**A New Year, A New Plan**

Lyra Evans, Trustee Zone 6,

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**District & Zone News**

It is with many mixed emotions our district says goodbye to Director Williams-Taylor, who has accepted a position in her home town as the director of the Durham District School Board. We are saddened to see her leave, but wish her the best in her new role.

The School Board selects a new Chair of the Board each year; this year I was selected. The additional responsibilities will not distract or detract from my advocacy for the students and families of Zone 6. We also selected a new Vice Chair, Trustee Bell Zone 10, who has been an outstanding presence since her appointment last term and whom I think will do an excellent job in the role.

**Previous decisions of the Board**

Nov 15th:

Nov 24th:

Nov 29th:

Dec 20th:

**Upcoming decisions of the Board**

**2023-2027 Strategic plan**

The Board will discuss and create the 2023-2027 strategic plan, beginning with community consultations in January. This is the guiding document which directs the district for the next four years. Last term, the strategic plan sought to create a culture of Innovation, Caring, and Social Responsibility.

**The creation of the 2023-2024 calendar**

Each year, the ministry requires each district to create the next school year calendar, we take this opportunity to designate which days will be PD days, and try to align our calendars with the other districts in the city.

**Potential change to the cost of the Extended Day Program**

The Extended Day program is a commitment to offer a childcare option before and after hours at each school. If any three families want the program and it doesn’t exist at a specific school, the district will create one.

**Policy Review Changes**The Board is undertaking a process to revaluate how we review and renew policies. Major policies up for debate shortly include the naming of schools policy, the integrity commissioner changes, and the Indigenous, Human Rights, and Equity roadmap.

**Revaluating the EFI & Core French Program**

In the coming months, the district will begin to undertake a review of the English (with core French) program. Currently being discussed is if the district should extend the 50% English / 50% French program delivery offered in kindergarten all the way to grade three, and have families make the decision to enter Full French Immersion for Grade 4. This process will likely take 1-3 years, with a formal consultation process happening later in the process.

As always, if you have concerns, questions, or thoughts, I am happy to hear from you.

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