

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

CHAIR'S COMMITTEE

January 21, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

Governor Simcoe

MEMBERS

B. Mai (Chair)
D. Cripps
L. Pizzolato

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

W. Tucker
K. Wilkinson
D. Hancock

NON-MEMBERS

A Morell (-2:06)

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chair Mai called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. The agenda was approved as amended, without objection.

2. Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the 2024 November 29, December 4, and 2025 January 6 meetings were approved without objection.

4. Unfinished Business

None.

5. Chair's Committee Self-Assessment Survey 2023-2024

Self-assessment results were reviewed.

A question of clarification was addressed regarding the intended audience for the survey.

With no objections from the committee, it was determined to re-open the survey to committees' members from the 2023-2024 term to have a representative sample of survey results on which to base committee reflection.

6. Board Services Cost Saving for Discussion

The Committee inquired about possible cost savings that could be proposed relative to the work of the Board through Board Services. Staff indicated that recommendations could come through Planning and Priorities Advisory (PAPA) Committee.

Following discussion, it was determined to speak with the Planning and Priorities Designate about adding this report to the workplan.

7. Reporting Out from Committee of the Whole, In-Camera

Chair Mai facilitated a conversation with committee members regarding the proper process for reporting out from Committee of the Whole, In-Camera.

Discussion determined the Chair would request clarification on best practices for reporting out from Committee of the Whole, In-Camera. The item was referred to Board Services for feedback.

8. Review Upcoming Meeting Agendas (Standing Item)

a. Board Annual Work Plan and Multi Year Strategic Plan

The Board's Annual Work Plan and Multi Year Strategic Plan is available and referenced for information.

A question of clarification confirmed an update on the Multi-Year Strategic Plan was scheduled to be presented at the 2025 January 28 public Board meeting.

b. Review of Regular Board Meeting Agenda

The committee reviewed the agenda for the public Board meeting of 2025 January 28.

1. Consent Agenda

The Chair reviewed the reports and identified items that could be included on the consent agenda.

Revisions were captured by D. Hancock.

c. Agenda Request Items for Consideration

Chair Mai clarified that the requests listed below would reviewed and considered for placement on the relevant committee's agenda.

1. Committee of the Whole Agenda Items

The committee identified standing agenda items to be included on the Special Committee of the Whole, In-Camera Agenda scheduled on a biweekly basis.

2. London Police Services Officers in Schools

Chair Mai reviewed an agenda item request regarding the Community Safety Officers in Schools.

The discussion considered the expected outcome, a previously defeated Board recommendation, and the oversight/governance aspect of the request.

The Interim Director confirmed that work was being completed on a comparison chart, which would be shared with Trustees for information following completion.

Following the discussion, it was decided, to encourage further participation, that Trustees would be informed by a reminder invitation to attend the Policy Working Committee meeting when the Safe Schools Policy is scheduled for discussion.

3. Resolving Public Concerns and Complaints Policy and Procedure

Trustee Pizzolato provided the rationale for the agenda item request regarding the Resolving Concerns and Complaints Policy and Procedure.

The discussion considered the implementation of the policy, methods for monitoring its effectiveness, and clarification of the policy audit process.

It was determined that Chair Mai would request the policy be added to a future Audit Committee meeting agenda for consideration.

4. City of London Discussion Regarding Playgrounds

Trustee Pizzolato provided rationale on the agenda item request regarding the discussion with the City of London and school playgrounds.

The conversation delved into the public's views on school property signs, funding challenges for playgrounds, and the potential for a Memorandum of Understanding regarding community use of schools to promote shared responsibility.

It was determined the Interim Director would review the matter with the City Manager and report back to Chairs Committee at the next meeting.

d. Correspondence

1. January Villager Article Trustees Mai and Moore

A draft of the article submitted by Trustees Mai and Moore was reviewed for approval for inclusion in the January Villager.

Without objection, the following motion was ADOPTED:

THAT the article submitted by Trustees Mai and Moore be approved for inclusion in the Villager in January.

e. Public Input

The committee reviewed and discussed the public input application.

It was determined to request a list of key points from the Individual, referencing Bylaw Appendix G 1.4 and to be reviewed at the next Chair's Committee meeting.

9. Trustee Communication (Standing Item)

Chair Mai presented correspondence from the Durham District School Board SEAC and the Near North District School Board for information.

It was decided to share both pieces of correspondence with the Trustees, and Trustee Morell would report back after discussing them at the OPSBA Western Region meeting.

10. Trustee Membership (Standing Item)

Chair Mai inquired about the status of the Accessibility Working Group noting Trustee representation was still pending. It was determined to add this item to next month's Chair's Committee agenda for an update from Administration.

11. Trustee's Office Financial Report (Standing Item)

The Trustee's monthly financial report was provided in the package for information.

Chair Mai provided an update from OSTA-AECO Chair regarding request to waive conference registration fees, noting it had been referred to their treasurer for follow up.

12. Other Business (Standing Item)

In response to a request from the Chair regarding committee meeting times, a proposal was made to explore joint meeting options to streamline the Program and School Services, and Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee meetings. The discussion confirmed that the proposal could be presented following the 2025 January 6 Chair's Committee report at the January 28 public Board meeting.

A request was made for all committee workplans to assist in building the SEAC workplan. It was determined that the Interim Director would consult with the Superintendent on reporting requirements.

Additionally, a request was made for a list of upcoming special meetings, the possibility of adding more regular meetings, and bringing forward a revised schedule of board meetings for approval. Chair Mai confirmed she would follow up with Board Services and report back at an upcoming meeting.

13. In-Camera (Standing Item)

The committee moved in-camera at 2:06 p.m. and reconvened in public session at 2:41 p.m.

14. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is scheduled for 2025 February 18.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Recommendations: None.

Beth Mai
Committee Chair

Recording Secretary: DH