
PRESENT:	
Trustees:	Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Scott McKinlay, Randy Campbell, Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Elizabeth Hudie, Bob Murphy, Lareina Rising and Shannon Sasseville
Student Trustees	Ayla Jacobs and Keaton Jennings
Staff:	Director of Education Jim Costello, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay, Superintendents of Education Dave Doey and Gary Girardi
Regrets	Trustee Tom McGregor and Superintendents of Education Joy Badder, Taf Lounsbury, Mark Sherman and Phil Warner
Recording Secretary:	Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer
Call to Order:	Chair Bryce called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
#2016-150 Approval of the Agenda Oct/4/2016	<p>Chair Bryce explained that the order of operation for the Board Agenda is outlined in the LKDSB Procedural By-laws and requires reports for board action to appear on the agenda before reports for board information. She proposed that the October 4, 2016 Special Board Agenda be revised to have the Pupil Accommodation Report presented prior to the Initial Staff Reports.</p> <p>Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Bob Murphy,</p> <p>“That the Agenda for the Special Board Meeting of October 4, 2016 be approved as amended.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>
Declaration of Conflict of Interest:	No declarations of conflict of interest were issued.
Pupil Accommodation Report 2016/2017 Report B-16-114	<p>Director Costello explained that the Annual Pupil Accommodation Report is prepared in compliance with LKDSB Regulation R-AD-106. This year’s report is a multi-phase report with a series of proposals which are broad in scope and impact across the LKDSB. He advised that the two main contributing factors are enrolment and finance. He noted that Ministry funding is pupil-based and when student enrolment moves up or down, so does the funding. He confirmed that what is occurring at the LKDSB is a microcosm of what is happening across Ontario as communities attempt to come to terms with shrinking populations and shrinking tax bases. Director Costello explained that the issue facing the LKDSB is how to maintain the same level of program delivery and keep funding empty pupil spaces when the amount of money that is provided to do so is getting smaller. He noted that in April 2015 the Ministry of Education overhauled its formula for Grants for Student Needs significantly. He advised that the LKDSB has closed 14 elementary schools, 3 secondary schools and 1 Adult Education Centre since amalgamation in 1998. He commented on lessons learned through the process over the years. Director Costello noted that this is an opportunity to reshape the LKDSB for the future. The average age of an Ontario school is 38 years old; the LKDSB schools are significantly older. This is an opportunity to consolidate and rebuild to position the LKDSB schools for the next fifty years. Director Costello presented a chart that indicated a decline in overall enrolment of 16.1% over the past 10 years. Enrolment in the LKDSB has continued to decline since amalgamation in 1998. School total capacity for the LKDSB is 30,505 students. As of September 14, 2016 the enrolment is 22,016 students, which means the LKDSB is at 72% of capacity. This leaves 8,489 unfunded pupil spaces. Director Costello noted that this is roughly the equivalent of 8 of our largest high schools or almost 17 elementary schools of 500 students.</p>

Director Costello presented a chart showing the overall projected Board enrolment for the next ten years. It is projected that the elementary enrolment will continue to decline by another 1,197 students by 2026. The secondary enrolment is expected to decline by 307 students by 2026. This means there will be a projected and continued decline of 1,504 students by 2026. This represents another huge secondary school or three 500 student elementary schools. He noted that this September, the LKDSB did experience an unexpected increase in the elementary enrolment of 132 students above the projected enrolment. This increase is attributed to families relocating to the LKDSB from other school boards, as well as from other provinces and countries. This is the first time since amalgamation that elementary enrolment experienced a slight increase. This represents a 1% increase in elementary student population. He noted that the overall projections indicate a continued decline in elementary enrolment moving forward. In addition, secondary enrolment has declined by 286 students as compared to last year's Ministry October 31 count data. This means the LKDSB had an overall student decline of 154 as of September 14, 2016. He reminded Trustees that the Ministry changed the funding focus two years ago and made changes to the School Facility Operation and Renewal Grant–Top-Up Funding, Declining Enrolment Adjustment, Geographic Circumstances Grant and School Foundation Grant which negatively impacted the LKDSB funding. Director Costello stated that the LKDSB's current annual funding is not sufficient to cover its capital needs, given the number of schools that LKDSB operates. There is a capital backlog of approximately \$200,000,000. The School Renewal Grant and School Condition Improvement Grant are used to fund capital needs of the Board's facilities. This year's combined grants are approximately \$21M and it is not enough to cover the backlog.

