

PRESENT:

Trustees: Chair Randy Campbell, Vice-Chair Derek Robertson, Greg Agar, joining electronically, Janet Barnes, Jane Bryce, Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Malinda Little, Scott McKinlay, and Lareina Rising

Staff: Joining electronically, Director of Education John Howitt, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay, Public Relations Officer Heather Hughes, joining in-person, Superintendents of Education, Angie Barrese, Gary Girardi, Ben Hazzard, Helen Lane, Mary Mancini and Mark Sherman

Regrets

Student Trustees: Joining virtually, Brianne Machan, Taryn Jacobs, Kate Martin

Recording Secretary: Bonnie Gotelaer, Executive Assistant to the Director

Call to Order: Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#2021-125

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Greg Agar, seconded by Janet Barnes,

“That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of October 12, 2021 be approved.”

CARRIED.

Chair Campbell read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

#2021-126

Approval of the Minutes
Sept/28/2021

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Jack Fletcher,

“That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2021.”

CARRIED.

Business Arising

None

Motions Emanating from
the Regular Board Private
Session

None

#2021- 127

Action of the Regular
Board Private Session be
the Action of the Board

Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Malinda Little,

“That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the Board.”

CARRIED.

Presentations:
Director’s Snapshots of
Excellence

Director Howitt noted many of the Director’s Snapshots of excellence show the welcoming of students into school. He noted staff made significant efforts to help students transition into the classroom. Director Howitt noted the spirit wear and back to school themed clothing in the snapshots showing the students excited to be in school. He noted the sense of belonging was a common theme across the Board with outdoor displays welcoming students.

Director Howitt explained outdoor extra-curriculars were reintroduced and foods classes were able to produce hands on assignments contributing to building a school community theme and offering leadership opportunities to students.

Director Howitt noted in the Virtual Schools, teachers use props and items to help engage students while teaching their lessons virtually.

Director Howitt indicated September 30, 2021 was recognized as Orange Shirt Day as well as the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. He noted some snapshots were photos of a healing path made of painted rocks, students who took part in ceremony at Aamjiwnaang First Nation, and the making of buttons recognizing the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

Director Howitt noted the Terry Fox Run was held in participating schools. He noted snapshots of Code lessons demonstrating students planning and problem solving.

Delegations
COVID-19 Related
Mandates and School
Board Response – Inga
Kerr

Procedural By-laws 3.14 and 3.15 were read by Chair Randy Campbell.

Inga Kerr introduced herself as a resident of Lambton County and noted her presentation would focus on the masking mandate. Inga Kerr explained her point of view citing her research has caused her to be concerned and further explained her opinion reading her speech.

Clarifying questions were not asked by Trustees. Chair Campbell thanked Inga Kerr for her delegation.

Questions from the Public

None

#2021-128
Proposed Revisions to the
LKDSB Procedural By-
laws
Report B-21-100

Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Jane Bryce,

“That the Board approve the revisions to Section 1.07 of the LKDSB Procedural By-laws.”

Director Howitt noted discussions have occurred where clarification has been necessary to define a majority. Director Howitt indicated a by-law stating two thirds majority of the Trustees of the Board present and voting would clarify and define.

CARRIED.

#2021-129
Proposed Revisions to the
LKDSB Procedural By-
laws
Report B-21-100

Moved by Jane Bryce, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,

“That the Board approve the revisions to Section 12.2 of the LKDSB Procedural By-laws.”

Director Howitt noted a process is necessary to ensure the Code of Conduct can be applied should the Chair and/or Vice-Chair be subject to investigation.

Chair Campbell confirmed it was the decision of the Chair to separate the LKDSB Procedural By-law revisions into two separate recommendations.

CARRIED.

#2021-130
LKDSB Policy and
Regulations on Volunteers

Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Lareina Rising,

“That the Board approve the revised policy and regulation on Volunteers.”

Report B-21-101

Director Howitt noted the policy and regulations on Volunteers has been updated to align with the updated Volunteers administrative procedure. Director Howitt confirmed the required Police Vulnerable Sector Check (PVSC) is the standardized document title used in the province.

CARRIED.

#2021-131
LKDSB Policy and
Regulations on
Assessment and
Evaluation
Report B-21-102

Moved by Greg Agar, seconded by Jane Bryce,

“That the Board approve the revised policy and regulation on Assessment and Evaluation.”

Director Howitt noted there is a minor change in the policy and several changes to the regulation as it has been several years since the last revision. He noted updates have been required regarding the information in the elementary and secondary teaching and learning notes. Director Howitt noted a change to an item which addresses secondary teacher expected practices and would like to add the following sentence on this item. Director Howitt read the following sentence addition:

Elementary teachers will use the current elementary program notes and growing success to plan instruction, support student learning and to report on student program.

Mary Mancini noted the updated regulation addresses current practices and incorporates student success with the documents used by elementary and secondary program to assess and evaluate.

Chair Campbell noted the addition of the wording provided by Director Howitt. Lareina Rising asked it to be reread for clarification. Director Howitt confirmed the wording to be changed from program to progress in the sentence addition. Superintendent Mancini confirmed to Trustee Fletcher that expected practices and guidelines are extracted from the Ministry of Education guidelines and are formed into LKDSB expectations.

CARRIED.

Indigenous Liaison
Committee Report
Report B-21-103

Trustee Rising noted the Indigenous Liaison Committee meeting was held September 15, 2021 with the virtual format continuing to be successful. She noted the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement included reference to current events. She stated Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation Chief Henry has indicated that the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement should be reflective of Reconciliation and an update in the wording could be discussed. Trustee Rising noted the meeting included discussions regarding students receiving education awards and the preparation for return to school. Trustee Fletcher extended congratulations to the communities for the wonderful things happening for students.

Parent Involvement
Committee Report
Report B-21-104

Director Howitt noted the Parent Involvement Committee welcomed new membership and named Melinda Hazen as the new co-chair joining current co-chair Melissa Hewitt. He indicated the Parents Reaching Out Grant announcement has taken place and school councils can move forward to make their plans. Director Howitt noted the Committee was updated on the National

Day of Truth and Reconciliation, COVID-19 safety protocols, De-streaming, School Climate Survey and Vaccinations.

Supervised Alternative Learning
Report B-21-105

Trustee Little noted the members of Supervised Alternative Learning Committee involve very passionate members. She extended congratulations to System Coordinator Paul Wiersma and other members and noted they consistently look to engage students. She noted referrals to the program have been steady.
Superintendent Sherman noted the elevated levels of referrals and noted student engagement has been strong.

Ontario Public School Boards' Association Update (OPSBA)

Trustees have received information from Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) for the Public Education Symposium. OPSBA has asked for feedback on a survey to determine if the symposium held in January should be virtual.
Trustee Fletcher noted trustees should complete a survey they have received from OPSBA Western Region. He indicated he would like the student trustees to receive this information to encourage student trustee involvement.
Trustee Fletcher emphasized that OPSBA's Board of Directors is calling for a report on the status / recommendations of Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity within the OPSBA organization itself and is calling for action on the recommendations that do come forward.

LKDSB Operational Plan
Report B-21-106

Director Howitt noted the LKDSB Operational Plan 2021 – 2022 has been formed and has some similarities to the LKDSB Operational Plan 2020 – 2021 as some items will be in place for multiple years. The Operational Plan has been formatted to group similar goals together.
Director Howitt indicated there is anticipation that Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) assessments will occur this school year for primary/junior and grade nine students. He noted the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) will occur in the 2021 – 2022 school year but is not a graduation requirement for those in grade twelve for the 2021 -2022 school year as there has not been an opportunity to write it.
Director Howitt stated systemic bias needs to be identified and dismantled to align with equity goals in Inclusive Diversity and Championing Anti-oppressive education. He noted this is a goal moving forward and expects this to be a multi-year goal going forward.
Director Howitt noted de-streamed courses will continue to be introduced to support student success. He noted the LKDSB has higher percentage of students registered in applied program courses compared to students across the province and this could be due to timetable constrictions in small, rural schools.
Director Howitt noted students in the applied stream are less likely to graduate and that grade nine is too soon to select a pathway. He indicated exceptional pupils require support to reach graduation.
Director Howitt noted the LKDSB equity goal has been dispersed to highlight the work needing to be completed.
Director Howitt indicated the required collection of voluntary Demographic Data which will need to be submitted to the Ministry of Education by the end of the 2021 - 2022 school year. He indicated a communication plan has been drafted and will begin the collection work by February 2022. The communication plan will assist community understanding regarding the necessity of collecting this data.

Director Howitt noted the Ministry of Education has developed a new draft Board Improvement and Equity Plan (BIEP), previously named the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) and also Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being (BIPSA-WB). He stated boards will be required to document actions moving the equity focus forward.

Director Howitt noted the Climate Survey has begun with a link on the LKDSB website homepage. He noted the more participants, the better the results.

Director Howitt noted a new construction strategy is being built into the five year Capital Plan. He noted the labour shortage created issues during the short outdoor working season along with a shortage of parts required to complete projects.

Director Howitt noted contract negotiations for internet and telephone line services will be a focus.

Director Howitt noted Superintendent Girardi is working on equitable hiring and noted the importance of staff reflecting LKDSB communities.

Director Howitt noted training for the Facility Operations department has required exploration to ensure completion.

Jane Bryce asked if the LKDSB Inclusive Diversity Consultant would be an advisor during hiring processes. Superintendent Girardi noted input from the equity team as well as Superintendent Lane was used in the development of hiring practices.

Moving Forward –
Secondary and
Elementary Return to
Extracurriculars
Report B-21-107

Director Howitt recognized the importance of Staff and Volunteers and that extracurricular activities depend on their volunteer work. He noted COVID-19 still has an impact with students not allowed to participate in Ontario Federation Secondary Athletic Association (OFSAA) although teams are competing locally. Spectators are allowed at outdoor activities.

Director Howitt indicated there are several activities that are non-athletic based and noted secondary extra-curriculars listed offer a broad variety of choices to students.

Director Howitt noted International Education held welcome events to help support students who are far from home.

Jack Fletcher asked for the description of Anime. Director Howitt noted Anime is a style of cartooning.

Correspondence

None

New Business

None

Trustee Questions

None

Notices of Motion

None

Announcements

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sarnia Education Centre or via Zoom.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Campbell declared the Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board