

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA
 PUBLIC SESSION

TUESDAY, JUNE 14 2016
 7:00 p.m.

Board Room
 Chatham Education Centre
 476 McNaughton Avenue, Chatham

A

	Page Reference
1. Call to Order	
2. Approval of Agenda	
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	
4. Approval of the Minutes from the May 24, 2016 Regular Board Meeting	1
5. Business Arising from the Minutes	
6. Motions Emanating from the Regular Board Private Session	
7. Motion that the Actions of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board.	
8. Presentations:	
a) Chatham Kent Secondary Student Art Awards	
b) Presentation of Certificate of Commendation to Elaine Lewis, Program Coordinator, Ontario Student Nutrition Program, Chatham-Kent	
c) Presentation of Health and Safety Certificates of Appreciation to Former Secondary Teacher Dave Page and Former Supervisor of Building Services Mike McDonald	
d) Director of Education's Snap Shots of Excellence	
9. Delegations:	
10. Questions from the Public	
11. Reports for Board Action	
a) Trustee Appointment to the Ad Hoc Naming Committee For the Consolidated South Plympton/Wyoming Public School <u>Recommendation</u> "That the Board appoint Trustees Jane Bryce and Elizabeth Hudie to serve on the Ad Hoc Naming Committee for the Consolidated South Plympton/Wyoming Public Schools."	Chair Bryce Report B-16-79 8
b) Policy and Regulations on <i>Voluntary Self-Identification of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students</i> <u>Recommendation</u> "That the Board approve the revised policy and regulations on <i>Voluntary Self-Identification of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students</i> "	Director Costello Report B-16-80 9
c) Budget Approval for the 2016/2017 School Year <u>Recommendation</u> "That the Board approve the 2016-2017 School Year Budget as presented in the amount of \$ 260,373,093."	Superintendent McKay Report B-16-81 14

- d) Tender Report – Asphalt Projects at Thamesville Area Public School
Hillcrest Public School and the Sarnia Education Centre
Recommendation
That the Board award these tenders to the successful bidders:
a) Dig R Wright Excavating Inc., Blenheim Thamesville Area Public School
b) Sev-Con Paving, Sarnia - Hillcrest Public School
c) Cope Construction, Sarnia Sarnia Education Centre
Superintendent McKay Report B-16-82 20
- e) Tender Report – WDSS Sports Track Resurfacing
Recommendation
“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder Henry
Heyink Construction, Chatham.”
Superintendent McKay Report B-16-83 22
12. Reports for Board Information
- a) Special Education Advisory Committee Update
Trustee Hudie Report B-16-84 23
- b) Ontario Public School Boards’ Association Update
Trustee McGregor Oral Report
- c) Update on the Accommodation Transition Process
Superintendent Girardi Oral Report
13. Correspondence
- a) Letter from the Minister of Education informing the Board of the Appointment of
Shoshawna Hill, Chatham-Kent Secondary School Student, to the Minister’s
Student Advisory Council 25
- b) Letter from the Thames Valley District School Board requesting the Ministry to add
coding to the Ontario curriculum for JK to Grade 8. 27
14. New Business
15. Trustee Question Period
16. Notices of Motion
17. Future Agenda Items
18. Announcements
a) The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 28, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at the Sarnia Education
Centre.
19. Adjournment

Present:

Trustees: Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Scott McKinlay, Randy Campbell, Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Elizabeth Hudie, Tom McGregor, Bob Murphy, Lareina Rising, Shannon Sasseville
Student Trustee Cole Anderson and Brittany McLaren

Staff: Director of Education Jim Costello, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay, Superintendents of Education, Joy Badder, Dave Doey, Mike Gilfoyle, Gary Girardi, Taf Lounsbury and Phil Warner

Regrets: Trustees Randy Campbell and Jack Fletcher

Recording Secretary: Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer

Call to Order: Chair Bryce called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the public. She explained that this is a constituted Board Meeting of the LKDSB and that applause or jeering would not be permitted. She explained that Trustees applaud staff, students or community members when they receive awards of recognition and for student performances. Delegations are not a performance. She quoted the Section 3.20 from the LKDSB Procedural By-laws:
All persons attending meetings of the Board shall show respect for others in their language and conduct. Any person who interrupts or disrupts a meeting of the Board shall be expelled from the meeting in accordance with the Education Act, ss 207 (3). Audio or video recording devices may not be used at any meeting of the Board or its committees without the prior permission of the Chair of the Board or the Director of Education.

#2016-96
Approval of the Agenda
May/24/2016
Moved by Elizabeth Hudie, seconded by Tom McGregor,
"That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting Public Session of May 24, 2016 be approved."
CARRIED.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: No declarations of conflict of interest were issued.

#2016-97
Approval of Minutes
May/10/2016
Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Bob Murphy,
"That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of May 10, 2016."
CARRIED.

Business Arising
Trustee Douglas referred to page 7 and stated that he is not a graduate of SCITS. The Minutes will be revised to reflect this change.

#2016-98
Action of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board
Moved by Scott McKinlay, seconded by Elizabeth Hudie,
"That the Action of the Regular Board in Private Session be the Action of the Board."
CARRIED.

Questions from the Public
Chair Bryce referred to the LKDSB Procedural By-laws Section 3.16 and 3:17, In addition to the foregoing, persons or groups may pose questions to the Board in accordance with the following procedure:
a) the questioner shall submit the question either orally or in writing to the Chair of the Board;
b) the Chair or his/her designate shall answer the questions if the information is immediately available or send a written reply following the meeting; and
c) the questioner may ask a follow-up question for clarification. The Board

may limit the number of questioners as it sees fit.

Chair Bryce requested that the individuals state their name and provide their email address so an answer could be provided if a follow-up reply was needed.

Valerie Riess, parent of a South Plympton Wyoming student, asked if the estimates from the architect were made available for the different options at South Plympton and Wyoming Public Schools. Superintendent McKay confirmed that the estimates were not provided to the Board. In response to Valerie Riess's questions regarding the sewer costs at Wyoming Public School and the septic system replacement costs at South Plympton Public School, Superintendent McKay confirmed that Administration did look at the cost of a new septic system costing \$200,000 compared to annual cost of sewer charges costing \$5,000 per year and confirmed that septic system normally last 40 years. In response to Valerie Riess's follow up question comparing the costs over 40 years, Superintendent McKay commented that the analysis does not take into account the initial cost outlay of the \$200,000 in current dollars for the new system versus spending \$5,000 each year into the future which spreads out cost.

