

PRESENT:

- Trustees:** Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Randy Campbell, Janet Barnes, Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Brittany Jenkins, Scott McKinlay, Lareina Rising and Derek Robertson
- Staff:** Director of Education John Howitt, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay
Superintendents of Education Angie Barrese, Gary Girardi, Ben Hazzard, Helen Lane, Mary Mancini and Mark Sherman and Public Relations Officer Heather Hughes
- Student Trustees:** Aurora Bressette, Simon Harris and Byren Newcombe
- Regrets:** Trustee Greg Agar
- 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 explained that the Board Meeting was being held via teleconference which was allowed because the Ministry of Education and the Government of Ontario introduced new legislation allowing for Board Meetings to occur electronically. Regulation 463/97 was amended by Regulation 42/20 and removes the requirement for any persons to be physically present at electronic meetings if all schools have been closed by the Minister, the Medical Officer of Health or Cabinet.
Chair Bryce explained the voting process for the electronic meeting.
Chair Bryce read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.
- #2020-67**
Approval of the Agenda Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,
"That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of May 12, 2020 be approved."
CARRIED.
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest** None
- #2020-68**
Approval of the Minutes Apr/28/2020 Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Brittany Jenkins,
"That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 28, 2020."
CARRIED.
- Business Arising** None
- #2020-69**
Action of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded by Janet Barnes,
"That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the Board."
CARRIED.
- Presentations:** None
- Delegations:** None
- Questions from the Public** Chair Bryce advised that members of the public may submit questions they wish to have asked at the Board Meeting by noon on the day of the meeting via email to trish.johnston@lkdsb.net. The Chair or a member of Senior Administration will answer the question at the Board Meeting if the information is immediately available or a written reply will be sent following the meeting.
- #2020-70** Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Brittany Jenkins,

Development of the LKDSB
Strategic Plan 2020/2021 to
2025/2026
Report B-20-42

“That the Board reaffirm the LKDSB Vision and Mission Statements and approve the LKDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2020/2021 to 2025/2026.”

Trustee McKinlay joined the meeting.

Director Howitt advised that the Trustees and members of Senior Administration engaged in a Strategic Planning session on March 6, 2020 to continue the process of developing a new Strategic Plan to guide the Board over the next five years. He stated that the draft LKDSB Strategic Priorities 2020/2021 to 2025/2026 were presented to the Board at the April 28, 2020 Board Meeting for review and discussion and they are presented now for approval. He noted that they had talked about a five year strategic plan. The recommendation covers six years. During the sixth year, Trustees will review and establish new priorities.

The LKDSB Vision and Mission were reviewed by the Trustees.

Vision Statement - Our Students - Shaping Our World

Mission Statement - Fostering Success for Every Student Every Day

Strategic Priorities 2020/2021 to 2025/2026

- Student Achievement & Well-Being
 - Advance high standards for innovative and responsive learning
- Inclusive Diversity
 - Champion anti-oppressive education
- Sustainable Stewardship
 - Optimize human, financial and physical resources
- Trusting Relationships
 - Strengthen relationships based on respectful collaboration

Director Howitt confirmed that Administration is working on a graphic representation to use in publications, etc.

Director Howitt confirmed that by approving the recommendation, Trustees would be approving the Strategic Priorities. He explained that significant consultation occurred during the development of the Director’s Entry Plan which was shared with Trustees. It included input from all LKDSB stakeholders across the district. The intent of the consultation now is to obtain input from the LKDSB community about implementation of the Strategic Priorities and the operationalization of them. A Thoughtexchange survey will be conducted to assist with determining the key things we need to focus on and gather information on how to operationalize the Strategic Priorities. The Operational Plan would be presented to the Board along with regular updates. Director Howitt advised that he would be bringing an updated Operational Plan annually in the fall with the direction for the new school year and a report on achievement of the plan from the past school year.

CARRIED.

Director Howitt confirmed that once the Strategic Priorities are approved by the Board, the members of Senior Administration will develop an Operational Plan containing goals aligned with the Strategic Priorities. The Operational Plan will link work done throughout the LKDSB to the Strategic Priorities and will be reported on annually.

Special Education
Advisory Committee
(SEAC)
Report B-20-43

Trustee Barnes reported on the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held via teleconference on April 30, 2020. Superintendent Barrese, the System Coordinator of Special Education and the System Coordinator of the Multidisciplinary Team provided an overview of some of the measures put in place to move to virtual learning for all students, due to school closures caused by COVID-19, and highlighted some of the extraordinary work the Special Education Coordinators and their various Teams are undertaking to ensure students with special education needs are supported. This work has included delivering devices and SEA equipment and specialized program materials, where necessary. She noted that staff have been flexible and amazing.

LKDSB Staff Supported
Student Learning during
COVID-19 School
Closures
Report B-20-44

Director Howitt updated Trustees on the ways the LKDSB staff are working to facilitate staff supported learning for students remotely on every level. They are putting in significant hours to support students.

