

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 6:15 P.M.
Roy H. Wilfong Boardroom, Education Centre
1994 Fisher Drive, Peterborough, Ontario**

Due to the current health advisory provincially, the meeting was held virtually using the WebEx Platform and livestreamed via the KPR YouTube channel.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Diane Lloyd (Chairperson of the Board), Angela Lloyd (Vice-chairperson of the Board), Cathy Abraham, Sarah Bobka, Terry Brown, Cyndi Dickson, Kailee Dupuis, Rose Kitney, Jaine Klassen Jeninga, Emilio Ojeda, Steve Russell, and Student Trustees Roan Haggerty-Goede and Justine Mackay.

Also Present: R. Russo, C. Arnew, J. Brake, A. Duncan, J. Ford, S. Girardi, G. Ingram, J. Maliha, G. Tompkins; G. Kidd, and L. Burton.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

Superintendent J. Brake offered a personalized land acknowledgement and noted the Board is meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga First Nations.

2. **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Kitney
Seconded by: Trustee Dupuis

(21-049) That the Board move into Committee of the Whole, In-camera (6:16 p.m.).
CARRIED

The Open Session of the meeting resumed at 7:08 p.m.

3. **NATIONAL ANTHEM AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

The meeting was opened with the singing of the National Anthem followed by a Moment of Silence.

4. **CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE – STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Student Trustee J. MacKay spoke to this month's character attribute, *Responsibility*.

5. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Kitney
Seconded by: Trustee Abraham

(21-050) That the agenda be adopted to include the following topic under Board Member Additions:

- Music Mondays

CARRIED

6. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

7. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

7.1 **Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 30, 2021**

It was,

Moved by: Trustee A. Lloyd
Seconded by: Trustee Russell

(21-051) That the minutes for the Regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 be adopted as recorded.

CARRIED

8. **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

Nil.

9. **DELEGATIONS**

9.1 **DELEGATIONS (10 minutes)**

9.1.1 **Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)**

D. Lloyd, Chairperson of the Board, welcomed Shirley Bell, President of KPR ETFO, and Aileen Fletcher, Teachers' Bargaining Unit (TBU) President of KPR OSSTF.

Shirley Bell and Aileen Fletcher provided a slideshow on educator's concerns regarding the latest news release on Permanent Virtual Learning.

The union leaders spoke to the benefits students experience while in-person learning such as the social and emotional support of caring adults, community involvement, responsive education, authentic programming, assessment and evaluation by certified teachers, access to technology, diversity of instruction, Individual Education Plan (IEP) accountability, and parent/school and community collaboration. For those students who require an e-learning course, KPR has offered this for over 15 years through a consortium of school boards.

When speaking to the pandemic statistics regarding online learning for students, S. Bell noted they are deceiving. Professionals have seen a surge in calls to Kids Helps Phone, increase in domestic violence, increased demand on food banks and lack of mental health supports. The physical and mental impacts include deterioration in health domains (depression, anxiety, irritability and attention span), lasting effects on children (eye fatigue, near sightedness and retinal damage) along with sleep disturbances, obesity and isolation. In the end, permanent virtual learning, is detrimental to the overall health of students.

The KPR Mission Statement was recited "*We inspire our students to excel in learning, to succeed in life, and to enrich our communities*". Should remote or virtual learning be rolled out on a permanent basis through TVO/TFO (TVOntario/Télévision française de l'Ontario), the health and welfare of students and the viability and diversity of course offerings in small rural and remote schools will be affected.

In closing, it was noted "*it takes an educational community to graduate a child*".

A Board member requested a copy of the slideshow.

Questions of clarification were asked by Board members and responded to by A. Fletcher.

9.2 **DELEGATIONS** (3 minutes)

Nil.

9.3 **DISPOSITION OF DELEGATION CONCERNS**

It was,

Moved by: Trustee A. Lloyd
Seconded by: Trustee Brown

- (21-052) **That the presentation by delegates Shirley Bell, President of KPR ETFO and Aileen Fletcher, TBU President of KPR OSSTF, regarding Virtual Learning be received for information and with thanks.**

CARRIED

10. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Nil.