Trustees Appointment to
the Ad Hoc Naming
Committee
Report B-16-56

Chair Bryce advised that the Board had passed a Motion at the May 10, 2016 Board Meeting to form an Ad Hoc Naming Committee for the Consolidated St. Clair Secondary School and Sarnia Collegiate Institute and Technical School. Chair Bryce thanked Trustees Douglas and Murphy for agreeing to serve on the Ad Hoc Naming Committee for the Consolidated Sarnia Secondary School. She advised that Director Costello is working with Principals Wiersma and Keane to collect the names of School Council Chairs, students and staff to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee. A link has been placed on the Sarnia South Secondary School ARC website to allow community members who are interested in serving on the Ad Hoc Committee to submit their names. She explained that Director Costello would be appointing the members to the Ad Hoc Naming Committee by June 1, 2016. As per Board By-laws, Ad Hoc committees exist for a period of three months however, the three-month term for the Naming Committee will exclude July and August. The Ad Hoc Naming Committee will meet prior to June 30, 2016 to establish criteria for the new consolidated school name, process to gather input from appropriate stakeholders, timelines for community input and when to present a recommendation to the Board for approval. The Committee will be asked to report back to Board at the August 30, 2016 Board Meeting with this information. The Naming Committee will be asked to submit a final report containing a recommended name for the consolidate school to the Board for approval at the end of October 2016. Chair Bryce explained that the Committee could decide to meet over the summer and bring a recommendation to the Board for approval in August or September.

#2016-99
Trustees Douglas and
Murphy to Serve on the
Consolidated
SCSS/SCITS Naming
Committee

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Tom McGregor,

“That the Board appoint Trustees Dave Douglas and Bob Murphy to serve on the Ad Hoc Naming Committee for the Consolidation St. Clair Secondary School/Sarnia Collegiate Institute and Technical School.”

CARRIED.

Addendum to the Final
Staff Report on the
Consolidation of South
Plympton and Wyoming

Director Costello explained that the LKDSB Pupil Accommodation Report 2015/2016 and Initial Staff Report on the Consolidation of South Plympton and Wyoming Public Schools were presented to the Board in compliance with LKDSB Regulation *Pupil Accommodation* No: R-AD-106 on November 24,

2015. On April 26, 2016, Trustees received the Final Staff Report on the Consolidation of South Plympton and Wyoming Public Schools. He advised that the Addendum to the Final Staff Report on the Consolidation of South Plympton and Wyoming Public Schools provides Trustees with a final summary of the community consultation process and presents final recommendations for Trustees' decisions. He commented on the delegations to Board. He commented that throughout the Pupil Accommodation Review process, the majority of ARC and community members recognized the advantages of consolidating South Plympton and Wyoming Public Schools; however, there has been some disagreement over the most appropriate site for the consolidation, the timeline for implementation and the safety concerns that would arise in choosing the site. He confirmed that Administration has followed both the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and LKDSB Regulation No: R-AD-106. He commented that Administration has been objective in its analysis of both schools and remains confident in its original recommendations. He outlined the program benefits for the students. Transitions can be stressful for students, especially those in the primary grades. A transition from one school to another brings a different facility, unfamiliar teachers and administrators, new groups of friendships and classmates, as well as different expectations. One school will eliminate a large transition for students at the end of grade three. With a consolidated site, more siblings could attend one school together.

Trustee Sasseville joined the Meeting.

Director Costello advised that a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school allows for more opportunities for mixed sessions for remediation, tutoring, or enrichment activities. Teachers are more informed about students and their specific strengths and needs from an earlier vantage point as there are more staff in the same site. This allows teachers to participate in collaborative problem-solving to determine solutions for behavioral/academic challenges and view progress in individual students. A Kindergarten to Grade 8 school provides increased opportunities for students from a greater span in age groups to interact with each other. A school approach to literacy and numeracy allows a continuous plan to be developed for students from Kindergarten to Grade 8. As part of the student consolidation at the Wyoming site, a pre-school room and Before and After school program would be included in the child care plan for the site. There is also the potential of expansion of services to include younger children subject to funding approval from the Ministry, appropriate service demand and participation from the child care provider.

Director Costello explained the impact on transportation services. CLASS believes that with a complete routing redesign of all existing Wyoming elementary buses and integration with the local coterminous Board routes, all eligible students can be transported with fewer routes than are currently in place. There are currently six buses servicing the three elementary schools in Wyoming and if the school consolidation were to be at the Wyoming Public School site, CLASS believes that they would only require four or five shared buses to transport all of the eligible students. This reduction will provide minor, incremental mileage cost reductions for both school boards annually and will also support our commitment to environmental stewardship and continuous efficiency improvements.

Director Costello explained the rationale for selecting the Wyoming Public School site for the consolidated school. He commented on the FCI, operating costs, location of the buildings, size of the buildings, architectural costs (the septic system replacement costs versus the sewer costs), transportation and the proximity to student walkers.

Director Costello outlined the revisions made to the Initial Staff Report. Due to concerns from parents and staff the timeline was extended from a consolidation at the Wyoming Public School site in September 2016 to consolidation at the Wyoming Public School site in September 2017. This will increase the timeframe for construction and the Transition Committee by a full calendar year. CLASS will work with the school Principal to establish parameters regarding priority for courtesy applications for the consolidated school. All courtesy seat applications must meet the approved courtesy seat criteria and parameters (found at: <https://www.schoolbusinfo.com/courtesy-login.asp>) however a Kindergarten to Grade 3 priority could be applied to approved applications under the direction of the school Principal. Courtesy bus stops cannot be located within the walk boundary for any school; students are required to meet the school bus at an existing stop or along the path of the bus outside of the walk distance boundary.

Parents expressed a desire to have a crossing guard assigned to the intersection of Broadway Street and Niagara Street. He explained that the Town of Plympton-Wyoming has an established process for requesting crossing guards. Their process is initiated by a formal request in writing for their review and consideration. If the Trustees approve the consolidation of the schools at Wyoming Public School site, CLASS will consult with the school Principal to confirm request details and then submit this formal request to the Town in 2016/17 with a proposed start date to align with the consolidation of the schools. A school crossing guard is governed by the rules outlined in the Highway Act. Director Costello advised that due to concerns expressed by parents in regard to construction while students and staff are in the building, architects outlined a potential strategy to complete updates at Wyoming in phases as outlined in the Final Staff Report.

Director Costello outlined the membership on the Transition Committee and the associated responsibilities as well as possible sub-committees. He commented on the success the Board has had in the past with the Transition Committees.

Director Costello commented on the formation of an Ad Hoc Naming Committee. He advised that he would be communicating with the Principal and Vice-Principal regarding the selection process for Ad Hoc Naming Committee Members. Administration is recommending that the Naming Committee be established as of September 6, 2016. As per Board By-laws, Ad Hoc committees exist for a period of three months. Administration is recommending that the Naming Committee meet before September 30, 2016 in order to establish criteria for the new consolidated school name and a process to gather input from appropriate stakeholders. He explained that the Naming Committee would be asked to submit a final report containing a recommended name for the consolidated school to the Board for approval for the January 10, 2017 Board Meeting.

