



**Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee
Public Session Minutes
October 10, 2023**

Members present: S. Binder, E. Charlton (Vice-Chair), K. Hambly, K. Kramp (Chair), A. Robertson, J. Webster (Student Trustee)

Regrets:

Absent: None

Guests: None

Resources: K. Donnell, K. Horrigan, N. Kishinchandani, K. MacIver, D. McFarlane, T. Rodgers

Minutes: J. McLaren, Executive Assistant

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Kramp.

2. Motion to Convene into a Closed Session

It was advised that the need to convene into a closed session is no longer applicable as Report 7(a) of the closed agenda package can be discussed in a public session as Report 10(f).

3. Reconvene to the Public Physical Planning, Finance and Building Committee Meeting

Not applicable.

4. Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands

Trustee Hambly offered the Land Acknowledgement.

5. Roll Call

Chair Kramp requested a roll call of Trustees.

6. Approval of agenda

Moved: A. Robertson

Seconded: K. Hambly

That the agenda be approved for Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

To approve the agenda as amended to include Report 10(f) Former Site of Madoc Public School in the public session and cancellation of the closed session.

Carried

7. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

8. Delegations

None.

9. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Moved: S. Binder

Seconded: K. Hambly

That the minutes of the Monday, September 11, 2023 meeting be approved.

Carried

10. Staff Reports

Enrolment Update

Superintendent McFarlane referred to Report 10(a), dated October 10, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- It was requested that a follow-up report be provided updating enrolment numbers following school re-engagement efforts. It was confirmed a report will be brought forward at the November PPFB Committee meeting.
- Concerns were raised regarding the decline in enrolments and the financial implications. HPEDSB is optimistic that students will return and strategies to engage students/families are occurring in schools, as well as at the Board office, including messaging both online and throughout our school communities.

Capital Planning and Construction Process

Superintendent Kishinchandani and Senior Manager, Facility Services referred to Report 10(b), dated October 10, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- Clarification was sought regarding pre-determined school designs created by the Ministry and whether it was mandatory for school boards to use them. It was confirmed that while it is encouraged, it is not mandatory as many boards, including HPEDSB, have repetitive designs that meet requirements.
- A question arose regarding the average timeline for a new build and/or reconstruction. It was advised that several factors impact timelines (preparation of drawings, site constraints, etc.) but that a typical build (pre-COVID) would take approximately 2 years to complete. HPEDSB works with the Ministry on a regular basis to work through projects and any potential issues.

Capital Projects Update

Superintendent Kishinchandani and Senior Manager, Facility Services referred to Report 10(c), dated October 10, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- A question was raised regarding community use of updated facilities in schools (ex. kitchens used for workshops, etc.). It was confirmed that there is opportunity for the community to use facilities, with the highest-used spaces being gym facilities and classrooms. There is further opportunity to explore partnerships through Community Planning and Partnership meetings.
- Further clarification was provided regarding high-cost projects that lack public visibility (roofing, building upkeep, etc.) but ensure secure and well-maintained facilities are top priority for the safety of students and staff.

Community Planning and Partnership Meetings Update

Superintendent Kishinchandani and Senior Manager, Facility Services referred to Report 10(d), dated October 10, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- There was an inquiry whether any outreach has taken place with long-term care homes or retirement homes. It was advised that while HPEDSB did not reach out specifically to these sectors, both Hastings County and Prince Edward County were contacted, both who operate long-term care homes.

School Sports Funding

Superintendent Kishinchandani provided a verbal update on Item 10(e). Historically, school athletics and all other extracurricular activities were funded primarily through school generated funds and school budgets. Last year, communication was circulated that school budget amounts were to focus on resources that would benefit the entire student body (Chromebooks, etc.). School Administrators were diligent in moving forward with this request. There was some misunderstanding related to

support for school athletics which inspired strong community feedback. After careful consideration, it was determined that school budgets should continue to be used at Administrators' discretion. Clarification was provided that school athletics are underway as they have been in the past.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- A question arose regarding how HPEDSB sees funding for extracurriculars fitting into the strategic plan. It was confirmed that there is no direct funding available from the Ministry and as funding tightens, tough decisions will need to be made. This will be a key question as the Trustees work through the next strategic plan.
- Clarification was sought regarding school council fundraising capacities. It was confirmed that there is no limit on school councils fundraising for all extracurricular activities.

Former Site of Madoc Public School

Senior Manager, Facility Services provided a verbal update on Item 10(f). Madoc Public School was demolished and consolidated into K-12 at Central Hastings School, with a requirement that green space be available post-demolition. HPEDSB has done exploratory work and determined that the elevation composed of bedrock can be removed without blasting. If it is determined that a level ground is required, a significant amount of rock will need to be removed, with continued work taking place with architects, surveyors, etc. Feedback has been received from students and staff from CHS regarding ideas for the greenspace. The feedback has been reviewed by the architects and built into draft designs. Options will be presented to the school community once a path forward has been established.

11. 2024-25 Education Funding Consultation Guide

Superintendent Kishinchandani referred to Communications Item 11(a), dated October 10, 2023.

12. Trustee Motions for Consideration (Introduced at Previous Meeting)

None.

13. Trustee Notices of Motion (Discussion for Next Meeting)

None.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, November 13, 2023.