11. **STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT**

Student Trustee R. Haggerty-Goede spoke to the April report noting students are entering their fourth quadmester and the third lockdown. Students remain resilient and vigilant through the uncertainty and chaos associated with the pandemic. He stated, wear masks, avoid gatherings, wash hands, sanitize regularly, and try to receive vaccines in order to best fight COVID-19 and to ensure the quickest and safest return to school possible.

R. Haggerty-Goede noted at the March 30, 2021 Board meeting, a menstrual equity project was approved for implementation and stated this will fight equity issues related to period poverty and socioeconomic barriers. Student trustees are excited to see this rolled out and in the coming months hope to release educational material that will help ensure that the project is successful.

The Student Leadership Group (SLG) finished the last of three anti-racism training workshops. Through readings, discussions, videos and other promotional materials the SLG found the workshops very beneficial. A warm thank you was provided to Marjolaine Lapointe, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Consultant.

Chairperson D. Lloyd commended the Student Trustees for their work on the Menstrual Equity Project.

12. **DECISION ITEMS**

12.1 **COMMITTEE DECISION REPORTS**

12.1.1 **Resource Committee Report**

R. Kitney, Committee Chairperson, noted the committee met virtually on April 7, 2021 where the committee had a presentation by T Hicks and M. Anderson of the Ontario School Boards'

Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) which included the three pillars of being a member of OSBIE, Insurance coverage with KPR's subscription, OSBIE's focus on developing educational opportunities and pro-active rich management-based programs tailored for its members and the Human Element Loss Prevention (H.E.L.P.).

Information on the 2020-2021 Second Quarter Financial Variance Report was provided to the committee. R. Kitney provided a detailed breakdown of the report to Board members.

The committee reviewed Board Policies BA-4.6, Expenses and Reimbursements for Employees/Trustees and B-8.3, Facility Partnerships and recommended both be approved as revised.

A competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Board banking services was issued on January 30, 2021 and committee members were updated on the process. In accordance with procurement regulations, the highest overall scoring vendor must be awarded the contract. Committee members adopted the motion that the Royal Bank of Canada be appointed the Banker for KPR.

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Kitney
Seconded by: Trustee Ojeda

(21-053)

That Board Policy BA-4.6, Expenses and Reimbursements for Employees/Trustees, be approved as revised.

CARRIED

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Kitney
Seconded by: Trustee Brown

(21-054)

That Board Policy B-8.3, Facility Partnerships, be approved with no changes.

CARRIED

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Kitney
Seconded by: Trustee Abraham

(21-055)

That the Royal Bank of Canada be appointed the Banker for Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board for a five-year period commencing August 1, 2021.

CARRIED

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Kitney
Seconded by: Trustee A. Lloyd

(21-056)

That the Resource Committee Report, dated April 27, 2021, be received for information.

CARRIED

Questions of clarification were asked by Board members and responded to by Superintendent Arnew.

12.2 DECISION REPORTS

12.2.1 Awards and Scholarships – East Northumberland Secondary School (ENSS) Report

Superintendent Brake spoke to the report stating the Northumberland Labour Council wish to establish an award, known as the Northumberland Labour Council Award in the amount of \$150 per year. The award will be presented annually at commencement to graduating student of ENSS who has met the award criteria.

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Dickson
Seconded by: Trustee Ojeda

(21-057)

That the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board approve the establishment of the Northumberland Labour Council Award to be awarded annually in the amount of \$150 to a graduating student of East Northumberland Secondary School who has met the award criteria.

CARRIED

13. ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION (OPSBA) REPORT

Trustee J. Klassen Jeninga, the Board's Delegate Member of OPSBA, spoke to the meeting which occurred the past weekend. Discussions included the reopening of Ontario schools, vaccinations processes, the Annual Budget for 2021-2022, the Strategic Plan, updates from the Finance department regarding capital projects and student transportation grants, the Manitoba modernization act which includes the elimination of all but one trustee along with the government's TVO/TFO (TVOntario/Télévision française de l'Ontario) online learning plan.