#2016-100
Consolidation of South
Plympton and Wyoming
Public School Approved
September 2017

Moved by Tom McGregor, seconded by Shannon Sasseville,

“That the Board approve the consolidation of South Plympton Public School and Wyoming Public School at the Wyoming Public School site in September 2017.”

Trustee Hudie commented that she was pleased to see Administration address the concerns of the parents regarding safety, the railway tracks, the possibility of a crossing guard and moving the implantation year back to 2017. She supported not relocating the Alternative Learning and Living Program (ALLP) classroom for the year.

Vice-Chair McKinlay requested a Recorded Vote

Non-Binding Vote

Student Trustee Cole Anderson	Yes
Student Trustee Brittany McLaren	Yes

Binding Vote

Elizabeth Hudie	Yes
Dave Douglas	Yes
Tom McGregor	Yes
Bob Murphy	Yes
Shannon Sasseville	Yes
Ruth Ann Dodman	Yes
Lareina Rising	Yes
Jane Bryce	Yes
Scott McKinlay	Yes

CARRIED.

#2016-101
Wyoming Area ARC
Dissolved

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Elizabeth Hudie,

“That the Board dissolve the Wyoming Area Schools Accommodation Review Committee.”

CARRIED.

Chair Bryce thanked the ARC members for serving on the committee.

#2016-102
Ad Hoc Naming
Committee Formed for the
Consolidated South
Plympton/Wyoming Public
School

Moved by Elizabeth Hudie, seconded by Bob Murphy,

“That the Board approve the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to recommend to the Board a name for the consolidated South Plympton and Wyoming Public Schools and appoint two Trustees to serve on the Committee.”

CARRIED.

#2016-103
Tender Award – Barrier
Free Washroom
Renovation at
Wallaceburg District
Secondary School
Report B-16-58

Superintendent McKay reported on the tender award for the barrier free washroom renovation at Wallaceburg District Secondary School. He noted that there was only one bid submitted and that originally the bid was over budget. The Board partners with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent on the pool operation so Administration contacted them. The Municipality has responded with additional funding for the project. The Board is taking some additional money from its accessibility budget for 2015/2016.

Moved by Tom McGregor, seconded by Scott McKinlay,

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder, Elric Contractors.”

In response to Vice-Chair McKinlay's question, Superintendent McKay confirmed that it is unusual to receive only one bid for a project like this. He confirmed that Administration and the Municipality were surprised that the bid came in over budget estimates. Trustee Murphy advised that he heard the renovation will require closing the pool for the summer and noted that it is the only public pool in Wallaceburg. Superintendent McKay explained that the scope of the project requires that the contractors take the full site for safety reasons. The trade-off is that it will be closed for one summer but the community will have a better facility into the future. Director Costello explained that the Municipality of Chatham-Kent operates the pool.

CARRIED.

#2016-104
Tender Award – Partial
Roof Replacements at
Tecumseh Public School
and Wallaceburg District
Secondary School
Report B-16-59

Superintendent McKay presented the tender award for partial roof replacement at Wallaceburg District Secondary School and Tecumseh Public School.

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Elizabeth Hudie,

“That the Board award the tenders to the successful bidder Keller Roofing & Sheet Metal Inc.”

CARRIED.

#2016-105
Tender Award – Partial
Roof Replacement and
Asphalt replacement at
Victor Lauriston Public
School
Report B-16-60

Superintendent McKay presented the tender award for the partial roof replacement and asphalt replacement at Victor Lauriston Public School.

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Elizabeth Hudie,

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder, Intrepid General Ltd.”

Superintendent McKay confirmed that with the award of this tender, there will be about \$300,000 left in the School Condition Improvement budget for the 2015/2016 school year. This is the last of the large tenders that will be brought to Board for approval.

CARRIED.

Elementary Teacher/
Board Communications
Committee Update
Report B-16-61

Chair Bryce presented the report of the Elementary Teacher/Board Communications Committee. She attended the May 10, 2016 meeting on behalf of Trustee Sasseville.

Native Advisory
Committee Update
Report B-16-62

Trustee Rising reported on the May 18, 2016 meeting of the Native Advisory Committee held at Sarnia Collegiate Institute and Technical School in the Indigenous room. She advised that they are still working on an official name for the room. It will be in place for the 2016/2017 school year. Representatives from Kettle and Stony Point First Nation shared news of the signing of a resolution document transferring land at Ipperwash back to First Nation jurisdiction from the federal government, signalling the beginning of a new era in the community. Aamjiwnaang First Nation is working on education policy updates and development, as well as the release of recommendations regarding their Junior Kindergarten program. Walpole Island First Nation will be announcing a new name for their elementary school on June 10. They also reported that the Ojibwe immersion language program will be continuing into its second year. Superintendent McKay and Manager of Finance Anderson provided a review of the 2016/2017 budget and details of the funding being provided for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit education initiatives. Trustee Rising shared information about her participation in a teleconference with other Native Trustees that focused on measuring and sharing progress via a provincial report card. She referred to the OPSBA Charter of Commitment on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education and the survey sent out. She advised that there was a 60% response rate to the survey which was excellent. NAC members discussed the need to have something like the OPSBA Charter at the LKDSB and are planning to look into it for the next school year. An update was provided on the success of the Annual Student Symposium held at SCITS this year. Hosting the event was uplifting for the staff and students at SCITS and it was an amazing day of learning for students.

Parent Involvement
Committee (PIC) Update

Director Costello reported on the Parent Involvement Committee Meeting held on May 16, 2016. He advised that Superintendent McKay attended to present information on the 2016/2017 budget and gather input. PIC suggested that a student survey be developed to gather input on the impact of the TELP for next year. Director Costello explained that the Ministry is considering the

possibility of revoking some grants for technology and is asking school boards for data to support a positive impact on student learning. Feedback was provided on the Dr. Jean Clinton presentations held in May. PIC received an invitation from the Thames Valley District School Board to apply for a regional grant to host a larger event next year. PIC is reviewing the membership for the 2016/2017 school year. He advised that PIC members are interested in developing a PIC Facebook page.

Consolidated St. Clair
Secondary School and
Sarnia Collegiate Institute
and Technical School
Transition Process
Update

Superintendent Girardi advised that former Secondary Principal Roberta Buchanan has agreed to serve as facilitator for the Transition Committee and guide the process. He met with a representative from Aamjiwnaang who has agreed to serve on Transition Committee. Administration is working towards finalizing members on the Transition Committee. Meetings are underway with Building Services and Information Technology staff. The staffing process is underway for the consolidated school staff. Staff from both schools will be together on the June 6 Professional Development Day.

