

**PRESENT:**

Trustees:	Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Scott McKinlay, Randy Campbell, Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Elizabeth Hudie, Tom McGregor, Bob Murphy and Lareina Rising
Student Trustees	Ayla Jacobs and Keaton Jennings
Staff:	Director of Education Jim Costello, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay, Superintendents of Education Joy Badder, Dave Doey, Gary Girardi, Taf Lounsbury, Mark Sherman and Phil Warner
Regrets	Trustee Shannon Sasseville
Recording Secretary:	Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer
Call to Order:	Chair Bryce called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chair Bryce recognized the community partners in attendance.
#2016-145 Approval of the Agenda Sept/27/2016	Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Elizabeth Hudie, "That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting Public Session of September 27, 2016 be approved." <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>
Declaration of Conflict of Interest:	No declarations of conflict of interest were issued.
#2016-146 Approval of Minutes Sept/13/2016	Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Randy Campbell, "That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 13, 2016." <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>
#2016-147 Action of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board	Moved by Scott McKinlay, seconded by Jack Fletcher, "That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the Board." <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>
Presentations: Certificate of Commendation to Elementary Teacher Kerry Miller for being a Prime Minister's Teaching Excellence Certificate recipient	Superintendent Warner introduced the Principal of Errol Road Public School Joy McLean and Elementary Teacher Kerry Miller. He advised that Kerry Miller is a recipient of the Prime Minister's Teaching Excellence Certificate. Only 25 certificates have been given out across the country. Principal McLean explained that Kerry Miller is a Kindergarten Teacher at Errol Road Public School and was nominated by a parent at Errol Road Public School. Principal McLean shared quotes from the parent's letter of nomination and the Early Childhood Educator's letter. She spoke to the teaching practices Kerry Miller uses in her classroom to meet her students' needs. Principal McLean congratulated Kerry Miller on her achievement. Trustee Fletcher commented on his observations of Kerry Miller's contributions at the school. Chair Bryce acknowledged her contributions as well noting that the LKDSB will be celebrating Staff Appreciation Day on October 3, 2016. Kerry Miller expressed her appreciation for the recognition and acknowledged the strong team she works with at Errol Road Public School.
Director of Education's Snap Shots of Excellence	Director Costello explained that the purpose of the Snap Shots of Excellence presentation is to celebrate all the exciting things occurring across the district and share information about the depth and breadth of opportunities provided to students. He shared examples of students participating in the Summer Learning Program, International Education Program activities, Great Lakes Secondary

School, school improvement projects, pictures of the Gaali School built in Africa through the funds raised for the Enactus Project through the LKDSB Student Senate, Positivity Day activities in Chatham-Kent, and pictures of school playground equipment provided through school fundraising activities.

Staff and Volunteer  
Appreciation Day  
Report B-16-107

Director Costello commented that the Board is very proud of its staff and is certainly aware of the important role they play in the development of children. Staff are very dedicated and caring individuals striving to improve student achievement for the betterment of society. He noted that the United Nations declared October 5<sup>th</sup> as World Teachers' Day. In the past, the Board has recognized teachers on October 5. Last year the LKDSB made the decision to celebrate Staff Appreciation Day in October to acknowledge the contributions of all employees. Chair Bryce recognized the contributions of all staff to the safe learning environments for students.

#2016-148  
Staff and Volunteer  
Appreciation Day  
October 3, 2016

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Randy Campbell,

"That the Lambton Kent District School Board observe Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Day on October 3, 2016."

CARRIED.

It was agreed that the dedicated Volunteers were to be recognized on the day for their contributions as well.

2015/2016 Annual  
Accessibility Report for the  
LKDSB  
Report B-16-108

Superintendent Doey explained that the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) came into effect in 2005. The purpose of this act is two-fold. Firstly, it directs public sector institutions to develop, implement and enforce standards for accessibility related to Customer Service, Transportation, Information and Communication, Built Environments, and Employment. Secondly, it provides for the involvement of persons with disabilities and various community partners in the development of the proposed standards. The target date for reaching this goal is no later than January 1, 2025. Superintendent Doey noted that the LKDSB committee members span all departments within the LKDSB. He explained that the Accessibility Report was recently shared with SEAC members. He commented on the supports in place to assist students to make their learning environments more accessible and to increase equity of program. Superintendent Doey highlighted the work done by the plant and maintenance department staff to make facilities more accessible.

#2016-149  
LKDSB 2015/2016 Annual  
Accessibility Report  
Approved

Moved by Elizabeth Hudie, seconded by Tom McGregor,

"That the Board approve the 2015/2016 Annual Accessibility Report for the Lambton Kent District School Board."

CARRIED.

Special Education Advisory  
Committee (SEAC) Update  
Report B-16-109

Trustee Hudie reported on the SEAC Meeting held on September 15, 2016 at Wallaceburg District Secondary School. Data on the number of exceptional students suspended was shared with SEAC Members. An update on the Special Needs Strategy was shared. SEAC members were informed that the Ministry has completed its Learning Disabilities review but has not released a final report. The LKDSB will go ahead with aspects of its review, focusing in the early stages on student achievement. Information on the 2015/2016 LKDSB SEA equipment claims was provided. SEAC Members approved the LKDSB 2015/2016 Annual Accessibility Report. Members participated in a priority-setting exercise. Member associations provided updates on their activities.

LKDSB Vision, Mission and

Director Costello advised that it was time to update the LKDSB Strategic Plan. As

Belief Statements  
Report B-16-110

part of the process, Trustees reaffirmed the LKDSB Vision, Mission and Belief Statements at the Trustee Strategic Planning Session held in May 2016. He referenced the LKDSB Vision and the LKDSB Mission and revised the six Belief Statements. He noted that it was the will of the Trustees that the LKDSB Logo and Motto remain the same. The Logo and Motto portray the Board's focus on student success and commitment to the community. He referenced the details of what the Board Logo design represents. Director Costello explained that at the session in May, Trustees agreed that the documents would be reviewed and revised in 2018, after the next election. It was agreed that Trustees needed a year in the position prior to making changes. It was noted that a lot of work was done by Trustees to create the brief and meaningful statements. Trustees confirmed that the concepts and ideas behind the statements remain strong and reflect the Board's values. They guide the decision making process at the Board table. It was noted that the First Nation Partners wording is still accurate but may need to be revised at some point to reflect the non-tuition paying students and evolving terminology. Director Costello advised that Administration would be bringing a revised Strategic Plan to Trustees for consideration and approval at the October 11, 2016 Board Meeting.

LKDSB Capital Plan  
September 2016  
Report B-16-111

Director Costello stated that he was pleased to present the LKDSB Capital Plan to the Board as well as to interested members of the public and municipal partners. He noted that everyone shares a common interest in the efficient deployment of taxpayer dollars. He explained that the Ministry's 2015 Community Planning and Partnerships (CPP) Guideline makes it clear that efficiency is a must as school boards move forward with long term planning across the LKDSB. Director Costello advised that as the total enrollment continues to decline, the LKDSB will be forced to make hard decisions around facilities and their capacities. He explained that while the elementary enrolment had a slight increase this year of 132 students, the secondary enrolment declined by 286 students when compared to October 31, 2015 data. The secondary enrollment has declined every year since amalgamation in 1998. He explained that the purpose of publishing a Capital Plan is to share information to see if any potential partners are interested in renting space from the LKDSB. He commented on the successful partnerships currently in place and the desire to explore options to address underutilized space in the LKDSB schools. He invited interested and prospective partners to make contact with Superintendent Girardi to explore possibilities.

Superintendent Girardi noted that as a public institution the LKDSB has the challenge of supporting student learning, increasing student success, while maintaining fiscal responsibility and transparency. In the past the Board has had to make difficult decisions to consolidate schools. Over the past 17 years, the Board has closed 14 elementary schools and 3 secondary schools, opened new schools and revitalized consolidated schools. He commented on the most recent Accommodation Reviews, partnerships in place including childcare and the LKDSB underdeveloped properties

Superintendent Girardi stated that the LKDSB enrolment has declined since amalgamation in 1998 by 16.1%. The elementary enrolment has shown signs of leveling off, while secondary continues to decline. The secondary decline can be attributed to smaller elementary classes transferring from elementary to secondary school, and the fact that not all secondary students are funded as fulltime students. A student enrolled in less than three courses per semester is funded as a part time student. Superintendent Girardi outlined the birth rate data for the LKDSB catchment area and compared it to the provincial data. He explained that the elementary headcount is projected to continue to decline. This decline in enrolment is a result of the anticipated decline in birth rates, resulting in a smaller

number of eligible Kindergarten students. In 2017, a high of 14,234 elementary aged students is projected, while 2026 projects an elementary enrolment of 13,037, a decline of 1,197 students in ten years.