J. Klassen Jeninga noted the government wishes to create an infrastructure for online learning for both elementary and secondary students in Ontario. OPSBA has significant concerns for the students and the lack of support for them along

with the impact to small, rural secondary schools, including the potential for increased course cancellations and decreased programming choices for all students if a number of students are directed toward provincially offered online courses.

Through discussions, Board members noted what they are offering, KPR already offers and has done so for many years. Collectively through a consortium, courses are offered to meet the students needs.

OPSBA has created a public announcement and held table conversations regarding this. C. Abraham, President of OPSBA, provided interviews with CBC on this topic. At this time parents and members of the public might think this sounds good, while in the middle of a pandemic, however this is not a permanent situation that is in the best interest of the students. When asked if this could work, the response is yes, on snow days or for students who have medical needs that cannot be met in the school environment, but not permanently.

Currently boards have the ability to create content for the online learning courses for their students. This will be taken away if it moves to TVO/TFO. Concerns were voiced regarding the supervision and educators associated with the new system. Students may be lost within the system.

A Board member noted students learn the best with in-person learning where they are socially and emotionally supported by trained professionals and experience hands on, equitable education. Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are created and supported by staff. Student achievement is of the utmost importance within the board.

A Board member noted, if legislation is slated for May, it is important to ensure parents are aware of what this entails. OPSBA has drafted templates which can be used by parents or boards. A letter to the Minister of Education and MPPs is highly encouraged.

Through discussion, Board members noted this is an issue like no other. This could change education in the future. Students who opt for this, will still have the ability to go to their home school for breakfast programs, lunch hours and extra-curricular activities, without the additional support supplied through government funding for supervision.

An in-depth discussion occurred. Questions of clarification were asked by Board members and addressed by Trustee Klassen Jeninga.

Director Russo noted with this being April and if legislation is slated for May, we must lead with "*the best learning for all students is in-person learning*" however, will comply should this be implemented.

A Board member stated they wish to put a motion on the table.

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Klassen Jeninga
 Seconded by: Trustee Russell

- (21-058) **That the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board express to the Minister of Education and local MPP’s its significant concern with the province’s reported plan for expanding online or virtual learning; and petition the government to reconsider its plan and its potentially damaging impact on students, small, rural and remote schools, among other outcomes.**

In-depth discussion continued and a Board member noted she would like a recorded vote.

Recorded Vote		
Trustee Name	In Favour of Motion	Opposed to the Motion
Russell, Steve	X	
Ojeda, Emilio	X	
Lloyd, Diane	X	
Lloyd, Angela	X	
Klassen Jeninga, Jaine	X	
Kitney, Rose	X	
Dupuis, Kailee	X	
Dickson, Cyndi	X	
Brown, Terry	X	
Bobka, Sarah	X	
Abraham, Cathy	X	
Student Trustees		
Haggerty-Goede, Roan	X	
Mackay, Justine	X	
Summary: 11 of 11 Trustees were in favour and 2 of 2 Student Trustees were in favour.		

The motion was.....**CARRIED**

14. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil.

15. **INFORMATION ITEMS – CONSENT ITEMS**

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Abraham
 Seconded by: Trustee A. Lloyd

(21-059) That the following agenda items for the April 27, 2021 Board meeting be received for information:

- Item 15.1 Special Education Advisory Report
- Item 15.2 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report
- Item 15.3 Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO) Governance Committee Report
- Item 15.4 Employee Recognition Committee Report
- Item 15.5 Chairpersons' Committee Report
- Item 15.6 Program Review Committee Report

Requests were made by trustees to pull the following reports for comment and/or discussion:

- Item 15.2 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report
- Item 15.5 Chairpersons' Committee Report
- Item 15.6 Program Review Committee Report

The motion was **CARRIED**

15.2 **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report**

Trustee Russell noted the committee met virtually on April 7, 2021 where the committee had an outstanding presentation by the New Canadian Centre Youth Leaders who presented their Newcomer Youth's Guidebook to help support newcomers to Canada. The group is looking for the Board's support by circulating the flyer throughout our communities.