Trustee Question

Vice-Chair McKinlay commented on the courtesy seat policy and the need to ensure that the parents of the South Plympton/Wyoming Consolidated School clearly understand the details. He noted that the Board does not have a lot of flexibility regarding implementation of it. Director Costello commented on the methods used to direct parents to the courtesy seat application process. Principals share information in newsletters as well. It was suggested that a meeting with the parents impacted be arranged so they understand the process. It was noted that students in a household may be impacted differently.

In response to Trustee Rising's question about when Trustees would have the opportunity to know what is next on the ARC agenda for the fall, Chair Bryce confirmed that the Board policy requires that the Director present a pupil accommodation report every year in the fall. Director Costello advised that Administration's energies have been focused on the current reviews. The decisions made will now allow Administration to move forward and think about next year. He advised that enrolment projections for September need to be confirmed and examined to determine next steps. Administration will endeavor to bring the report earlier hopefully in September or October. He referred to the six visions contained in the November 2015 report and the interest the visions have generated throughout the district. He noted that all six visions are subject to revisions as data changes. Administration is concerned about secondary enrolments in some areas.

Announcements

The June 14, 2016 Regular Board Meeting will be held at the Chatham Education Centre, 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment
8:20 p.m.

There being no further business, Chair Bryce declared the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board

**REGULAR BOARD, PUBLIC SESSION
REPORT TO BOARD**

REPORT NO. B-16-79

FROM: Jane Bryce, Chair

DATE: June 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Ad Hoc Naming Committee for the Consolidated South Plympton/Wyoming Public School

Trustees passed the following Motion at the May 24, 2016 Board Meeting.

“That the Board approve the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to recommend to the Board a name for the consolidated South Plympton and Wyoming Public Schools and appoint two Trustees to serve on the Committee.”

Trustees Elizabeth Hudie and Jane Bryce have agreed to serve on the Ad Hoc Naming Committee for the Consolidated South Plympton/Wyoming Public School.

Director Costello is working with Principal Bramham, Vice-Principal Brown to collect the names of School Council Chairs, students and staff to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee. A link will be placed on the Wyoming Area ARC website to allow community members who are interested in serving on the Ad Hoc Committee to submit their names. Director Costello will appoint the members to the Ad Hoc Naming Committee.

The Ad Hoc Committee will be established as of September 6, 2016. As per Board By-laws, Ad Hoc committees exist for a period of three months however.

The Ad Hoc Naming Committee will meet prior to September 30, 2016 to establish criteria for the new consolidated school name, process to gather input from appropriate stakeholders, timelines for community input and when to present a recommendation to the Board for approval. The Committee will be asked to report back to Board at the October 11, 2016 Board Meeting with this information. The Naming Committee will be asked to submit a final report containing a recommended name for the consolidate school to the Board for approval at the end of January 10, 2017.

Recommendation:

“That the Board approve the appointment of Jane Bryce and Elizabeth Hudie to serve on the Ad Hoc Naming Committee for the Consolidated South Plympton/Wyoming Public School.”

REGULAR BOARD, PUBLIC SESSION

REPORT TO BOARD

FROM: Jim Costello, Director of Education

DATE: June 14, 2016

SUBJECT: POLICY AND REGULATIONS *VOLUNTARY SELF-IDENTIFICATION OF FIRST NATION, MÉTIS AND INUIT STUDENTS*

The policy and regulations on *Voluntary Self-Identification of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students* have been reviewed as part of the LKDSB cyclical review process. The members of the LKDSB Native Advisory Committee have been involved in the review and revision of the documents, which included First Nation members obtaining feedback from their communities.

Changes include removal of the word *aboriginal* from the title and the text of the documents. The regulations were streamlined and the rationale was revised to reflect how the process has evolved since implementation in 2008.

Recommendation:

“That the Board approve the revised policy and regulations on *Voluntary Self-Identification of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students.*”



POLICY

SUBJECT: Voluntary ~~Aboriginal~~ Self-Identification of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students

It is the policy of the Lambton Kent District School Board to provide the opportunity for all ~~Aboriginal~~ First Nation, Métis, and Inuit ~~students and/or~~ parents, guardians, or adult students to voluntarily self-identify as part of the school registration process, or at any time at the request of the parents, guardians, or adult student.

DRAFT

Implementation Date: June 24, 2008

Revised:

Reference: LKDSB Regulations



DRAFT

REGULATIONS

SUBJECT: Voluntary ~~Self-Identification of~~ Aboriginal ~~Self-Identification~~ First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students

Rationale

~~The learning, aspirations and potentials of Aboriginal students can be realized through a responsive, transparent and accountable process that focuses on improved services and supports and builds on strong partnerships with Aboriginal parents and their communities. The collection and analysis of student achievement data will be used to provide information about whether current programs and supports offer similar opportunities for success as for other students. Continued data collection and analysis will be used to guide future decisions regarding Aboriginal student success.~~

~~An effective voluntary and confidential self-identification policy is an important part of the board's overall plan to best support both academic and non-academic outcomes for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students.~~

~~The availability of student achievement data allows for the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs and strategies in supporting the needs of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students.~~

~~More specifically, this data is also valuable in the support of improvement planning and in the board's accountability to First Nation community partners. It also helps to inform policy and funding decisions at both the board and provincial levels.~~

~~1. All families within the Lambton Kent District School Board will re-register for the 2008-09 school year. A letter mailed to every family with registration forms will request verification of all existing student information. There will be an opportunity in the completion of the form for parents or students age 18 or older to voluntarily self identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.~~

~~The opportunity to self-identify as First Nation, Métis, or Inuit will be available upon a family's first registration with the board, or at any time after upon parent or adult student request.~~

- ~~2. Self identification data will be collected on a voluntary basis for all future students enrolling with the Lambton Kent District School Board beginning the 2008-09 school year.~~
- ~~3. Data will be used only as a means of analysis and potential enhancement of program delivery within the Lambton Kent District School Board.~~
- ~~4. The data collected as a result of this Policy will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and the results reported annually to the Board.~~

2. The collection, use, and reporting of student achievement data will be governed by a Memorandum of Understanding developed by the board and its First Nation partners, which will be reviewed on an annual basis by the board's standing advisory committee on First Nation, Métis, and Inuit education, and may be incorporated as part of an education services agreement at the request of individual First Nation communities.

5. Security Protocol

~~5.1 All data will be securely stored to respect privacy and treated in the same manner as Ontario Student Records.~~

~~5.2 Information gathered will be used in the aggregate for the sole purpose of enhancing student learning.~~

~~5.3 Individual data would be communicated only upon the request of a parent, guardian or student 18 years of age or older.~~

~~5.4 All data gathered is protected and governed by the Freedom of Information Act.~~

3. The memorandum and accompanying practices will be consistent with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

4. Reports will incorporate aggregate data only.

5. Individual student data will only be released upon the request of or the granting of permission by a parent, guardian, or adult student.