For the 2016/2017 school year, the LKDSB has experienced an unexpected increase in the elementary enrolment. As of September 14, 2016, there are 14,561 elementary aged students registered in our schools, an increase of 132 students or 1% over the 2015/2016 elementary average daily enrolment of 14,429. This increase in elementary enrolment is attributed to families relocating to the LKDSB from other boards, as well as from other provinces and countries. He noted that this is the first time since amalgamation that elementary enrolment experienced a slight increase. He advised that secondary enrolment is projected to continue to decline over the next ten years. The numbers indicate a slight increase in some years as a larger elementary class moves to secondary. In 2026, an estimated headcount of 6,990 is projected, a decline of 307 total students from the 2017 projection of 7,297. Secondary enrolment for the 2016/2017 year is currently reporting as 7,455 total students, 286 less students than were enrolled on October 31, 2015. By 2026, projections indicate that the overall LKDSB enrolment is expected to decline by approximately 1,504 students. Enrolments for JK-8 are projected to decrease by 1,197 students and enrolments for 9-12 are projected to decrease by 307 students.

Superintendent Girardi explained that in 2015/2016 the Ministry implemented an audit of school boards' On-the-Ground (OTG) Capacity data in the School Facilities Inventory System (SFIS) for 50 sites per year throughout the province to coincide with the next cycle of condition assessments between 2016 and 2020. In order to be compliant with the Ministry's audit process, Administration conducted an internal audit of all facilities to ensure SFIS data was updated. The minor differences with Ministry data and LKDSB information have been updated. These updates resulted in 336 more pupil spaces being available in our elementary schools, which is an increase of slightly over 1%. Updates in secondary resulted in a decrease of 138 pupil spaces, which is a 1% decrease in overall capacity. This secondary update does not include the reduction in pupil spaces due to the consolidation to the Great Lakes Secondary School. In response to Vice-Chair McKinlay's question about Hubs at elementary schools, Superintendent Girardi confirmed that if a school with a Hub were to close, Administration would work closely with the municipal partner to facilitate the relocation of the Hub to the consolidated school.

Superintendent McKay outlined the financial information. The LKDSB Annual Budget contains renewal funding which is comprised of: School Renewal Grant and School Condition Improvement Grant. The grants are used to fund capital needs of the Board's facilities in the following areas:

- Building Shell – walls, foundation and roof
- Building Site Work – parking lots, sidewalks and playground areas
- Building Systems – heating, plumbing and electrical
- Interior Spaces – classroom interiors and hallways

Superintendent McKay referenced the Facility Condition Index (FCI) data. He explained that capital renewal data and FCI is provided by the Ministry of Education through a Ministry hired consultant. The consultant assesses all schools in Ontario over a rolling five year period. The data is used by LKDSB in determining capital needs and in prioritizing capital budgeting. He noted that the FCI database is a dynamic database. He explained the 5 Year FCI data and the 10 Year FCI data contained in the Capital Report. Superintendent McKay explained that even with the additional School Condition and Renewal funding

provided by the Ministry, current annual funding is not sufficient to cover the current capital needs of the LKDSB and address the backlog of work needed in the schools. He advised that the total value of capital work done in 20 schools during the summer was approximately \$10,000,000. Work completed included Heating/HVAC replacement and upgrades, mechanical/electrical upgrades, roofing replacements, structural reinforcement, paving of parking lots and student tarmac areas, track and field renovations, lighting upgrades and retrofits and voltage harmonization. Funding for capital work can include other funding sources such as: Ministry Capital Priorities Grant (3 applications last year), Ministry Daycare Grant, Municipal Partner Funding and Community Funding. He noted the importance of partnerships from a capital improvement perspective.

Superintendent Girardi advised that the LKDSB would like to continue to have discussions with municipalities in regard to underutilized school space as it is important for the LKDSB to explore options to address these situations. He noted that the health and safety of students must be considered when reviewing any proposed use of a building by a perspective partner. He referenced the March 2015 Ministry Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline that states that *as a starting point, boards should review facilities that have been 60 percent utilized or less for two years and/or have 200 or more unused pupil places, and then should extend their review to other potentially suitable facilities.* He outlined the charts in the LKDSB Capital Plan that demonstrate the schools with lower capacities for possible partnerships. Superintendent Girardi commented on the responses and information received from the municipal partners and commented that the demographic assessments in Chatham-Kent and Lambton County are similar to Administration's predictions for births and for population projections. . He commented on his willingness to meet with all community partners.

Chair Bryce advised that Superintendent Girardi would be available at the conclusion of the Board Meeting to talk with the community members present.

#### Announcements

The Wyoming Area Naming Committee will be meeting on September 29, 2016 in Wyoming from 3:45 to 5:45 pm. Trustees Bryce and Hudie are serving on the Committee.

A Special Board Meeting will be held on October 4, 2016 at the Sarnia Education Centre at 6:00 p.m. The LKDSB Pupil Accommodation Report and Initial Staff Report(s) will be presented.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on October 11, 2016 at the Chatham Education Centre at 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.

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Chair of the Board

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Director of Education and Secretary of the Board