

PRESENT:

- Trustees: Chair Randy Campbell, Vice-Chair Derek Robertson, Janet Barnes, Jane Bryce, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Malinda Little, Scott McKinlay, and Lareina Rising
- Staff: Director of Education John Howitt, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay, Superintendents of Education, Angie Barrese, Gary Girardi, Ben Hazzard, Helen Lane, Mary Mancini, Mark Sherman and Public Relations Officer Heather Hughes
- Regrets Trustees Greg Agar, Ruth Ann Dodman
- Student Trustees: Aurora Bressette, William Locke and Lucia Shultz-Allison
- Recording Secretary: Jaime Shannon, Executive Assistant to the Director
- Call to Order: Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- #2021-27
Approval of the Agenda Moved by Malinda Little, seconded by Jack Fletcher,
"That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021 be approved."
CARRIED.
Chair Campbell read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest None
- #2021-28
Approval of the Minutes Jan/12/2021 Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Jane Bryce,
"That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 12, 2021."
CARRIED.
- Business Arising None
- Motions Emanating from the Regular Board Private Session None
- #2021-29
Action of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Janet Barnes,
"That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the Board."
CARRIED.
- Presentation Remote Learning in Elementary Schools Superintendent Hazzard presented on remote learning in elementary schools. He provided examples of the tools used by educators to provide effective synchronous remote learning for students, such as Google Classroom, Google Meet, Google Slides, Jamboard, and Seesaw and its Whiteboard feature. Examples were provided of parents/guardians engaged in the learning process and student engagement through live cooking classes from a chef and the opportunity to learn from Anishinaabe Elder Kim Wheatley.

Superintendent Barrese presented on the remote learning tools used for Special Education. The virtual IPRC process, held through Microsoft Teams or Google Meet, has allowed for greater parent/guardian engagement. Psychoeducational Clinicians offer virtual sessions with students; Social Workers have created Wellness Hubs at their schools through the Google platform, where any student in the school can participate in Tier One – Good for All activities; and Communicative Disorder Assistants, who work in partnership with Speech and Language Pathologists, provide virtual therapy sessions for students.

Superintendent Hazzard explained that Google Meet is a videoconferencing tool with live interaction whereas Google Classroom is a space where students access assignments, like a student's binder. Seesaw is similar to Google Classroom, but it is built for younger students. Jamboard, a digital whiteboard, is a Google tool that can be used in coordination with Google Meet and Google Classroom. He noted that LKDSB educators' expertise in the use of these tools has vastly improved and they are providing remarkable learning for students.

Superintendent Hazzard confirmed that many students choose to turn their camera off during remote learning for many reasons and there are different strategies used by educators to engage students. An example provided in the presentation was through Google Slides where each student has their own slide to complete activities. The teacher can visit each student's slide and provide live feedback.

Director Howitt added that some students keep their camera off to help with poor internet access and it may appear that the student is disengaged, but it permits the student to connect. He added that educators look for creative ways to ensure students are engaged. He noted that there is a significant impact on mental health as well, so it is important for staff to reach out to students.

Superintendent Mancini confirmed that secondary students are encouraged to use their cameras but if they are not willing to, the strategies suggested to educators are to question the class frequently; allow students to engage in the chat box; and use other tools, like Jamboard, to ensure students remain engaged.

Chair Campbell thanked Superintendents Hazzard and Barrese for their presentation and remarked that it provided good insight as to how remote learning is being implemented for elementary students and the various tools used by LKDSB staff.

Presentation
Remote Learning in
Secondary Schools

Superintendent Mancini introduced System Coordinator of Secondary Program Jim Morton and Secondary Program Consultants Brian McBain and Stephanie McQueen. She noted that Brian McBain and Stephanie McQueen have had the opportunity to teach at the Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School this school year.

Stephanie McQueen provided a tour of a virtual learning classroom in the tool Brightspace, which is the tool used in the Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School. One-on-one conferences with students are scheduled through Brightspace. Lessons, assignments, and videos are linked through Brightspace through various formats.

Brian McBain noted that as many students do not turn their cameras on, he posts silly questions at the start of class to encourage them to participate. He provided examples of tools used for specialized classes such as Electude, which is used for Transportation classes, and My Virtual Child, which is used for Family Studies classes.

Jim Morton confirmed that the Secondary Program team has been providing support for teachers, including live support, drop-in, and one-on-one sessions, and instructional videos. He noted that in March the questions from teachers were very technical, but as knowledge of the tools has expanded the questions now relate to using the tools in a more effective way to provide instruction.

Director Howitt noted that staff has been committed to learning since the Spring and with huge effort and time they are using more tools for remote learning and focusing on teaching and learning for students. He noted that in a very short amount of time the Virtual School educators have become the experts and are leading sessions for those who are not as experienced. He remarked that he could not say enough about LKDSB educators, education workers and staff and thanked them for their efforts. He thanked Jim Morton, Stephanie McQueen and Brian McBain for their time.

Chair Campbell thanked Superintendent Mancini, System Coordinator Morton, and Secondary Program Consultants McBain and McQueen for their presentation.

Delegations

None

Questions from the Public

None

#2021-30
Tender Award –
Accessibility Upgrades –
Brooke Central
Report B-21-13

Moved by Lareina Rising, seconded by Jane Bryce,

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder, Maaten Construction Limited for the accessibility upgrades at Brooke Central School.”