~~6. Role of the Native Advisory Committee~~

- ~~—6.1— All data collected will be shared in the aggregate with the Native Advisory Committee and First Nations' education representatives.~~
- ~~—6.2— The Native Advisory Committee will provide advice with respect to the determination, communication and use of collected data, including the planning of next steps as deemed necessary from the analysis of data.~~
- ~~—6.3— The Board will invite First Nations representation on any committee established by the Board for the purpose of developing or reviewing curriculum specific to First Nations students.~~
- ~~—6.4— The Board will work in conjunction with the Native Advisory Committee and First Nations education representatives in the planning, development and implementation of programs that focus on Native culture, language or history.~~
- ~~—6.5— This Policy will be reviewed annually for its effectiveness and the need for its continuation.~~

Implementation Date: June 24, 2008

Reference: LKDSB Policy

REGULAR BOARD, PUBLIC SESSION

Memorandum To: Jim Costello, Director of Education

FROM: Brian McKay
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

DATE: June 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Budget Approval for the 2016 - 2017 School Year

This report provides information for the Lambton Kent District School Board's 2016-2017 School Year Budget. Budget development commenced in February 2016 and has occurred over the past 5 months. A preliminary 2016-17 budget consultation session was also held with the Ministry of Education on November 5, 2015. The following table summarizes important dates during the budget process:

Meeting/ Event Description	Date
Ministry of Education – GSN Launch Workshop	March 24, 2016
Board of Trustees – budget workshop	April 5, 2016
Board of Trustees – budget workshop	May 3, 2016
Parent Involvement Committee – Budget presentation	May 16, 2016
Native Advisory Committee – Budget presentation	May 18, 2016
Special Education Advisory Committee – Budget presentation	May 19, 2016
Board of Trustees – budget presentation and approval	June 14, 2016

The above table does not include on-going internal staff budget discussions and meetings that have occurred throughout the process.

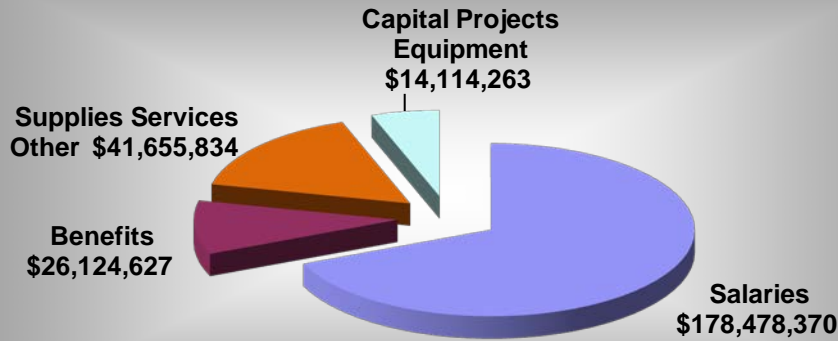
Total Provincial Education funding for the 2016-17 budget year is projected to be \$22.9 billion (2015-16 - \$22.6 billion), an average of \$11,709 per pupil – an increase of 1.4% from 2015-16. While the overall Provincial amount is stable, the Board's funding continues to be negatively impacted by declining enrolment.

The forecasted average daily enrolment numbers for 2016-17 are: 21,495 Total Students comprised of 14,255 Elementary and 7,240 Secondary students.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS:

The 2016-2017 school year budget for the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) totals **\$260.37 Million**. The following chart summarizes all expenditures into four major categories:

LKDSB 2016-17 Budget {Total Expenditures = \$ 260,373,094}



REVENUE BUDGET for 2016-17:

The Board's revenue forecast is based on the Ministry of Education Grants for Student Needs (GSN) education funding model which generates the board's operating and school renewal grants. There are four (4) major categories of grants to the GSN funding model: Pupil Foundation Grant, School Foundation Grant, Special Purpose Grants and the Pupil Accommodation Grant.

The attached table provides the finalized detailed revenue forecast by each of the GSN Grant categories. To summarize, the Board's total revenues are comprised of the following:

- GSN Operating Grants = \$236,063,645.
- GSN Facilities Renewal / Financing Grants = \$16,143,222.
- Tuition Fees from First Nations & Visa students = \$4,365,783.
- Ministry Funding provided in addition to the GSN = \$757,833.
- Other Capital, Rental, Interest and misc. revenues = \$1,442,610.
- In-year draw from accumulated surplus (former reserves) = \$1,600,000.

TOTAL REVENUES = \$260,373,093.

EXPENDITURE BUDGET for 2016-17:

The following table details the planned expenses under each expenditure category:

2016 – 17 BUDGET SUMMARY (MILLIONS)	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES = \$ 260.37 M	
<u>Classroom Categories:</u>	
Classroom Teachers	\$ 135.41
Supply Teachers	4.18
Teacher Assistants	13.11
Early Childhood Educators	5.46
Textbooks & Classroom Supplies	7.15
Computers	2.82
Professionals & Paraprofessionals	5.87
Library & Guidance	4.20
Staff Development	0.46
Department Heads	0.44
<u>Non-Classroom Categories:</u>	
Principals, & Vice-principals	11.52
School Office	6.19
Consultants & Co-ordinators	2.38
Board Administration & Trustees	6.73
School Operations	23.97
Continuing Education	0.81
Transportation	12.36
School Renewal	12.32
Capital Financing	4.32
Ministry EPO Funded projects	0.67

KEY PROVINCIAL EDUCATION FUNDING PARAMETERS:

- School Board Efficiencies and Modernization (SBEM) Initiative – The Ministry continues to phase in the SBEM initiative in the GSN with further measures to encourage Boards to address underutilized school space. Grants affected by this change include: School facilities top-up, School foundation, Geographic Circumstances and Declining Enrolment.
- Top-up Funding under the School Facility Operations & Renewal Grant (three year phase-in). Base Top-up funding will be completely eliminated over three years. The Enhanced Top-up part will continue however new eligibility criteria will apply and schools that are eligible will receive top-up to 100% of capacity. Eligible school criteria – elementary school that is at least 10 km away from the next closest school of the board; secondary school that is at least 20 km away from the next closest secondary school of the board.
- School Foundation Grant – A new allocation model to fund principals, vice-principals and office support staff. This method will shift funding away from very small schools that are not isolated. (3 year phase-in).