Communications

- Analyzed the results of the Thoughtexchange Survey that had staff provide feedback on what they thought were the key learnings or best practices after three weeks of teacher lead, staff supported student learning. Feedback was shared with staff.
- Launched a Thoughtexchange Survey to obtain feedback from families, 85% of which reported that levels of communication from the LKDSB are just right. About 1,050 individuals participated. The results are posted on the LKDSB website. The survey provided some outstanding insights for Administration which will inform decision making and planning going forward. Struggling students are being supported. Parents/guardians can reach to principals by calling the schools and leaving voicemails. The voicemail goes to the principal's cell phone.
- The Staff Weekly Newsletter has been well received.
- Electronically celebrated Education Week and Mental Health Week May 4 to 8.
- Continued to use the LKDSB website, school websites, School Messenger, Twitter and email to share important information in a timely manner.
- All of the communications can be found at <https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/Community/PublicHealth/Pages/default.aspx#/=>
- The LKDSB Emergency Response Committee continues to meet.
- An Equitable and Inclusive Education Discussion Group was formed to examine the intersections between systemic inequalities and education, as well as support capacity building and strategic planning to support equitable and inclusive learning and work environments for all. The discussions are guided by the LKDSB's belief statements, particularly that: "a safe and caring learning environment is strengthened by embracing diversity, and respecting self, others and the world around us; and "Student success is achieved through shared responsibility of students, staff, families, community and First Nation partners." Superintendent Lane and Public Relations Officer Hughes are providing leadership on the committee. Last week 68

staff from all employee groups participated in the challenging discussions. The group is brainstorming how to fill the gaps for students.

Elementary Education

- Approximately 1,000 booklets were distributed in the latest mail out to students without access to online learning.
- Elementary Continuity of Learning Committee continues to meet.
- Elementary Office Hours continue to be well attended by teachers and Early Childhood Educators.
- Short teacher tip videos are being posted on social media platforms to provide ideas for educators that they can use with their students.
- Elementary principals meet twice each week to share ideas that are working well, and learn from other LKDSB staff like Information Technology, Special Education and Program.
- Working with our First Nation Partners to support students in various ways.

Secondary Education

- Teachers, Program staff, Administration and an Arabic translator engaged in online learning with English Language Learning (ELL) students to help them navigate learn at home.
- Safety Hub program was purchased. It is a warehouse of videos on technology and skilled trades topics (fire awareness, hazardous substances, power tool safety, confined spaces, etc.) that teachers can embed into their lesson material. This will help Technology and Co-Op teachers to provide informative content.
- Working with First Nation Partners to support their students.

Supporting Exceptional Students

- Implemented Speech and Language Telepractice Services.
- Lexia training was provided to staff and interested parents/guardians.
- The Identify, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) process has been updated to reflect the current situation. Families are really enjoying that.
- The Preschool Intake Process is in progress to welcome our new Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) students to the LKDSB.
- Transition planning has started to support Grade 8 students moving to secondary school. Finding different ways to implement practices.

Distribution of Devices to Students

- Phase 2 of distribution of devices to students underway.
- The LTE iPads are being permitted to roam to alternative internet service providers, including Bell, AT&T and TELUS, when the Rogers signal is not sufficient in an area.

Mental Health Supports

- Psychology Department is creating a Google classroom for each school to provide an option for teachers, support staff and principals, to engage in conversation with the psychoeducational clinician in the classroom.

Chair Bryce thanked the team for the work being done for students and expressed appreciation for the Staff Newsletters.

Director Howitt confirmed that the Minister of Education is encouraging synchronized learning vs asynchronous learning. The Minister's comments were generalized. Director Howitt commented that he is extremely proud of the LKDSB staff attempts to do live communication with students via phone or video streaming in large or small groups. Superintendents Mancini and Hazzard

attended the Parent Involvement Committee Meeting on May 11 to obtain input from parents/guardians on the delivery of education being provided. The majority of families are happy with the excellent live service they are receiving. For some students the whole class meetings are almost just noise with too many people involved. Some families would have preferred additional live opportunities for individual students to talk with staff. Administration will be communicating with staff regarding the Minister's comments. Administration is happy with the current situation and trust staff to find solutions to meet student needs. Director Howitt confirmed that student input could be obtained through the Student Senate and through the upcoming Thoughtexchange. Trustee Dodman complemented Director Howitt, Superintendents McKay, Hazzard and Mancini on their presentations at the Parent Involvement Committee Meeting. They were well received by the PIC members.

New Business

Chair Bryce advised that OPSBA shared information on how school boards are conducting electronic board meetings. One school board asked trustees to email the Chair to be a mover or a seconder on agenda items after they received the agenda package. Trustees shared their opinions. Chair Bryce concluded that it was just an idea to try. It is fine if she receives emails or does not.

Notice of Motion

Trustee Fletcher and Student Trustee Harris served the following Notice of Motion:

“That the Lambton Kent District School Board annually observe the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia (IDAHOTB) on May 17, and, in the event of a weekend or Board-recognized holiday, observe the date within schools on the next immediate school day.”

Announcements

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held electronically on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

The next SEAC meeting is on May 21, 2020.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Bryce declared the Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board