Superintendent McKay confirmed that Trustees will see a normal influx of tender reports for approval over the coming months and noted the Board is still following supply chain concerns.

CARRIED.

LKDSB Update on Face to
Face and Learn at Home
Program
Report B-21-14

Director Howitt noted that the LKDSB Update on Face to Face and Learn at Home program report was in conjunction with the elementary and secondary remote learning presentations. He noted that technology is an area he is passionate about and appreciates the work of the program departments to find software to enhance learning in more specific areas, like Transportation and Family Studies.

The Board is readying itself for an anticipated return to in-person learning after February 10, 2021. The subject of the February 9, 2021 report will be how the Board is managing added precautions in schools.

Director Howitt confirmed that the expectation to return after February 10, 2021 is based on communications from the Ministry that suggested the LKDSB was part of the group of boards that would return after this date.

Ontario Public School
Boards' Association
Update (OPSBA)

Trustee Fletcher encouraged Trustees to attend the OPSBA Public Education Symposium (PES) on January 28, 2021.

Trustee Bryce reported that she completed the OPSBA Speaker and Professional Development session on December 10, 2020, which was held via Zoom. She referenced a Toronto Star article written by the speaker of the session, Sachin Maharag, that highlighted the incredible work done by boards across the province and remarked that the work of the Board has been appreciated.

Financial Report
Report B-21-15

Superintendent McKay reported on the first quarter expenditures for the period September 1 to November 30, 2020. He noted that the Board continues to move forward in its balanced budget state in the current school year. He highlighted items in relation to salaries and wages, employee benefits, staff development, supplies and services, capital expenditures, and fees and contractual services. Due to budget pressures, because of COVID-19 impacts and resulting educational protocols, there were significant changes to the board's revised estimates budget. Additional funding, specific to increased expenditures as a result of COVID-19 impacts, was provided to Ontario school boards from the Ministry of Education. Boards were also given permission to include up to 2% of their operating funding from accumulated surplus. Staff continue to track all budget versus actual concerns and adjusting as new budget assumptions and changes to Ministry funding occur, to ensure that the board's actual 2020-21 expenditures are within current funding levels.

Superintendent McKay confirmed that the Ministry is providing boards with PPE, but the Board has also gone to its own suppliers to ensure it is properly stocked if there is a delay with the Ministry shipments. He noted that the majority of other boards are following the same process and they are making a case for top-up funding from the Ministry.

Chair Campbell thanked Superintendent McKay for the financial report.

Revised Estimates
Report B-21-16

Superintendent McKay reported on revised estimates and highlighted the major changes listed on the report. He noted that enrolment, for both elementary and secondary, is down approximately 300 students, which has impacted revenue.

He reported that while the Board did realize increased revenue of \$7,921,726, the significant expenditure changes of \$10,280,608 led to budget changes/reductions in other areas to maintain a Ministry compliant LKDSB budget. The major budgeting change was a shifting of \$1,800,000 in Board accumulated surplus funding from the capital budget to the operating budget. Deferred funding in the board's School Condition Improvement and School Renewal allocations was used in the capital budget to offset this change. Other minor cuts and adjustments were made in the operating budget to maintain a Ministry compliant revised estimates budget.

Superintendent McKay confirmed that the tuition revenue decrease is related to the International Education program as there are currently approximately 20 FTE students compared to 100 FTE students last year. Superintendent Lane has been working hard to bring students in for the second half of the school

	<p>year but the additional shut down is having a negative impact on the revenue stream.</p> <p>Superintendent McKay confirmed that the Board has been allocated \$5,246,000 from the Province specifically for COVID-19 related expenses with an additional stabilization funding of \$3,732,000. The Board continues to report to the Province on budget pressures.</p>
Kindergarten Registration 2021 – It's as easy as 1, 2, 3 Report B-21-17	<p>Superintendent Hazzard advised Trustees that parents/guardians of students entering the LKDSB Kindergarten program can register online and take part in a virtual classroom tour and discussion on Thursday, February 4, 2021 or Friday, February 5, 2021.</p>
Correspondence	None
New Business	None
Trustee Questions	<p>Director Howitt confirmed that the format of Board Meetings during the Ontario Stay at Home Order has been determined at Agenda Review meetings. Chair Campbell and Vice-Chair Robertson confirmed that this practice would continue.</p> <p>Director Howitt confirmed that the Board has followed O. Reg. 444/98 Disposition of Surplus Real Property to date. The process of making the land available to Tier One parties has concluded. With permission from the Ministry, the property can now be put on the open market and the public will be informed once the property is for sale. He noted there have recently been conversations in the community around severing the property, but the Board focuses on students, student learning and student well-being and is not a property developer. Superintendent McKay added that when the Ministry provided approval to sell the property, it was to sell it as one parcel.</p> <p>Director Howitt confirmed that an appraisal was completed on the property and once the property is sold, the funds will go into a restricted surplus and the funds do not become discretionary. Ministry permission is needed on how the funds from the sale are used and are almost exclusive to capital projects.</p>
Notices of Motion	None
Announcements	The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The location is to be determined.
Adjournment	There being no further business of the Board, Chair Campbell declared the Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board