- Geographic Circumstances Grant – The Rural and Small Communities allocation part are being phased out over three-years.
- Declining Enrolment Grant is being reduced to require school boards to adjust more quickly to declining enrolment.
- Central labour agreements are included in the 2016-17 GSN, which also includes 2015-16 GSN amendments.
- Transformation of employee health, life and dental benefits through the formation and management of provincial benefit trusts.
- Updates for equity in education, including investment in First Nation, Metis, and Inuit education leads in every school board.
- Transfer of several existing Ministry of Education programs, previously funded through EPO (Education Program Other), into the 2016-17 GSN. Impacted programs include funding for library staff, outdoor education, Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA) Local Capacity Initiative and Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching Contacts.
- \$1.25B over three years (\$500M in 2016-17) to continue and expand the School Condition and Improvement (SCI) funding. This program supports school renewal projects in order to provide safe and healthy learning environments. There have been changes in how this funding is provided to school boards which has seen a re-allocation occur, resulting in a reduced funding level for the LKDSB.
- The Student Transportation grant has been increased provincially by 2% to help boards manage increased costs. The LKDSB will realize an increase of 1.75% in our Student Transportation grant.
- 2% increase to the Plant operations benchmark to support commodity price increases and a 3.5% increase in electricity funding component.
- Special education funding, beginning in 2016-17, will change with the High Needs Amount (HNA) allocation being renamed to the Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount (DSENA) allocation.

Other Budget Remarks:

Phase 3 Multi-Year Strategic Education Technology Project:

The Board is entering the 3rd year of our multi-year technology upgrade project, focused on building a 21st Century Technology Infrastructure Network throughout our schools and all classrooms at the LKDSB. This project is key to providing all our 21,495 students and 2,000 educators with the technologies for tomorrow's classroom. Creating a more mobile platform, improved access to digital resources and a technology platform that is easier to use and faster are all the outcomes being designed into this project to support classroom innovation and student engagement.

The total budget for the entire project was estimated at \$4.6 Million. It was originally estimated that the 2016-17 budget allocation for the project would be \$1.2 Million. However, based on better than anticipated results during the first 2 phases, the 2016-17 allocation is \$1.0 Million. This amount has been included in the budget from the Board's reserves to carry-out the 3rd phase of this technology plan.

School Condition Improvement (SCI) & Renewal Capital Improvement Projects:

To keep our schools in good operating condition in order to provide a safe and healthy learning environment, ongoing investments are required for repair and renewal work. The Ministry is maintaining SCI funding to \$500 million dollars for 2016-17. The combined SCI & School Facilities Renewal program budget for LKDSB will be \$12.2 million dollars.

The Ministry of Education has established the following dates for submission of the Board Budget and Financial Reports:

2016-17 Budget Estimates	June 30, 2016
2015-16 Financial Statements	November 15, 2016
2016-17 Revised Estimates	December 15, 2016

RECOMMENDATION:

“That the Board approve the 2016-2017 School Year Budget as presented in the amount of \$ 260,373,093.”

THE LAMBTON KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD			
REVENUE FORECAST SUMMARY BY GRANT CATEGORY			
GRANT CATEGORY	2016/17 ESTIMATES	2015/16 REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATES	VARIANCE to 15-16 Revised Grants
Operating Grants	15,601,587		-723,002
Pupil Foundation Grant - Elementary JK - SK		16,324,589	
Pupil Foundation Grant - Elementary Gr. 1 to 3	23,650,191	23,885,702	-235,511
Pupil Foundation Grant - Elementary Gr. 4 to 8	33,952,538	33,213,875	738,663
Pupil Foundation Grant - Secondary	40,487,688	41,130,232	-642,544
School Foundation - Elementary	11,381,306	11,305,835	75,471
School Foundation - Secondary	5,632,386	5,738,575	-106,189
Special Education	29,126,030	28,152,928	973,102
Language Grants - French as 2nd Language	2,767,459	2,747,851	19,608
Language Grants - ESL/ESD	423,448	514,377	-90,929
Distant & Supported Schools (Learning Resources)	18,452	9,865	8,587
Remote and Rural	282,510	361,610	-79,100
Continuing Education and Summer School	811,937	823,466	-11,529
Teachers Qualifications & Experience ECE	21,305,401	19,591,338	1,714,063
Qualifications & Experience Transportation	1,389,809	1,170,822	218,987
Governance & Administration	12,335,199	12,123,584	211,615
Pupil Accommodation - School Operations	6,405,201	6,068,550	336,651
Learning Opportunities (LOG) - Base Amount	19,980,739	19,816,268	164,471
Literacy and Numeracy Assistance (LOG)	1,488,333	1,475,092	13,241
Student Success Assistance (LOG)	13,122	13,006	116
First Nation, Metis & Inuit Education (Pupils of the Board)	1,980,167	1,706,191	273,976
New Teacher Induction Program	1,567,568	992,088	575,480
Safe Schools	97,082	100,400	-3,318
	436,862	440,296	-3,434
1. Sub-Total =	231,135,015	227,706,540	3,428,475
Flexibility Amount: Local Priorities - Foundation Allocation	0	0	0
Declining Enrolment Allocation	1,121,925	1,170,552	-48,627
Top Up Allocation for School Operations	3,465,277	4,770,710	-1,305,433
Community Use of Schools Compensation	341,428	354,412	-12,984
2. Sub-Total =	4,928,630	6,295,674	-1,367,044
Sub-Total OPERATING GRANTS (1 + 2) from Student Focused Funding Model =	236,063,645	234,002,214	2,061,431
School Facilities Renewal	2,858,595	2,871,281	-12,686
Top Up Allocation for School Renewal including Rural	497,701	696,839	-199,138
School Renewal Enhancement	756,817	756,817	0
School Condition Improvement	8,044,460	8,262,449	-217,989
Ministry Temporary Accommodations	67,735	0	67,735
Prior Capital Commitments	744,654	744,654	0
Financing Costs (\$13.9M Stage 1, \$6.9M Stage 2, Stage 3, PTR & Capital Priority)	3,173,260	3,185,385	-12,125
3. Sub-Total (Renewal grants) =	16,143,222	16,517,425	-374,203
Sub-Total ALL GRANT CATEGORIES from Student Focused Funding Model =	252,206,867	250,519,639	1,687,228
Other Revenue	4,365,783	4,446,935	-81,152
Tuition (based on 382 students (First Nations, Visa)			
EPO Funding	757,833	2,399,552	-1,641,719
Ministry Grants Capital Building Projects	0	1,308,584	-1,308,584
Misc other revenue (OYAP, Interest, Rentals, energy & Deferred Revenues)	966,552	996,989	-30,437
Best Start - Operating Rent	476,058	448,000	28,058
A. TOTAL MINISTRY + FEES REVENUE =	258,773,093	260,119,699	-1,346,606
OTHER FUNDING SOURCES:			
Estimated revenue for half of cat/exp and 1% salary increase	0	2,785,277	-2,785,277
Transfer in from Accumulated Surplus - for priority projects	1,600,000	2,300,000	-700,000
B. Sub-Total =	1,600,000	5,085,277	-3,485,277
GRAND TOTAL A + B =	260,373,093	265,204,976	-4,831,883

**BOARD REPORT
REGULAR BOARD, PUBLIC SESSION**

REPORT NO: B-16-82

Memorandum To: Jim Costello, Director of Education

FROM: Brian McKay, Superintendent of Business

DATE: June 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Asphalt – Thamesville Area, Hillcrest & Sarnia Ed. Ctr. - Tender Awards

Thamesville Area: *[parking lot, regrade front yard for drainage, main entrance ramp & garbage route access]*
Tenders were received and opened on June 3, 2016 at the Sarnia Education Centre. Sandy Huizinga, Joanne Sadoquis and Brian Pelletier represented the Board at the tender opening.
Bid results are as follows (** indicates successful bidder):

PROJECT BIDDER	TOTAL BID (nic. h.s.t.)
** Dig R Wright Excavating Inc., Blenheim	219,021.50
Sev-Con Paving, Sarnia	230,914.03

Hillcrest: *[south driveway, parking area & hard surface play area]*
Tenders were received and opened on June 6, 2016 at the Sarnia Education Centre. Sandy Huizinga and Joanne Sadoquis represented the Board at the tender opening.
Bid results are as follows (** indicates successful bidder):

PROJECT BIDDER	TOTAL BID (nic. h.s.t.)
** Sev-Con Paving, Sarnia	145,963.51
Cope Construction, Sarnia	171,294.69
Henry Heyink Construction, Chatham	193,605.00
All Season Excavating, Watford	205,825.00
Murray Mills Excavating & Trucking, Sarnia	224,304.00

Sarnia Education Centre: *[complete asphalt parking, driveways & sidewalks]*
Tenders were received and opened on June 6, 2016 at the Sarnia Education Centre. Sandy Huizinga and Joanne Sadoquis represented the Board at the tender opening.
Bid results are as follows (** indicates successful bidder):

PROJECT BIDDER	TOTAL BID (nic. h.s.t.)
** Cope Construction, Sarnia	275,949.80
Sev-Con Paving, Sarnia	291,768.54
Murray Mills Excavating & Trucking, Sarnia	371,564.25

PROJECT SUMMARY	
Successful Bids Total (inc. h.s.t.)	640,934.81
Design Fees	29,441.10
Net HST	14,480.12
Subtotal Project(s) This Report	684,856.03
Budget Funding:	
-School Condition Improvement (2015-16)	393,809.44
-Central Office Budget	291,046.59
Total Project Budget:	\$ 684,856.03

Recommendation:

“That the Board award these tenders to the successful bidders:

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| d) Dig R Wright Excavating Inc., Blenheim | - | Thamesville Area Public School |
| e) Sev-Con Paving, Sarnia | - | Hillcrest Public School |
| f) Cope Construction, Sarnia | - | Sarnia Education Centre” |

**BOARD REPORT
REGULAR BOARD, PUBLIC SESSION**

REPORT NO: B-16-83

Memorandum To: Jim Costello, Director of Education

FROM: Brian McKay, Superintendent of Business

DATE: June 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Sports Track, Resurfacing – WDSS - Tender Award

Tenders were received and opened on June 6, 2016 at the Sarnia Education Centre. Sandy Huizinga and Joanne Sadoquis represented the Board at the tender opening.

Bid results are as follows (** indicates successful bidder):

PROJECT BIDDER	TOTAL BID (nic. h.s.t.)
** Henry Heyink Construction, Chatham	183,500.

PROJECT SUMMARY	
Successful Bids Total (nic. h.s.t.)	183,500.00
Design Fees	5,500.00
Net HST	4,082.40
Subtotal Project(s) This Report	193,082.40
Budget Funding:	
-Municipality of Chatham-Kent Agreement	133,750.00
-School Condition Improvement (2015-16)	59,332.40
Total Project Budget:	\$ 193,082.40

Recommendation:

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder Henry Heyink Construction, Chatham.”

REPORT TO THE BOARD
REGULAR BOARD, PUBLIC SESSION

REPORT NO: B-16-84

FROM: Elizabeth Hudie, Trustee and Vice-Chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee

DATE: June 14, 2016

SUBJECT: SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) of the Lambton Kent District School Board met on May 19, 2016 at Wallaceburg District Secondary School. Following is a report of the activities of the meeting:

Business Arising from the Minutes

At the April 14th meeting of SEAC a member asked for information regarding a Suspension/ Expulsion review being conducted by Western University. Superintendent Doey indicated that the university had been retained by the Ministry to study the effectiveness of these programs for students, and the board has already been contacted by the research team.

Also at the April 14th meeting, another member suggested that the Board reach out to current and former LKDSB students of Provincial schools to ask that they provide input to the Ministry regarding potential school closures. Christine Davenport, Manager of Psychological Services, was asked to respond to this suggestion. Superintendent Doey reported on her behalf, saying that Minister Sandals visited Amethyst to speak with students and parents; as well, Christine Davenport had reported that the online tool is being well utilized. The members were satisfied with what has taken place to date.

Presentation: Toolkits for Transition

Bob Vansickle, Manager of Employment Options with Community Living Sarnia Lambton, made a presentation on "Toolkits for Transition", and noted that the LKDSB is a program partner.

Mr. Vansickle said the program is being delivered seamlessly between Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton, allowing more people with a disability to become attached to the workforce. He noted that their summer job program is for students (aged 16 – 29) with a disability who will be returning to school. Community Living's Job Start program is a 6-week paid work opportunity that allows participants to learn about themselves and interact in a group setting in order to prepare for employment.

Kathy Hoof, Toolkits for Transition Coordinator, reviewed the contents of the toolkit, providing a week-by-week summary for the program delivery. SEAC applauded the organization for the quality of the Toolkit that was developed.

Presentation: Lambton Kent District School Board 2016 – 2017 Budget Overview

Sandy Anderson, Manager of Financial Services for the LKDSB, provided an overview of the Board's 2016 – 2017 budget for Special Education Services noting that not much has changed in relation to last year's budget. Special education grant highlights include a modest increase to the Special Education Per Pupil Amount, as well as increases to the SEA Equipment amount and Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount. It was noted that there is no change to either the Special Incidence Portion or Section 23 funding. However there has been an increase to the Special Education GSN, which will now be referred to as the Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount (DSENA).

Special Education Report Amendments

Pam Graham provided an overview of the updates that were made to Section 1: The Board's Consultation Process; Appendix 1.1: Process for Revisions to the Special Education Plan; Appendix 2.12.1: Planning for Staff Development; Section 2.4: IPRC Process; Appendix 2.4.3: SEAC Insert; and Glossary of Terms. The List of Appendices and the List of Acronyms were presented for review, but there were no updates suggested.

