider the program before committing to hosting full-year students. Currently we have programs for students staying one semester and up to and including multi-year to graduation. Our goal is to add more homestay families to the hosting pool for September 2025.

The department currently has the following staff:

- 1: Bob Seitz, Executive Lead and Vice-Principal
- 2: Tomoko Phippen, Officer of Registration and Finance
- 3: Shannon Revell, Assistant to the Executive Lead and Homestay Support (contract for 2024)
- 4: Sevena Flindall, Homestay Coordinator
- 5: Debbie Villeneuve, Homestay Coordinator

Recommendations

That Trustees receive this report for information.

Prepared by: Bob Seitz, Executive Lead and VP of International Education

Reviewed by: Krishna Burra, Director of Education

Limestone District School Board

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

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 2024

Public Meeting

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
T. Lloyd K. McGregor	Present: A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University) Z. Rogers, Community Living Kingston C. Lord, Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario Regrets: H. Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston H. Clark, Autism Ontario E. Clow, Member-at-Large J. Barker, Lennox & Addington Resources for Children L. Clouthier, Easter Seals Ontario K. Hill, Member-at-Large
Invitees:	Staff:
	Present: S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education, Learning for All M. Blackburn, Principal of Educational Services W. Fisher, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator C. Snider, Special Education Program Coordinator M. Aylsworth, Special Education Program Coordinator M. West, Special Education Program Coordinator L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead J. Lalonde, Special Education Program Coordinator N. Dillard, Vice-Principal of Educational Services T. Bonham-Carter, Special Education Program Coordinator
Guests:	Recorder:
None at this time.	J. Senior, Administrative Assistant

Limestone District School Board

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

1. WELCOME

Chair McGregor called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chair McGregor read 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.”

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd that the agenda be approved. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Trustee Lloyd that the November 6, 2024, IEC Minutes be approved. Carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None at this time.

6. EDUCATION SERVICES UPDATE

6.1 Educational Services 2024-25 Monitoring and Operational Plan – Principal Michael Blackburn, Vice Principal Nicola Dillard delivered a comprehensive presentation on the 2024-25 December Monitoring and Operational Plan.

Principal Blackburn reminded SEAC Members of the Mission Statement:

Our mission is to support the creation of equitable, supportive and fully inclusive learning spaces where all students can achieve their goals, develop to their full potential, and experience success. Our purpose is to support staff to recognize the unique strengths and needs of every student and to enable the conditions for learning, engagement, belonging and achievement.

Limestone District School Board

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

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)

Principal Blackburn and Vice Principal Dillard reviewed the four foundational principles from the Monitoring and Operational Plan:

- Culture Matters
- Supports Matter
- Programming Matters
- People Matter

Additionally, the Monitoring and Operational Plan lists eight specific key areas of focus for capacity building and support:

- Universal Design for Learning
- Executive Functions
- Assistive Technology
- Relationship Based Approaches
- Accessibility
- Neuroaffirming Practices
- Multi-tiered Systems of Support
- Modification/Accommodations

Examples were provided to illustrate where these principles are implemented and how we track the outcomes. SEAC Committee Members can expect the next updated Monitoring and Operational Plan to be presented at the March 19, 2025, SEAC Meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Ontario College of Teachers – Correspondence from Linda Lacroix, Registrar & CEO of Ontario College of Teachers in response to the Limestone District School Board letter received on November 19, 2024. Provided for information.

8. ASSOCIATION UPDATES

None at this time.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Scot Gillam reviewed the Superintendent's Report that was included in the Agenda Package.

Limestone District School Board

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

9.2 K-12 Education Accessibility Standards 24/25 – Superintendent Gillam provided SEAC Members with an update on the current K-12 Educational Accessibility Standards and the progress made by LDSB.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

January 22, 2025

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd, that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Limestone District School Board

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

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2025

Public Meeting

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
T. Lloyd K. McGregor	Present: A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University) Z. Rogers, Community Living Kingston C. Lord, Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario H. Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston E. Clow, Member-at-Large J. Barker, Lennox & Addington Resources for Children L. Clouthier, Easter Seals Ontario K. Hill, Member-at-Large Regrets: H. Clark, Autism Ontario
Invitees:	Staff:
	Present: S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education, Learning for All M. Blackburn, Principal of Educational Services W. Fisher, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator C. Snider, Special Education Program Coordinator M. Aylsworth, Special Education Program Coordinator M. West, Special Education Program Coordinator L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead J. Lalonde, Special Education Program Coordinator N. Dillard, Vice-Principal of Educational Services T. Bonham-Carter, Special Education Program Coordinator
Recorder:	Guests:
J. Senior, Administrative Assistant	Terry Farrell, Itinerant Teacher for Deaf/Hard of Hearing & Team Lead Katie Kyte, Itinerant Teacher for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Robb MacKay, Itinerant Teacher for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Sarah Ruta, Itinerant Teacher of the Visually Impaired

Limestone District School Board

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

1. WELCOME

Chair McGregor called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chair McGregor read 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.”

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Member-at- Large Erin Clow that the agenda be approved. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Trustee Lloyd that the December 11, 2024, SEAC Minutes be approved. Carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.1 MOTION: *Trustee McGregor*—To have SEAC Chair Karen McGregor’s name added to the list of signatures on letter to be sent to Ministry of Education regarding *Inadequate Special Education Funding and Educational Assistant Shortage* as per request from Traci Clarke, SEAC Chair, Ottawa Catholic School Board.

MOVED BY: All SEAC Members. Carried.

6. EDUCATION SERVICES UPDATE

6.1 Supports and Services for students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Blind/Low Vision—A Team Approach—Terry Farrell, Itinerant Teacher for Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Team Lead, along with Katie Kyte and Robb MacKay, Itinerant Teachers for Deaf/Hard of Hearing, and Sarah Ruta, Itinerant Teacher of the Visually Impaired, delivered a comprehensive presentation on the supports and services available for students who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or have low vision.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Letter to the Ministry from Ottawa Catholic School Board SEAC—Correspondence to the Ministry from Ottawa Catholic School Board regarding Inadequate Special Education Funding and Educational Assistant Shortage. Provided for information and discussed and approved as detailed in Motion above.

Limestone District School Board

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

See Yourself in Limestone

8. ASSOCIATION UPDATES

8.1 Easter Seals Ontario – Linda Clouthier provided details about the Annual Curl for Kids Bonspiel on March 1, 2025; to kick off the March is Easter Seals Month Campaign.

8.2 Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario – Christina Lord provided information regarding Epilepsy Awareness Month, Purple Day on March 26th and Educational Packages to Raise Awareness and Education about Epilepsy.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Scot Gillam provided an overview of the Superintendent's Report, which was included in the Agenda Package.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

February 12, 2025

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: Trustee Lloyd, that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm.