PRESENT:

Trustees: Chair Elizabeth Hudie, Acting Vice-Chair Lareina Rising, Ruth Ann Dodman,

Jane Bryce, Randy Campbell, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher

Student Trustees 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** 

Excused: Vice-Chair Scott McKinlay

Regrets: Trustees Tom McGregor, Bob Murphy and Shannon Sasseville and Student

Trustee Autumn Bressette

Recording Secretary: Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer

Call to Order: Chair Hudie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Rising served as

Acting Vice-Chair.

Chair Hudie read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.

Chair Hudie read an in Memoriam for student Zachary Bedard. A moment of

silence was observed.

Chair Hudie welcomed Student Trustees Rihanna Kukkadi and Lexi Graham

and Superintendent Hazzard to the Board.

#2018-104

Approval of the Agenda

Aug/28/2018

Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded by Jack Fletcher

"That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting Public Session of August

28, 2018 be approved."

CARRIED.

Declaration of Conflict of

Interest:

None

#2018-105

Approval of Minutes

June/26/2018

Moved by Jane Bryce seconded by Dave Douglas,

"That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of

June 26, 2018."

CARRIED.

Business Arising Director Costello confirmed that municipal trustee election information has

been posted on the LKDSB website in the Trustee section with links to the various municipalities and the Ontario Public School Board's Association

(OPSBA) website.

Motions Emanating from

**Private Session** 

Moved by Lareina Rising, seconded by Jack Fletcher,

"That the Board approve the Performance Appraisal of the Director of

Education dated August 28, 2018."

CARRIED

#2018-106

Action of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board Moved by Lareina Rising, seconded by Jane Bryce,

"That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the

Board."

CARRIED.

Questions from the Public

None

Policy and Regulations on Director Costello explained that under Ministry of Education Ontario Regulation

## Trustee Honoraria Report B-18-83

357/06, Honoraria for Board Members, an outgoing board must set the trustee remuneration policy for the next term of office. The deadline for setting the remuneration policy is October 15 of an election year to reflect the advancement of Voting Day under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

The four main components of the honoraria are:

- a) The base amount for the year.
- b) The enrolment amount for the year.
- c) The attendance amounts payable to the member for the year.
- d) The distance amounts payable to the member for the year.

In 2017, the Ministry engaged with education partners on five governance topics, one of which was trustee honoraria. As a results of the review, effective December 2018, the honorarium base amount, as per Ontario Regulation, was changed from \$5,900.00 to \$6,300.

In 2006, each school board had to create a "Citizen's Advisory Committee on Honoraria" to review the proposed new honoraria. The Citizen's Advisory Committee on Honoraria was required to make recommendations to the Board on all four components of the honoraria. The LKDSB Citizen's Advisory Committee on Honoraria recommended that the Board not provide Trustees with an attendance amount for attending committees required to be established by an Act or regulations under an Act (SEAC and SAL) because they felt it was not equitable. The LKDSB does not qualify for the distance amount.

Director Costello advised that on August 24, 2018, the Ministry of Education issued a memorandum advising that compensation adjustments are being suspended until the new government can conduct a review and put in place an appropriate expenditure management strategy. The base amount for trustees is to remain \$5,900.00 for December 2018. The Ministry may review trustee honoraria in the future. Executive Council has reviewed the policy and regulations. Changes are not recommended to the policy. The regulation has been revised to reflect the new date.

Director Costello advised that Ontario Regulation 7/70 determines the honorarium paid to student trustees which is \$2,500.

#2018-107
Policy and Regulations on Trustee Honoraria

Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,

"That the Board approve the review of the policy and revised regulations on *Trustee Honoraria*."

CARRIED.

Director Costello confirmed that if the government announced an increase with an effective date, the LKDSB regulation would be amended accordingly.

Director Costello advised that in May 2018, the government amended Ontario Regulation 7/07 – Student Trustees. The Regulation now:

- 1) Provides school boards with the option to provide their student trustees with one-year or two-year terms of office.
- 2) Requires all school boards to have either two or three student trustees.
- 3) Requires school boards that decide to have student trustees serving twoyear terms of office to stagger their terms where possible.
- 4) Moves the student trustee election date to the end of February for school boards that maintain a one-year term of office.

The amendment providing for a two-year term of office in #1 is effective immediately.

Director Costello explained that Administration reached out to past Student

LKDSB Regulations on Student Trustees Report B-18Trustees to obtain their thoughts on possibly moving to a two-year term. Overall, the respondents supported the one-year term of office to give more students the opportunity to serve as a Student Trustee. Some supported the option of serving for a second year by reapplying the following year. This has happened in the past at the LKDSB. A Student Trustee reapplied to serve the following year and was elected by the Student Senate to continue for a second year. Some of the respondents felt that a mandatory two-year term would deter some students from applying due to the time commitment. The earlier election date, February instead of April, will create opportunities for the current Student Trustees to work with the in-coming Student Trustees and share information. Respondents supported providing opportunities for them to meet. Director Costello advised that the LKDSB regulations on *Student Trustees* has been revised to reflect the changes.

#2018-108
Policy and Regulations on Student Trustees

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Jane Bryce,

"That the Board to approve the revised regulation on Student Trustees."

Director Costello confirmed that the Ministry has a Minister's Student Advisory Council that LKDSB students have served on over the years. It is not known if they were consulted on the term of office change.

CARRIED.

Establishment of the LKDSB Election Compliance Audit Committee Report B-18-85 Director Costello advised that the Municipal Elections Act, 2996 (MEA) states that every district school board must appoint a Compliance Audit Committee by October 1, 2018, to hear and decide on applications for compliance audits regarding a candidate's campaign expenses. The Committee must be comprised of three to seven people, who cannot be members of the school board, an employee, or a candidate in the election. The responsibilities of the compliance audit committee and the compliance audit process are set out in section 81 of the MEA. Members of the committee serve a four-year term beginning December 1, 2018, on an as-needed basis. Municipalities and school boards can appoint the same members to their respective audit committees (i.e. the same person may serve on more than one compliance audit committee), but each appoint all the members of their committee.

Mike Lowther, Daniel Whittal and Mike Phipps have agreed to serve on the Election Audit Compliance Committee for the Lambton Kent District School Board. Director Costello confirmed that the Committee has not needed to meet in the past.

Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Randy Campbell,

"That the Board approve the appointment of Mike Lowther, Daniel Whittal and Mike Phipps to the Lambton Kent District School Board Election Compliance Audit Committee for the term December 1, 2018 to November 14, 2022."

CARRIED.

#2018-109 LKDSB Election Audit Compliance Committee

Financial Report 2017/2018 School Year Expenditures to May 31, 2018 Report B-18-86 Superintendent McKay presented the financial report that summarizes expenditures for the period of September 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. The period represents about 75% of operating expenses that occur over 12 months and approximately 80 to 85% of the salary and benefits portion of the instructional operating expenses that occur over a 10 to 12 month period. He explained that the variance in supply teacher usage account is impacting the salaries and wages budget which is being balanced due to savings in other categories. The benefits expenditures are under budget due to the delay in moving over to the provincial benefit trust plans. All employee groups will be on the benefit trust plans for the

2018/2019 school year. The winter maintenance budget is over but Superintendent McKay stated that he is confident it will be covered by savings elsewhere in the budget. For this reporting period the total expenditure categories are tracking well against the budget

Superintendent McKay confirmed that the LKDSB will receive \$1.7M through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the 2018/2019 school year because the LKDSB had entered into contracts to spend the funding prior to July 4, 2018. The new government has indicated that it will honour the contracts. He advised that the LKDSB 2019/2020 budget will be impacted. The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund covered LED lights, new HVAC units and more high efficiency boilers. In 2019/2020, the LKDSB will have to use School Condition Improvement funding for the same items. Moving forward the capital budget will be reduced by \$1.7M. Superintendent McKay confirmed that the capital funding for a new gymnasium at King George VI Public School in Chatham is on hold pending a complete review by the new government. He has contacted the Ministry regarding the status of the grant application process and is waiting information from the new government.

Capital Projects Update

Superintendent McKay updated Trustees on the Great Lakes Secondary School (GLSS) construction project. Concrete floors are being poured but the concrete block laying and steel construction are still behind. Administration will be meeting with the contractor next week to obtain their project timelines. The asphalt needs to be poured to open the existing building and the companies responsible for this usually close down at the end of November due to cold temperatures. He will provide a further update on September 11.

Superintendent McKay advised Trustees that a lot of work in a very short period of time has taken place at Tecumseh Public School. The project is on track for occupancy on September 4, 2018. Approvals are expected from the Municipality on August 31, 2018. He commented on the weather related challenges and the need to put a concrete layer down over the large gas line that runs through the property prior to laying asphalt. Union Gas just provided approval for this to proceed. This will require part of the parking lot to be closed next week and a revised traffic plan is in place. Superintendent Girardi advised that registration for Tecumseh Public School will take place at the John N. Given site from August 27 to 30, 2017. The School Administration posted a letter on the school website with information regarding school crossings and the parking lot construction. Senor Administration has been advocating to the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, on behalf of the Tecumseh Public School Transition Committee, for a change to the pedestrian crossing near the school. The pedestrian crossings are located on municipal property and therefore any changes to pedestrian infrastructure are outside the scope of the LKDSB. The Municipality of Chatham-Kent has indicated Municipal Council must approve such a capital request, and pending approval, the timeline for implementation is unknown. Students who live south of McNaughton Avenue West are encouraged to use the pedestrian crossing device at the Chatham Tennis Club near Craven Drive or the pedestrian crossing at Sandy Street. Once students arrive on the school property, they will be able to access the school yard by the walkway located beside the daycare or the walkway located by the tennis courts.

The LKDSB's Adult and Continuing Education program is currently in the process of moving over to the John N. Given site and will be ready for September 4, 2018. Construction at Plympton-Wyoming Public School is complete and staff are moving into their space. An Open House event is planned for September 20,

2018 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with the official ribbon cutting at 6:00 p.m. The Municipality has installed crossing lights on Niagara Street.

Superintendent McKay confirmed that the delays at GLSS do not cost the LKDSB any more money. Any delays are absorbed by the contractor. The only time there would be any extra costs to the LKDSB would be if we changed or added to the project.

Superintendent McKay confirmed that Administration is moving forward with the architect for the design of the Kindergarten to Grade 12 School in North Lambton. Superintendent McKay hopes to have more information for Trustees at the September 25 Board Meeting. The new government has delayed the land purchase process while it conducts a review.

In response to Trustee Dodman's question about the completion date for Tecumseh Public School, Superintendent McKay explained that Administration hopes to have building inspector clearance from the Municipality to occupy the school on August 31, 2018. The parking lot should be completed by then as well with the possible exception of the section needing a cement barrier as required by Union Gas.

Correspondence

The Board received a letter from OPSBA regarding the past year's activities, dated June 27, 2018.

**New Business** 

Trustee Bryce commented on the fact that within the jurisdiction of the LKDSB, there are two MPPs with the sitting government. She suggested that the Chair of the Board send letters to them to inform them about the LKDSB and share information about what OPSBA does and how it works with the government. Chair Hudie noted that OPSBA has been lobbying the government on several issues and will consider the suggestion. Trustee Fletcher suggested the MPPs be invited to meet to share information about the role that OPSBA plays.

Trustee Questions

In response to Trustee Fletcher's question about students from Point Edward obtaining bus rides to Northern Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, Superintendent Girardi advised that he had spoken with a number of parents and explained the LKDSB policy in place for all students and the mechanism in place to apply for a courtesy seat. He explained that some areas of Point Edward do not meet the walking distance requirements to receive busing. He confirmed that there are a number of courtesy seats available on the buses for the Point Edward area. Director Costello commented that the student mentioned in the newspaper article had received a courtesy but did not like the fact that they had to apply annually. He explained that courtesy seats are usually granted in September after all eligible bus riders have been determined.

**Announcements** 

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, 7:00 p.m. at the Chatham Education Centre.

Adjournment 7:53 p.m.

There being no further business, Chair Hudie declared the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board