

PRESENT:

- Trustees: Chair Elizabeth Hudie, Vice-Chair Scott McKinlay, Jane Bryce, Randy Campbell, Ruth Ann Dodman, Jack Fletcher, Tom McGregor, Bob Murphy, Lareina Rising, Shannon Sasseville
- Student Trustees Autumn Bressette, Lexi Graham and Rihana Kukkadi
- Staff: Director of Education Jim Costello, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay, Superintendents of Education, Angie Barrese, Gary Girardi, Ben Hazzard, Helen Lane, Mark Sherman and Phil Warner and Heather Hughes, Public Relations Officer
- Regrets: Trustee Dave Douglas
- Recording Secretary: Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer
- Call to Order: Chair Hudie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chair Hudie read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.
- #2018-139
Approval of the Agenda
Oct/9/2018 Moved by Jane Bryce, seconded by Shannon Sasseville,
"That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting Public Session of
October 9, 2018 be approved."
CARRIED.
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None
- #2018-140
Approval of Minutes
Sept/25/2018 Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,
"That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of
September 25, 2018."
CARRIED.
- Business Arising: None
- #2018-141
Action of the Regular
Board Private Session be
the Action of the Board Moved by Scott McKinlay, seconded by Jane Bryce,
"That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the
Board."
CARRIED.
- Presentation: Superintendent McKay advised that Administration has been looking at the re-visioning of secondary schools to meet the needs of the students and staff in the future. He stated that Dan Amicone from Architectura was invited to the Board Meeting to present the vision for Chatham-Kent Secondary School (CKSS). Dan Amicone presented design concepts to bring the school up to current standards. He explained the Ministry's design guidelines for different classrooms and shared the square feet needed to bring the CKSS classrooms up to Ministry standard. Dan Amicone outlined the approximately \$18 million re-envisioned design for CKSS to modernize the learning spaces, as well as increase opportunities for collaboration and engagement. The re-envisioning exercise includes a five-year, phase-in construction process that will include a new cafeteria; learning commons; theatre; fitness room; outdoor courtyard for special needs students; and renovated classrooms and staff areas. Improvements also include a refreshed facade to modernize and improve natural lighting; installation of mechanical upgrades, as well as a transformation of the busing and parking areas to improve traffic flow. Superintendent McKay
- Re-visioning of Chatham-Kent Secondary School

confirmed that the estimated cost includes mechanical upgrades. Director Costello confirmed that the LKDSB would use the Capital Improvement Funding it receives annually from the Ministry to complete the project over the five years. Superintendent McKay confirmed that the memorials at CKSS would be maintained as they are a fabric of the school.

Superintendent McKay explained that the Capital Improvement Funding cannot be used for the construction of a gymnasium, like the one the Board approved for King George VI Public School in Chatham. The gymnasium falls under the application-based funding and is still at the top of the LKDSB list. Administration is waiting to hear from the Ministry on how to proceed.

Dan Amicone reviewed the proposed bus drop off route and clarified that buses would not be backing out of the site.

He confirmed that air conditioning of the school was part of the upgrades to the mechanical system.

Trustee Murphy referred to the gaps between the Ministry classroom standards and the rooms at CKSS and the fact that other secondary schools are closing cafeterias because students are not using them. In response to his question about consulting with students and the Parent Council about the needs at the school, Superintendent McKay advised that Administration would be engaging with the principal, staff, students and parent/guardians as a next step. Administration wanted to inform Trustees first before moving to the engagement stage. Regarding the need for a larger cafeteria, he advised that Administration looks at trends, the impact of investment as well as the program needs at the school. They would involve Chartwells, the cafeteria service provider, and review the history at the school. Administration does not want to design something that will not be required.

In response to Trustee Murphy's question if the data shows that investment in physical space delivers on Student Achievement and Community Success, Director Costello referenced Stanford University research that demonstrates that design of classrooms influences student achievement. The goal is to move towards modernizing LKDSB school facilities. Enrolment at CKSS is the highest in the LKDSB system and is maintained. The plan is to refresh and modernize the facilities to improve student achievement and make the classrooms collaborative. There is some data that supports it improves student achievement. He acknowledged that ultimately it comes down to a great teacher. Superintendent Sherman shared the research gathered through visiting schools that demonstrated improvement. Access to teachers is increased in the collaborative spaces and students are more engaged. Director Costello offered to arrange for a tour of the Classroom of Future at WDSS which is an open collaborative design.

Trustee Rising commented on overall expenditures and planning with respect to providing some schools with basic comfort like cooler or warmer classrooms. In response to her question about how the needs of the other schools would be met, Superintendent McKay advised that they try to balance the needs of schools and increase air conditioning in schools. He advised that even if the LKDSB spent all the capital dollars on air conditioning every year, it would not be able to afford it for every school. He confirmed that Administration would be bringing many other projects to the Board for approval next year including air conditioning in other schools. He noted that the CKSS plan is a five-year plan that would start in the spring of 2019. Director Costello commented that no school board can afford to provide air conditioning in all schools. He noted that

air conditioning in schools is needed for limited days throughout the school year, usually during May June, September and some days in October.

Vice-Chair McKinlay questioned the need for a large cafeteria and new kitchen. He commented that if a new school were built in South Kent, half the students from John McGregor Secondary School would attend CKSS making it a school of 1600. He questioned if the plans would accommodate all the students if that happened. Director Costello stated that approximately 286 students attend CKSS from out of area. If at some point the school was full, Administration could declare it closed to out of boundary students. He commented that the vision for South Kent is to build a school that would hold 1200 students to balance the county. Superintendent Girardi commented on Administration's efforts to predict potential student movement and noted the importance of involving the community as was done in North Lambton.

Student Trustee Graham supported the plan noting that the theatre was a great aspect and that she finds the open learning space areas more calming and engaging. Director Costello commented on the design of the Classroom of the Future at Wallaceburg District Secondary School (WDSS). He noted the growth of the dance program at CKSS and the need to offer courses and modernize schools to be competitive.

Questions from the Public

None

LKDSB Regulations on
Special Education
Advisory Committee
Terms of Reference
Report B-18-104

Director Costello advised that According to LKDSB Regulations on *LKDSB Board Committees*, all LKDSB Board Committees must have a regulation defining the terms of reference for the committee if the terms of reference are not prescribed in legislation, collective agreements or other LKDSB regulations. Accordingly, the LKDSB Administrative Procedure *Special Education Advisory Committee Members – Appointment* of, has been updated and converted into a LKDSB Regulation. He explained that according to Ontario Regulation 462/97 and the LKDSB Procedural By-laws, the Board's First Nation Partners, through the Indigenous Liaison Committee, appoint the First Nation Trustee and Alternate to serve on the Lambton Kent District School Board for a four-year term consistent with the term of the elected Trustees. He stated that it is proposed that the method of selecting a First Nation SEAC Member and Alternate to serve on SEAC follow a similar process. This is outlined in 4. c) of the regulation - *A letter will be sent to the Indigenous Liaison Committee inviting them to select one representative and one alternate to serve on SEAC on behalf of the four First Nations.* He confirmed that the members of the LKDSB Special Education Advisory Committee have reviewed the regulation and support it. Superintendent Barrese stated that it has been the practice to send a letter to the Indigenous Liaison Committee (ILC) for the selection of a SEAC member and alternate. She noted that advertising for SEAC members would no longer be done through print but via social media and the LKDSB website. Letters will also be sent to current member organizations.

#2018 –142
SEAC Terms of Reference
Regulation Approved

Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Jane Bryce,

“That the Board approve the new regulation on *Special Education Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.*”

Trustee Rising clarified that it is the Four First Nation Partners who choose the member and alternate to serve on SEAC. They may share the information with the members of the Indigenous Liaison Committee members.

It was agreed that item 4. c) of the regulation would be revised to read
A letter will be sent to the Four First Nation Partners inviting them to select one representative and one alternate to serve on SEAC on behalf of the Four First Nations.

Trustee Rising shared that the Four First Nation Education Association is developing terms of reference as well.

CARRIED.

LKDSB Regulations on
*Salary Continuation -
Reassignment*
Report B-18-105

Director Costello stated that the Board rescinded the LKDSB regulations on Terms and Conditions of Employment for the Principals and Vice-Principals and the LKDSB regulations on Conditions of Employment for Non-Union Employees (Excluding Principals, Vice-Principals, Director, Superintendents and Managers because the documents no longer reflected the working conditions under the control of school boards. Salary and benefits are determined/bargained centrally by the province. He explained that Administration is recommending that the corresponding regulation on *Salary Continuation* be rescinded as well because the content of the regulation is considered working conditions and are deemed operational and fall under the authority of the Administration subject to budget limitations and relevant employment law. Superintendent Warner confirmed that this topic is included in the Terms and Conditions document previously approved by the Board and posted online.

#2018-143
Regulations on *Salary
Continuation
Reassignment* Rescinded

Moved by Tom McGregor, seconded by Lareina Rising,
"That the Board rescind the regulation on *Salary Continuation –
Reassignment.*"

CARRIED.

