

PRESENT:

- Trustees:** Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Randy Campbell, Greg Agar, Janet Barnes (via teleconference) Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Brittany Jenkins (via teleconference) and Derek Robertson and Lareina Rising (via teleconference)
- Staff:** Director of Education John Howitt, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay Superintendents of Education Angie Barrese, Ben Hazzard, Helen Lane, Mary Mancini and Public Relations Officer Heather Hughes (via teleconference)
- Regrets:** Trustee Scott McKinlay, Student Trustees Aurora Bressette, Simon Harris and Byren Newcombe and Superintendents of Education Mark Sherman and Gary Girardi
- Recording Secretary:** Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer
- Call to Order:** Chair Bryce called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
Chair Bryce read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.
- #2020-99
Approval of the Agenda** Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Jack Fletcher,
"That the Agenda for the Special Board Meeting of July 28, 2020 be approved."

Chair Bryce confirmed that items cannot be added to the July 28, 2020 Special Board Meeting Agenda. The LKDSB Procedural By-laws require all Trustees to be in attendance at Special Board Meetings to add an item to the Agenda.

CARRIED.
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest** None
- 2020/2021 Revised School Year Calendar Report B-20-75** Superintendent Hazzard presented the revised 2020/2021 School Year Calendar. He explained that the Ministry of Education released a memorandum advising school boards to schedule three Professional Activity Days prior to the start of student instruction. To accommodate this advisement, the October 9, 2020 PA Day was moved to September 2, 2020. At the secondary level, the PA Day change impacted the number of instructional days in Semester 1 and 2 resulting in a change in the examination dates for both semesters. First Semester secondary exams will run from January 26 to February 1, 2021 with the PA Day moved to February 2, 2021. Second Semester secondary exams will run from June 22 to June 28, 2021. The final day for student attendance would be Monday, June 28, 2021 with the PA Day on June 29, 2021.

Moved Greg Agar, seconded by Randy Campbell,
"That the Board approve the revised 2020/2021 School Year Calendar and that this calendar be forwarded to the Ministry of Education for approval as required."

CARRIED.
- #2020-100
2020/2021 Revised School Year Calendar**
- Budget Approval for the 2020/2021 School Year Report B-20-76** Superintendent McKay reviewed the information included in the three budget binders. He advised that the total Provincial Education funding for the 2020/2021 budget year is projected to be \$25.52 billion (2019/2020 was \$24.66 billion), an average of \$12,525 (2019/2020 - \$12,275) per pupil. The LKDSB forecasted average daily enrolment numbers for 2020/2021 are: 21,315 total students comprised of 14,416 elementary and 6,899 secondary students. The 2020/2021

school year budget for the LKDSB is \$315,173,428. The LKDSB total revenue is comprised of the following:

- GSN Operating Grants = \$255,407,544.
- GSN Facilities Renewal / Financing Grants = \$27,410,879.
- Tuition Fees from Indigenous & Visa students = \$4,679,617.
- Ministry Funding provided in addition to the GSN = \$871,983.
- Other Capital, Rental, Interest and misc. revenues = \$3,789,286.
- School Generated Funds = \$5,950,000
- Ministry Funding of Capital Amortization = \$14,552,083
- In-year draw from accumulated surplus (former reserves) = \$2,512,036.

Superintendent McKay outlined the budget expenditures categories. He provided an overview of the provincial funding updates. He advised that the Ministry is continuing to invest \$1.4 billion in the School Renewal and School Condition Improvement programs for the 2020/2021 school year. This investment is consistent with prior year capital investments by the Ministry. The total allocations under the capital programs for the LKDSB are \$4,585,413 in School Renewal funding and \$16,994,639 in School Condition Improvement funding. He advised that the budget is due to the Ministry by August 19, 2020. The LKDSB Financial Statements for the 2019/2020 school year must be submitted to the Ministry by November 13, 2020 and the revised budget estimates must be submitted by December 15, 2020.

#2020-101
Budget Approval for the
2020/2021 School Year

Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,

“That the Board approve the 2020/2021 school year budget as presented in the amount of \$315,173,428.”

Superintendent McKay confirmed that all the costs associated with completing the Great Lakes Secondary School construction will be covered by the 2019/2020 school year budget with the necessary funds being carried forward. He advised that the common areas and classrooms will be ready for September 2020. The auditorium will probably be completed in November or December.

Superintendent McKay confirmed that the impact of the costs associated with the September return to school scenarios is a big unknown for the 2020/2021 school year budget. Administration is ready to cost the model once it has direction from the Ministry. Administration is tracking COVID-19 expenses separately and will continue to do so. Costs were provided to the Ministry in March and Administration expects that will be done again at August year end. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) expenses may be covered by the Ministry. LKDSB Administration continues to have discussions with the Ministry, and the Trustee Associations continue to work with the Ministry representatives as well. Superintendent McKay explained that the LKDSB 2020/2021 budget is flexible with some manipulability. There are surplus dollars that could be used with Trustee approval. Director Howitt advised that Administration has planned for the scenarios within the budget and continues to work with the local Medical Officers of Health. He noted that the density of people per square kilometre is lower in Chatham Kent and Sarnia Lambton so some of the issues raised in the media do not impact the LKDSB. The LKDSB does not have a need for more square footage and French language classes will still be offered in the LKDSB schools

Director Howitt confirmed that the student enrolment count dates have not changed. They are October 31 and March 31. There is a different count date in September for class size reporting. He advised that a communication will be

going out to parents/guardians looking for a commitment from them for their children to participate in face to face education or the learn at home model supported by staff with synchronous learning. Students whose parents/guardians choose at home learning will still be considered students of the Board. If parents/guardians change their mind and choose to send their children to school, Administration hopes to be able to accommodate their requests within 14 days. However, timelines will be impacted by the number of families that choose at home learning.

Superintendent McKay explained that the amount of surplus funds the Board is able to spend is equal to 1% of the operating grants. This year, \$2.5M of surplus funds is included in the budget to be used for capital projects. Surplus funds are used for onetime expenses. The capital dollars included in the budget are not needed until January 2021 so Administration could move the dollars around if additional classroom supports were needed due to COVID-19 related expenses and the capital work could be delayed. The Board would need Ministry approval to use more than the \$2.5M of surplus funds. Administration feels the Board is currently in a good position for the next year.

CARRIED.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Bryce declared the Meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board