A member of SEAC asked that, in addition to the amendments presented, Section 1.0 be updated to reflect the date that each of the Programs was last reviewed; Pam said that we would insert that information.

Jack Fletcher Moved; Chris King Seconded:

"That the information in the Special Education Report, as brought forward for SEAC's review from January 14, 2016 to May 19, 2016 and as outlined in Appendix 1.1, be approved."; All in favour.

Correspondence

A Letter to Principals, dated April 25, 2016, from Demonstration School Parent Councils was included in the Agenda Package. After discussion, SEAC decided to submit a letter to the Ministry asking that adequate funding and resources be made available to support any students affected by the changes being made.

An Ontario News Release, dated May 4, 2016: Ontario Promoting Student Well-Being in Education was shared with the membership. Superintendent Doey said that student wellbeing is one of the Ministry's four goals and that supports for students will include First Nation, Métis, and Inuit perspectives which reflect a holistic approach in raising and educating children.

A communication from the Ministry's Advisory Council on Special Education entitled: Communication – Collaborating with the Community was shared with SEAC. Pam Graham will complete the document and the information will be shared with SEAC.

Associated Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices

Pam Graham said a Board Team, including a representative of Special Education, attended a Ministry meeting on the new math strategy. Pam also reported that Special Education has to make some significant cuts and will see a reduction of 10 EAs next year, as well, 10 EAs will be used for transitional support.

Shelley Martsch-Litt reported that the Pre-School Intake Meetings have been completed and, currently, there will be approximately 75 pre-school students.

Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent will be offering its summer programs again.

Learning Disabilities Association of Lambton County will be offering its entrepreneurial program for high school students again.

A Jump Start event focused on life after high school, for teens with special needs, will be held on May 31st at C.K.S.S. Those in attendance will learn about: education, employment, recreation, housing, social opportunities, community programs, respite, and support groups; as well, there will be special information sessions on DSO and ODSP.

Next Meeting

Thursday, June 16, 2016 at Wallaceburg District Secondary School, Room 141. 7:00 p.m.
Rose Gallaway, SEAC Chair

Ministry of Education
Minister

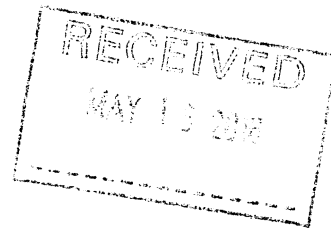
Mowat Block Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



Ontario

May 12, 2016

Jim Costello
Director of Education
Lambton Kent District School Board 200
Wellington Street
PO Box 2019
Sarnia Ontario N7T 7L2



**Appointments from your school board to the 2016-17
Minister's Student Advisory Council**

Dear Jim Costello,

Thank you for supporting the students at your schools who applied for the 2016-17 Minister's Student Advisory Council. I appreciate the leadership and initiative that these students have shown and want you to know that their efforts are recognized and valued by the ministry.

There were over 450 applications this year, which made it difficult to choose 60 students to represent Ontario's great cultural, social, economic and geographic diversity. After carefully considering the candidates and allowing for balanced representation on the council, selections have now been made. I have written directly to all students who have applied. The principal of each successful applicant will receive a copy of the letter sent to the student.

I value the enthusiasm and commitment of all students who applied for the council.

I am pleased to inform you that Shoshawna Hill at Chatham-Kent Secondary School was selected from your school board. Please feel free to congratulate Shoshawna with a telephone call or letter.

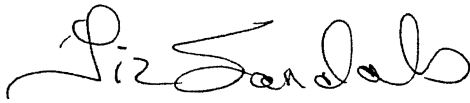
Students who serve on the Minister's Advisory Council have many responsibilities and will meet with me twice during their one-year term. Additional meetings may take place between the months of September and June. The council may form sub-committees on topics of interest to them and may be invited to participate in other student forums, events or conferences to discuss student-related issues.

The council also:

- Provides the ministry with ongoing student perspectives, recommendations and consultations on the Ministry of Education's policies, programs and practices;
- Provides advice and feedback on the ministry's student engagement activities;
- Joins a network of MSAC alumni and provides support for members of future councils.

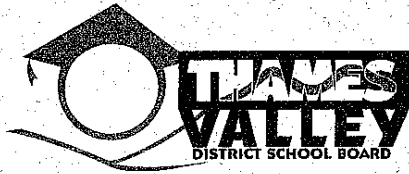
Please accept my sincere thanks and extend it to all the principals, teachers and staff in your schools who supported these students who applied.

Sincerely,



Liz Sandals
Minister of Education

- c. Mike Gilfoyle, Superintendent
Frank Leddy, Regional Student Success Lead



Laura Elliott, Director of Education and Secretary

May 24, 2016

Hon. Liz Sandals,
Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay St,
Toronto Ontario, M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Sandals:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Thames Valley District School Board, I am sending this letter to bring to your attention the following motion that was passed at our Regular Meeting of the board on April 26, 2016,

Moved by J, Skinner, Seconded by R, Campbell:

That the Thames Valley District School Board of Trustees, to ensure its student remain competitive in the field of robotics, computing, and technology, relative to other provincial education systems in Canada and abroad:

- i) Ask the Ontario Ministry of Education to add coding to the Ontario curriculum in JK to grade 8;
- ii) Send a letter to all school boards in the province asking them to support this change request; and,
- iii) Send a letter to the Ontario Public School Board Association requesting their support and advocacy for this curriculum change.

We believe that the world is becoming a more technological place and it is incumbent upon us to provide the education and training that will best prepare our students for the future. Many other jurisdictions are adding coding to their curriculum knowing that it provides students with a competitive advantage in finding employment. Simply stated, technology-based companies are more likely to locate where technology-skilled talent is found.

Hon. Liz Sandals,
Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat. Block
900 Bay St,
Toronto Ontario, M7A 1L2

- 2 -

May 24, 2016

Labour market studies have identified a large and immediate shortage of workers in technology fields. The addition of coding to the curriculum will help to develop logic skills which strengthen almost every area of study including math, science and literature. Coding knowledge is an important step towards solving the gender gap in the field of technology. It fosters creativity and strengthens computational skills by moving the student from a passive consumer of technology to an author and creator. Parents and students strongly support this addition to the curriculum.

This rationale has prompted this request and because we receive this change as essential, it comes along with a strong sense of urgency. We hope that you will act to add coding to the Ontario curriculum.

As always, our shared commitment remains focused, We build each student's tomorrow, everyday.

Sincerely,

Bill McKinnon Chair of the Board

cc OPSBA
Ontario School Board Chairs