#2018-144
LKDSB Policy and
Regulations on *Advocacy
Expenditures*
Report B-18-106

Director Costello stated that back in December 2006, the Ministry of Education released new School Board Expenditure Guidelines that required school boards to establish new policies or revise existing policies to be consistent with the Ministry's Guidelines. As required, the LKDSB developed policies and regulations to address board expenditures in the following areas: 1) use of corporate credit cards, 2) travel, meals and hospitality, 3) advertising and 4) advocacy. The policy and regulations on *Advocacy Expenditures* have been reviewed as part of the LKDSB cyclical review.

Moved by Jane Bryce, seconded by Bob Murphy,

"That the Board approve the review of the policy and revised regulations on *Advocacy Expenditures.*"

Director Costello confirmed that OPSBA committees are not considered special interest groups and are not covered by number 5 of the regulation.

CARRIED.

#2018-145
LKDSB Policy and
Regulation on *Safe Arrival*
Report B-18-107

Director Costello stated that the policy and regulations on *Safe Arrival* have been reviewed as part of the cyclical review. The policy statement has been revised to reflect the Board's philosophy in a concise manner. The daily practices followed by school staff were shared.

Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Randy Campbell,

"That the Board approve the revised policy and review of the regulations on *Safe Arrival.*"

CARRIED.

- #2018-146
LKDSB Policy and Regulations on *Naming and Renaming of Board Facilities*
Report B-18-108
- Director Costello advised that the policy and regulations on *Naming and Renaming Board Facilities* have been reviewed as part of the cyclical review. The regulation has been revised to reflect current practices and allow flexibility on the number of members on an ad hoc committee.
- Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Scott McKinlay,
“That the Board approve the review of the policy and the revised regulations on *Naming and Renaming of School Board Facilities*.”
- Superintendent Girardi confirmed that a school council member is not applicable for the Ad Hoc Renaming Committee for the former John N. Given Public School as it is now a Learning Centre.
- CARRIED.
- Special Education Advisory Committee Report
Report B-18-109
- Trustee Fletcher reported on the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on September 21, 2018 at Wallaceburg District Secondary School. The 2018/2019 Special Education Staffing information was shared with the members. SEAC heard presentations from the LKDSB Mental Health Leader, Katie Colameco, on the plans to support LKDSB students requiring mental health supports and the members of the Assistive Technology Team on Google’s Read & Write and the Snapverter program. He stated that SEAC members discussed potential presentation topics for the 2018/2019 school year. Trustee Fletcher advised that 14 topics were selected for presentations and commented on some of the topics. Chair Hudie and Trustee Fletcher commented on the informative SEAC Meetings.
- Indigenous Liaison Committee Report
Report B-18-110
- Trustee Rising reported on the September 27, 2018 Indigenous Liaison Committee (ILC) Meeting held at the Naahii Ridge Public School. She noted the reports from the First Nation Communities. She commented on the efforts to reach Education Services Agreements and noted that the parties are wanting the documents to progress quickly through the process. She referenced discussions on the potential Memorandum of Understanding to be developed between the Four First Nation Partners and the LKDSB regarding Truth and Reconciliation. They are looking to have more conversations about it. Trustee Rising mentioned the reports from school administrators on the positive things going on in the schools. She commented on the willingness of ILC members to engage in uncomfortable conversations with school administrators on where everyone can affect change and progress past things like bias. She explained that they would like a more strategic focus.
- Pupil Accommodation Report 2018/2019
Report B-18-111
- Director Costello advised that the LKDSB Pupil Accommodation Report 2018/2019 is presented to the Board in compliance with LKDSB Regulation No: R-AD-106. He explained that on April 27, 2018, the Ministry of Education released a revised Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG). He outlined the revisions made to the PARG which were incorporated into the LKDSB regulations on *Pupil Accommodation* in May 2018. At the time, school boards were still waiting for the release of templates for the Initial Staff Report and the economic impact assessment. He advised that in June 2018, the moratorium on school closures was re-introduced by the Ministry of Education and school boards were advised that the provincial government would be reviewing the school closure process. A date for the release of the revised process has not been set.
- He stated that the data presented in the report indicates the LKDSB continues

to face two ongoing challenges: demographics/declining enrolment and financial challenges (including maintaining aging facilities). Superintendent Girardi shared that Statistics Canada predicts that the birth rate in Ontario will increase from 2017 to 2027. However, Lambton and Chatham-Kent birth rates and the projected student population is expected to decrease due to a decline in birth rate in the LKDSB area in comparison to the province. This Statistics Canada data is supported by the Board's demographic software and is also reflected in the demographic information supplied to the Board by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and County of Lambton prior to the presentation of the LKDSB Capital Plan in June 2018. He shared a copy of the infographic created for the Pupil Accommodation Report 2018/2019. He advised that for the 2017/2018 school year, there was a 12.9% decline in overall student population compared to enrolment ten years earlier in the 2008/2009 school year. Enrolment in the LKDSB has declined 27.9% since amalgamation in 1998. In the 2017/2018 school year, elementary enrolment remained stable, with a slight increase of 25 students over the previous school year. Secondary enrolment declined, with a decrease of 149 students over the previous school year. As of September 20, 2018, the LKDSB's total enrolment has increased slightly from the September 28, 2017 enrolment. As of September 20, 2018, there are 14,640 elementary aged students and 7,339 total secondary students. Although the 2018/19 utilization rate of 72.96% is an improvement, the LKDSB still has 8,144 empty pupil spaces. It is to be noted that the current utilization rate takes into consideration the removal of pupil spaces from John N. Given and South Plympton Public School locations. Superintendent Girardi referred to the Facility Condition Index (FCI) data included in the report. He commented on the Proposed Pupil Accommodation Review scenarios included in the report. Changes have not been made to the scenarios because Administration is waiting for direction from the Ministry regarding new/revised pupil accommodation guidelines. Once information is received from the Ministry, Administration will revisit the scenarios. He advised that the School Site Summaries are included in the report again this year.

Vice-Chair McKinlay commented that the enrolment figure of 377 students at Tilbury District High School (TDHS) is not reflective of the situation at the school. Superintendent Girardi confirmed that approximately half of the 377 students are enrolled in the ACCESS program at TDHS. ACCESS is an alternative program reflective of the Ministry requirements. The students are considered full time students but attend at different times. Director Costello advised that the alternative program enrolment is not broken out in the report but confirmed that as we move forward, the data will indicate that the 377 students may not be in attendance every day.

Concerning the phase involving Blenheim, Ridgetown Tilbury and South Chatham Area, Trustee Campbell commented that he was concerned about the impact on the four communities mentioned in scenario 2 if all four communities were to lose their high school. He commented that the data from Thoughtexchange verifies this. He asked if scenario three, which is not listed, would be status quo. Superintendent Girardi confirmed that the Liberal government included status quo as an option. These scenarios were developed prior to the change to include status quo as an option. He stated that Administration has not changed anything since the government issued the moratorium. Director Costello confirmed that Administration is waiting for direction from the Ministry prior to making any changes to the proposed

scenarios. Superintendent Girardi confirmed that there were a significant number of participants and thoughts shared through the Thoughtexchange community engagement survey. The data shows evidence of differences in opinion on what to do for the area. Administration will consider the information obtained through the survey as the process proceeds.

In response to Trustee Bryce's question, Director Costello confirmed that the moratorium on school closures has been extended by the Government and school boards may not move forward with new reviews. Projects previously approved by the Ministry could proceed. The new government indicated that they were going to review guidelines again. Superintendent Girardi commented that Administration originally published the 8 proposed phases to be transparent to the public. The LKDSB still has significant empty pupil places to be addressed. Administration is waiting for direction from the Ministry on how to proceed. Chair Hudie shared information on the Provincial Consultation on Education Reform that was sent to Chairs of school boards. She shared the topics included in the review noting that pupil accommodation was not listed. Individuals can learn more information on how to participate by visiting fortheparents@on.ca.

In response to Trustee Bryce's question about protecting programs during the province's budget tightening, Superintendent Girardi indicated that, at the end of phase 4 implementation, the LKDSB will have reduced 2,300 pupil spaces which will have an impact on the budget.

Trustee Questions

Trustee Murphy advised that he had attended a Parent Council Meeting at WDSS and commented on the confusion over the Broader Public Sector (BPS) guidelines applying to all school funds. In response to his question about how to revisit the issue to provide better clarify, Director Costello advised that Administration does address this topic with principals on a regular basis and they are encouraged to reach out to Superintendent McKay. Superintendent McKay advised that the LKDSB has had an Internal Audit completed on purchasing and adherence to BPS. Superintendent McKay commented that the difficulty occurs around when funds raised become school funds and when funds do not. He advised that as soon as the funds are in the school bank account, they are subject to BPS because the funds are now under the care and control of the school. Superintendent McKay stated that he has had discussions with parent groups to clarify. If School Councils raise money and purchase t-shirts without forwarding the money to the school, then BPS does not apply. Some School Councils are not comfortable with this process and he cautioned that controls and a tracking process still need to be in place with direct purchase. It is usually a bigger issue in secondary schools because there are more groups raising more money. He referenced the new School Cash on Line program that is now in schools.

Trustee Sasseville shared a concern she and Trustee Dodman received from parents/guardians of students at Tecumseh Public School. They advised the Trustees that during the consolidation process, they were promised that the second floor of the school would be air conditioned for September 2018. They also expressed concern that the asphalt space had not increased in size. Superintendent McKay explained that the air conditioning of the second floor was part of the third and final stage to be completed during the summer of 2019. He advised that because of the design of the school, the second floor could not be air conditioned without doing the middle of the school. Administration is

planning to have the second floor air conditioned in the Summer of 2019. Regarding the asphalt, he advised that they installed a new basketball court and left the tree naturalized area next to the asphalt. To expand the asphalt in this area would have required the trees to be removed which would have caused the asphalt area to be too hot. The long jump pits in the area were left in place as well so not to impact the soccer fields. The intent was to balance the area. In response to Trustee McKinlay's question, Superintendent Girardi confirmed that the plan was to air condition the second floor as part of the overall construction project. No guarantee was given on timelines. Superintendent McKay confirmed that the plan was for the work to be done over two summers because all the work could not be completed in one summer. Trustee Sasseville noted that the issue was raised at many of the community meetings and suggested that Administration needed a mitigation strategy for the school to manage the heat noting that it was a credibility issue for Trustees and LKDSB. Trustee Dodman stated that the area is hot during warm weather and cold during winter months. She spoke to the measures teachers take to keep the students warm in the winter and cool in the summer. She commented that she feels the students are learning and the teachers are focused on the wellbeing of the students. Director Costello agreed that the issue of accountability did not rest with the Trustees. It is up to Administration to implement the decisions of the Board. He suggested that he meet with the School Council Chair along with Superintendents McKay and Girardi to address the concerns. Superintendent Girardi referenced a statement in the Record of Action from the December 1, 2016 Chatham Area Pupil Accommodation Review Meeting that indicated that the project would take a couple of years to complete.

In response to Trustee Murphy's question about the readiness of the LKDSB for the legalization of cannabis, Superintendent Girardi advised that he has had ongoing discussions with local health units to develop a plan to educate staff, students and the communities. At the October 17, 2018 Principals' Council, LKDSB lawyers will be making a presentation on how the legalization will impact LKDSB schools. Health unit representatives are developing materials to post on the LKDSB website and they will be presenting to the members of the LKDSB Multi-Disciplinary Team. The Lambton Health Unit is hosting a forum on November 20, 2018 for staff to attend. Representatives from the Health Units will also be visiting secondary schools. Superintendent Girardi will continue to meet with local police and the Youth Bureau representatives. Director Costello advised that Administration will be bringing a revised LKDSB policy and regulation on *Alcohol and Drugs* to the Trustees for approval.

In response to Trustee Murphy's question about the LKDSB having a policy or guideline for staff regarding conducting research with students, Director Costello confirmed that guidelines were not in place. He referred to the surveys done by the local public health units and the Ministry and confirmed that Administration would investigate the need to develop guidelines and the impact on students.

Trustee Murphy commented on the assessment and evaluation guidelines and alternative accommodation requests. In response to Trustee Murphy's question about the possibility of the Board expanding options for students and parents/guardians to request alternative assessment accommodates, Director Costello explained that the LKDSB assessment and evaluation guidelines were built around the Ministry's Growing Success document. It is prescriptive to a point, but school boards can develop additional rules. He commented that the

policy should change and grown with the times. He confirmed that the Superintendents would review the documents and parental input would be considered. He noted that student welfare should come first. It was suggested that the criteria for exempting students from exams be reviewed as well and perhaps be more consistent throughout the system.

#2018-147
Board Meeting Extend
past 10:00 p.m.

Moved by Jane Bryce, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,

“That the Board extend the Board Meeting past 10:00 p.m. until the Agenda is completed.”

CARRIED

Notice of Motion

Trustee Campbell served Notice of Motion:

“That Scenario 2, of the 2018/2019 Blenheim, Ridgeway Tilbury and South Chatham-Kent area, which includes closing and relocating the Ridgeway, Blenheim, Tilbury High Schools and John McGregor Secondary School, and to construct a Grade 9 to 12 consolidated Secondary School at a site to be determine, not be considered as a Proposed Pupil Accommodation Review option.”

Announcements

The October 23, 2018 Regular Board Meeting was cancelled.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m. at the Chatham Education Centre.

Adjournment
10:01 p.m.

There being no further business, Chair Hudie declared the meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board