The committee also received an update on the Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy (CRRP) toolkit which is being developed in collaboration with Durham District School Board and Thames Valley District School Board. Resources from ETFO and OSSTF are being utilized.

S. Russell noted a discussion regarding the possibility of establishing guidelines and supports for Spirit Days which would ensure Indigenous, Black, racialized, economically disadvantaged, and 2SLGBTQ+ students can participate fully. An additional meeting is scheduled to further discuss guidelines for Spirit Days within KPR.

15.5 **Chairpersons' Committee Report**

D. Lloyd, Committee Chairperson and Chairperson of the Board, noted the committee met on April 8, 2021 where the Master Calendar for 2021-2022 was presented. The Director was called upon to speak.

Director Russo drew attention to the Master Calendar stating it is a planning tool to support KPR in the upcoming year. New for 2021-2022, Days of Significance or Faith Days are included and will be respected by KPR by not holding meetings on these dates.

15.6 **Program Review Committee Report**

Trustee Russell noted the committee met virtually on April 8, 2021 where committee members heard a presentation from the Youth Leadership in Sustainability (YLS) program under the instruction of teacher Cameron Douglas. The students spoke very highly of the program. The YLS program runs out of Trent University and students earn a credit from Trent University while completing the program.

The committee also heard the plan for virtual learning through KPR for 2021-2022 school year. Superintendent Ford was invited to speak to this and noted that KPR does believe that in-person learning is the best environment for all student learning however, this option will be offered for the next school year. The opt-in portal closes Friday, April 30, 2021 and the numbers will be confirmed after this time. Parents have the ability to opt-in and opt-out on specific dates throughout the school year. Most instruction will be in-person learning for the fall.

16. **BOARD MEMBER ADDITIONS**

Trustee Bobka spoke to Music Monday on May 3, where thousands of children, youth, and teachers come together with performances in music. The hashtag this year is #togetherinharmony. S. Bobka encouraged people to look for this on Monday. Often KPR has been recognized in this event. There will be live performances, interactive activities for kids and messages from prominent musicians and Canadians. The anthem this year will be *Hymn to Freedom* by Oscar Peterson.

17. **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

Chairperson D. Lloyd drew attention to the future meeting dates listed in the Board agenda.

18. **QUESTION PERIOD**

Chairperson D. Lloyd opened the meeting to questions from the floor.

19. **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN-CAMERA SESSION**

19.1 **Personnel Matter** – Recommendations 1

It was,

Moved by: Trustee A. Lloyd
Seconded by: Trustee Bobka

(21-060) That the Board accept with our support, gratitude and best wishes the retirement of Greg Ingram, Superintendent of Education: Student Achievement.

D. Lloyd, Chairperson of the Board, stated how sad they were to see Superintendent Ingram leave, however thanked him for everything he has done for Teaching and Learning and KPR.

The motion was **CARRIED**

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Klassen Jeninga
Seconded by: Trustee A. Lloyd

(21-061) That the Board recess to rejoin In-camera to complete unfinished business (9:04 p.m.)
CARRIED

The Board reconvened in Open Session 10:39 p.m.

19. **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN-CAMERA SESSION - Continued**

19.1 **Personnel Matter** – Recommendations 2 and 3

It was,

Moved by: Trustee A. Lloyd
Seconded by: Trustee Abraham

(21-062) That the Board approve the Director to post for a Superintendent of Education to replace the vacancy created.

(21-063) That the services of Promeus Inc. be retained for the recruitment of a Superintendent of Education.

CARRIED

20. **ADJOURNMENT**

It was,

Moved by: Trustee A. Lloyd
Seconded by: Trustee Ojeda

(21-064) That the meeting be adjourned (10:40 p.m.).

CARRIED

Diane Lloyd
Chairperson of the Board

Rita Russo
Director of Education
and Secretary of the Board