Director Costello referred to the two accommodation reviews last year noting that there are six remaining proposed phases. The phases are visions of what the LKDSB needs to do in order to reduce costs and to become more efficient within the current funding structure. He outlined the phases and various associated options contained in the Pupil Accommodation Report. He noted the complexity of the Blenheim, Ridgetown, Tilbury and South Chatham Area phase and the plan to conduct an online community engagement study with the South Kent stakeholders in Spring 2017. It is believed that this would allow Administration to gather input and possible thoughts from stakeholders who live in South Kent. He commented on the complexity of the City of Sarnia elementary schools phase and Administration's plan to conduct an online community engagement study with these stakeholders later in 2017 to obtain input.

Trustees supported the creation of a chart that would combine the 5 and 10 Year FCI data and associated costs into one chart using the 5 year FCI ranking.

Director Costello and Superintendent Girardi commented on surrounding school boards' experiences with Kindergarten to Grade 12 schools. Arrangements were made for LKDSB staff and Trustees to visit Tecumseh Vista Secondary School last year to look at the site plans and school operations. They confirmed that another visit would be arranged for this year.

Director Costello explained that Administration looks at student program and student success when determining what phases to recommend to Trustees. They listen to principals, students and parents/guardians and look at the condition of schools and where efficiencies can be achieved.

Trustee Sasseville referred to the on line community engagement study expressing support for engaging people using many different methods. She questioned conducting it in advance of the ARC process. Director Costello commented on the positive experience other school boards have had using this process.

Administration feels that the reviews involving multiple schools are complex and this would be one method to obtain feedback from some people who are too intimidated to speak at public meetings. Administration hopes to obtain information on possible solutions. Vice-Chair McKinlay commented on the complexity of the Ridgetown scenario including the idea of putting the Grade 7 and 8 students back in the elementary school. He noted that program offering was an issue and supported proceeding in the area with a study.

In response to Trustee Murphy's question about incorporating various data into the decision making process, Director Costello spoke to the capabilities of Baragar Systems, the data software that the LKDSB uses for enrolment projects, birth rate, etc. It is a national company that has access to various data bases. It provides information on the percentage of the students in areas that enter into the LKDSB system. Baragar projects what the LKDSB percentages will be from the area. Superintendent Girardi commented that if one factor is changed, like travel time or program, the decision making of families may change and this is difficult to determine. This is one of the reasons Administration feels a study is necessary. Director Costello acknowledged that the coterminous school board is experiencing the same enrolment decline as the LKDSB and confirmed that the Ministry does recognize co-builds between school boards. .

Trustee Rising supported the plan to conduct the online community engagement studies.

Director Costello confirmed that the Ministry Top-Up Grant reductions were not a significant factor in determining the recommendations this time.

Chair Bryce thanked Administration for the thorough Pupil Accommodation Report.

Initial Staff Report for the Consolidation of John N. Given Public School Kindergarten to Grade 8 English Language Program at Tecumseh Public School and the Relocation of the John N. Given Public School Grade 7 and 8 French Immersion (FI) Program to McNaughton Avenue Public School Report B-16-112

Superintendent Girardi presented the Initial Staff Report for the Consolidation of John N. Given Public School Kindergarten to Grade 8 English Language Program at Tecumseh Public School and the Relocation of the John N. Given Public School Grade 7 and 8 French Immersion (FI) Program to McNaughton Avenue Public School. He explained that Administration tried to incorporate some of the suggestions received and lessons learned during the process last year into the report. He advised that if the Trustees approve to commence the accommodation review, Administration would arrange to have an independent assessment completed of each school involved in the review. Superintendent Girardi outlined the catchment area for the schools involved in the accommodation review proposal. He noted that the map did not include the French Immersion catchment area for the City of Chatham. He presented the operating costs for John N. Given, Tecumseh and McNaughton Avenue Public Schools. The operating costs include utilities, maintenance and repair, custodial, annual maintenance plan and administration staffing costs. Administration staffing costs include principal, vice principal and secretarial salaries. He explained that the savings from the consolidation would be the John N. Given Public School operating costs. He advised that John N. Given Public School is less than 1 km from Tecumseh Public School. Both school populations can be accommodated at the Tecumseh Public School site. French Immersion students attend McNaughton Avenue Public School for Kindergarten to Grade 6. The Grade 7 and 8 FI classes at John N. Given Public School could be located at McNaughton Avenue Public School. This would eliminate future transitions for the FI students and would consolidate FI supports at the McNaughton Avenue Public School site. This would make McNaughton Avenue Public School the only site for FI program delivery in the City of Chatham. If consolidated, the increased total enrolment at McNaughton Avenue Public School may create the need for portable classrooms over the short term. Superintendent Girardi outlined the overall proposed schedule noting that the dates could change.

- Pupil Accommodation Review begins October 2016
- Decision for Consolidation April 2017
- Updates to Tecumseh Public School Summer 2017
- John N. Given closed June 2017
- Consolidated School at Tecumseh Public Site begins September 2017
- Grade 7 and 8 FI classes at McNaughton Avenue Public School September 2017

He referenced the potential meeting date timelines included in the Initial Staff Report.

Superintendent Girardi explained that the consolidation of the English Language Program from John N. Given Public School and Tecumseh Public School would increase the population of the school so that the LKDSB can maximize efficiencies for the school. The LKDSB could also use capital funds to support and update one school site, as opposed to two. Locating the Grades 7 and 8 FI classes at McNaughton Avenue Public School would assist in the delivery of program for FI. This will mean that the supports in place for all FI students in Chatham would be located at one elementary school. It would also mean that there will be one less transition for FI students in Chatham. From a transportation point of view, it is projected that there would be no additional costs, or savings, related to this consolidation. He advised that if funding from the Ministry is not available for the consolidation, LKDSB Senior Administration would still recommend proceeding with the Initial Staff Report Recommendation.

#2016-151

Approved - Accommodation Review Committee for the Consolidation of the John N. Given Public School Kindergarten to Grade 8 English Language Program at Tecumseh Public School and the Relocation of the John N. Given Public School Grade 7 and 8 French Immersion Program to McNaughton Avenue Public School.

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Elizabeth Hudie,

“That the Board approve the establishment of an Accommodation Review Committee for the Consolidation of the John N. Given Public School Kindergarten to Grade 8 English Language Program at Tecumseh Public School and the Relocation of the John N. Given Public School Grade 7 and 8 French Immersion Program to McNaughton Avenue Public School.”

Superintendent McKay confirmed that the operating costs for John N. Given Public School is approximately \$332,000. If the school were to close, the actual savings to the LKDSB would be about \$160,000 because the LKDSB would lose the funding for the principal and secretary. Funding for the custodian is provided through a different grant. The dollars that the LKDSB could reallocate to other areas is approximately \$160,000.

Superintendent Girardi explained that the grant application to the Ministry would be for items at the school that need to be updated and to address some of the suggestions from the community.

Superintendent McKay confirmed that the FCI is lower at John N. Given Public School and explained that Administration is looking at availability of space. He stated that Tecumseh Public School is a former secondary school building with more room. John N. Given Public School could not accommodate the students from Tecumseh Public School.

CARRIED.

Initial Staff Report for the Consolidation of Aberarder Central School, Bosanquet Central School, Kinnwood Central School and North Lambton Secondary School into a Kindergarten to Grade 12

Superintendent Girardi presented the Initial Staff Report for the consolidation of Aberarder Central School, Bosanquet Central School, Kinnwood Central School and North Lambton Secondary School into a Kindergarten to Grade 12 School at the Kinnwood Central School site. He explained that an independent assessment of each school would be completed during the Accommodation Review. He reviewed the current catchment area for the schools and the combined catchment area for the proposed consolidation. He referred to the operating costs for the schools. The operating costs include utilities,

School at the Kinnwood
Central School site
Report B-16-113

maintenance and repair, custodial, annual maintenance plan and administration staffing costs. Administration staffing costs include principal, vice principal and secretarial salaries. Superintendent Girardi outlined the accommodation of the students at the Kindergarten to Grade 12 school.

Superintendent Girardi outlined the overall proposed schedule noting that the dates could change.

- Pupil Accommodation Review - October 2016
- Decision for Consolidation - March 2017
- Submission to Ministry of Education - March 2017
- Response from Ministry of Education - June 2017
- Commencement of Construction at Kinnwood Central Site - July 2017
- Completion of Construction - August 2019
- Students enter new Kindergarten to Grade 12 site - September 2019

He referenced the proposed meeting timeline included in the Initial Staff Report. Superintendent Girardi commented on the plan to work with an architectural firm to develop site drawings for review at a Working Meeting. The goal is to consolidate the students while still maintaining an individual identity in the Kindergarten to Grade 6 portion of the school. He commented on the many projected benefits from the consolidation of these schools which include opportunities for program enhancements and access to technical areas of the school and opportunities for senior students to take on leadership roles in the elementary grades.

Superintendent Girardi commented on the two transportation scenarios researched by the staff in the Transportation Department. Option I is expected to have an estimated cost increase of \$87,000. All elementary and secondary students would have the same start time. Option II is expected to have an estimated cost increase of \$96,000. Kindergarten to Grade 8 students would have a different start time than the Grade 9 to 12 students.

The LKDSB will apply to the Ministry of Education for funds to construct a Grade 7 to 12 addition on the Kinnwood Central School site to complete the consolidation of Aberarder Central School, Bosanquet Central School, Kinnwood Central School, and North Lambton Secondary School. Superintendent Girardi explained that if funding from the Ministry is not available to build a Grade 7 to 12 addition, Senior Administration would recommend closure of Aberarder Central School and the consolidation of these students at the Kinnwood Central School site. The LKDSB would use its own capital dollars, with Ministry approval as required, to complete the necessary work to accommodate the consolidation of Aberarder Central School and Kinnwood Central School at the Kinnwood Central School site.

#2016-152

Approved - Accommodation
Review Committee for the
Consolidation of Aberarder
Central School, Bosanquet
Central School, Kinnwood
Central School and North
Lambton Secondary School
into a Kindergarten to Grade
12 School at the Kinnwood
Central School site

Moved by Dave Douglas, seconded by Shannon Sasseville,

“That the Board approve the establishment of an Accommodation Review Committee for the Consolidation of Aberarder Central School, Bosanquet Central School, Kinnwood Central School and North Lambton Secondary School into a Kindergarten to Grade 12 School at the Kinnwood Central School site.”

Director Costello confirmed that the cost of a Kindergarten to Grade 12 School varies depending on the size. According to the Ministry, a rebuild of North Lambton Secondary School would cost \$20M. Superintendent Girardi and Director Costello spoke to the proposed design and administrative complement for the proposed Kindergarten to Grade 12 School. School designs are being developed with a central office space and two separate entrances for the younger students

and older students. Community input will be obtained throughout the process. It is expected that the school will have two administrators.

CARRIED.

Chair Bryce thanked the Administrative Team for compiling the detailed reports.

Adjournment
7:30 p.m.

There being no further business, Chair Bryce declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board