

**CHATHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
TRANSITION COMMITTEE
MINUTES / RECORD OF ACTION**

Date: June 14, 2017

Location: Tecumseh Public School, 287 McNaughton Ave. W, Chatham, ON, N7L 1R8

Present: Committee Members: Daphne Zondag, Principal, John N. Given Public School, Daloni Van Goethem, School Council Chair, John N. Given Public School, Nicolle Evans, Teaching Staff Representative, John N. Given Public School, Jenn Jackson, Teaching Staff Representative, John N. Given Public School, Shawna Ray, ECE Staff Representative, John N. Given Public School, Dana Goodall, Clerical Staff Representative, John N. Given Public School, Melanie Hadlock, Student Representative, John N. Given Public School, Kevin Hadlock, Parent/Community Representative, John N. Given Public School, Della Lambkin, Parent/Community Representative, John N. Given Public School, Darlene Penney, Principal, Tecumseh Public School, Kristen Heaton, School Council Chair, Tecumseh Public School, Carrie-Lynn Brown, School Council Co-Chair, Tecumseh Public School, Susan Bond, Teaching Staff Representative, Tecumseh Public School, Tecumseh Public School, Cristina Haskell, EA Staff Representative, Tecumseh Public School, Yvette Caron, Clerical Staff Representative, Tecumseh Public School, Theresa McFadden, Parent/Community Representative, Tecumseh Public School

Resource Personnel: Dave Doey, Facilitator of the Transition Process, Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education – Program: Special Education, Helen Lane, Superintendent of Education – Program: Leadership and Equity, Jaime Gudrie, Recorder

Regrets: Maclean Norris, Student Representative, Tecumseh Public School, Gabriella Ostropolec, Student Representative, Tecumseh Public School, Judy Rountree, Teaching Staff Representative, Jolene Greenbird, First Nation Representative, Tecumseh Public School, Dylan Purdy, Student Representative, John N. Given Public School, Jodi McGill, CUPE 1238 President, Ron Rivait, LKETFO President

Note: This document is not a verbatim transcript. Questions and answers have been paraphrased for the sake of clarity and brevity

Item	Discussion	Action/Responsibility
Welcome and Introductions	Facilitator of the Transition Process Dave Doey welcomed the committee and thanked everyone for their commitment as the investment that goes into making the transition process as safe and smooth as it can be for kids, staff, and families is really important and meaningful. He said that decisions are made by elected officials and according to board policy but it is the committee that will have a lot	

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	<p>of say in how kids, staff, and families are supported through the transition.</p> <p>Introductions were made around the table.</p> <p>Chris Moore was in attendance at the meeting. He will be the principal at Tecumseh Public School starting September 2017. Superintendent Gary Girardi was also in attendance.</p> <p>Dave Doey remarked that student voice is really important. He thanked Student Representative Melanie Hadlock for attending and encouraged her to add anything she would like to the discussion. He said that everyone comes from different perspectives and it is the bringing together of all of those perspectives that will paint the best picture.</p>	
Review of Agenda	Dave Doey reviewed the agenda. The committee did not provide any additions.	
Purpose of Transition Committee	<p>The School Closure Implementation Administrative Procedure was reviewed.</p> <p>Darlene Penney remarked that the Tecumseh Public School and John N. Given Public School Track and Field meets were joined this year as the first step to bringing the schools together.</p>	
Timelines	Dave Doey stated that the Transition Committee will continue until the committee has deemed its goals have been met. He said that there are parts of the transition process that can take place in advance, like the sorting of items at the school level, but other tasks would not be completed until later, at appropriate times in the process.	
Sub-committees	<p>Dave Doey explained that sub-committees can be established to address any number of aspects of the process. He said that sub-committee work will come back as recommendations to the Transition Committee for further discussion. The examples from past sub-committees of 'Resources', 'Memorabilia', 'Special Events', 'School Spirit', and 'School Colours/Mascot' were provided.</p> <p>Superintendent Girardi provided an overview of the Ad Hoc Naming Committee</p>	

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	<p>process, which has a timeframe of three months set to begin in the fall of 2017. He stated that Trustees voted to establish an Ad Hoc Naming Committee to recommend to the Board a name for the consolidated Tecumseh Public School and John N. Given Public School and appoint two Trustees to serve on the committee. He explained that the recommended name can be the same, be a combination of the two names, or be different. He said that the Ad Hoc Naming Committee affects the Transition Committee because once the name has been chosen, the Transition Committee can then decide on the school mascot and colours. He stated that there could be crossover of members between the two committees and that it is the schools' responsibility to form the committee. Transition Committee members will be informed of the first Ad Hoc Naming Committee Meeting date, which is to be set by Trustees.</p> <p>Superintendent Lane provided the committee with information on a letter received by board Directors and Trustees from the Ministry of Education in regard to school names, logos, and mascots. She relayed that boards were directed to do a survey in their district on names, logos, and mascots, and that the intention was to review these items with the board's First Nation representatives to ensure they were appropriate and not offensive. It was reported back to LKDSB Senior Administration that the logo and mascot of the current Tecumseh Public School is to be reviewed. She explained that the First Nation Representatives feel that the name 'Tecumseh' is a great honour and very important, but there are concerns around the mascot and logo. She suggested that the board's Indigenous Liaison may be a useful resource in the process. She added that there is a totem pole at Tecumseh Public School that was created by a group of students in the 1970s and wondered if there would be a method to showcase it even stronger and explain its significance.</p> <p>Jenn Jackson asked if there will be challenges in renaming the school. Superintendent Lane responded that she did not know and it would be a discussion to have.</p> <p>Dave Doey asked if anyone wished to note particular responsibilities that a sub-committee could take on.</p> <p>Kristen Heaton asked where 'Mrs. Earl's Garden' would fall, as it is a big aspect of John N. Given Public School. Chris Moore suggested there be a sub-committee around memorials. He said that he has had people mention to him that the garden should be moved as a lot of people had a connection with the teacher it was named for.</p>	

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<p>Questions/Suggestions from the Public</p>	<p>One member of the public was in attendance at the meeting.</p> <p>Superintendent Girardi relayed that he has been contacted by a member of the public in relation to the artwork hanging on the exterior of John N. Given Public School and in relation to portraits hanging in the school hallway. Daphne Zondag said that it was John Fraser, the second principal of John N. Given Public School, who contacted herself and Superintendent Girardi, and he also offered to help if there was an open house at the end of the year.</p> <p>Jenn Jackson remarked that members of the community have told her they would like to tour John N. Given Public School before it closes.</p> <p>Darlene Penney said that they would like to bring graduation pictures and other memories from John N. Given Public School to Tecumseh Public School.</p> <p>A member of the public suggested that a picture be taken of all of the John N. Given Public School and Tecumseh Public School students to be hung at Tecumseh Public School prior to the John N. Given Public School students' arrival, in order to make everyone feel welcome.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Tecumseh Public School.</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Dave Doey thanked the committee for attending and adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.</p>	