

**PRESENT:**

Trustees: Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Randy Campbell, Greg Agar, Janet Barnes, Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Brittany Jenkins, Lareina Rising

Staff: Director of Education Jim Costello, Superintendent of Business Brian McKay, Superintendents of Education, Angie Barrese, Ben Hazzard, Helen Lane, Mark Sherman and Public Relations Officer Heather Hughes

Student Trustees: Autumn Bressette, Lexi Graham and Rihana Kukyadi

Regrets: Trustee Derek Robertson

Excused: Trustee Scott McKinlay

Recording Secretary: Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer

Call to Order: Chair Bryce called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
Chair Bryce read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.  
She welcomed John Howitt, the new Director of Education as of August 1, 2019.

#2019-50 Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Greg Agar,

Approval of the Agenda

“That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of April 9, 2019 be approved including the addendum item 11. f) Board to Excuse Trustee Scott McKinlay.”

CARRIED.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

#2019-51 Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Brittany Jenkins,

Approval of the Minutes  
March 26, 2019

“That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 26, 2019.”

CARRIED.

Business Arising None

#2019-52  
Action of the Regular  
Board Private Session be  
the Action of the Board

Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded Jack Fletcher,

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

CARRIED.

**Presentations:**

Director of Education's  
Snap Shots of Excellence

Director Costello presented the Director's Snap Shots of Excellence which celebrates student achievement and wellbeing events happening in LKDSB schools across the district. Some of the items featured were alternative student learning environments, students demonstrating mathematics, science and technology skills, mental health activities, kindergarten registration activities, Black History Month activities, staff development activities, athletic activities, musical events, students using digital tools related to math concepts, Indigenous Education activities, Science Education Partnership Science Fairs, summary of students making the world their classroom through March Break trips, Open House at John N. Given Learning Centre and examples of students giving back to their communities.

Revisioning of Northern  
Collegiate Institute &  
Vocational School

Superintendent McKay introduced Valerie Wright from GLOS Associates Inc. Architectural and Engineering Consultant, the consulting company designing the concept drawings for the revisioning of Northern Collegiate Institute and Vocational School (NCIVS) in Sarnia. She explained certain areas of the school are underutilized and other areas need updating. The firm consulted with staff

and students to identify areas within the school that could be redesigned to increase functionality. Areas identified included school identify, security, accessibility, wayfinding, bus drop off area, arts area, athletics area, technology area and administrative area. Valerie Wright shared the existing school layout and explained the challenges associated with not having the components of a program located in the same area of the school. She explained the plans to create hubs for programs to locate all the arts together, athletics together, technology together etc. The firm proposed adding a gymnasium to meet program needs which would also allow other areas of the school to be redesigned. Valerie Wright advised that staff and students identified the need for collaborative spaces in the school and she shared how these areas would be created. The addition of the new gym would create the opportunity to move programs around without disrupting the programs offered. She outlined the plans to enhance the outdoor area including the athletic areas and the front of the school facing Indian Road. Valerie Wright confirmed that the total cost of the project is estimated to be \$20M. There are six phases to the project, with the gymnasium project being the most expensive component. Superintendent McKay explained that phase one would cost about \$2M and would involve redesigning the bus area and the canopy at the front of the school to take the buses off the street. The Board has the funding for the project. The next phase would be the new gymnasium and the Board would need to apply for a Ministry grant to cover the cost. He advised that the new government has not shared information about a new capital grant program yet.

Superintendent McKay reminded Trustees that the Board was still waiting for Ministry funding and approval for the new gymnasium for King George VI Public School in Chatham. He commented that other school boards have engaged their MPPs. He commented that Administration is looking ahead to equip NCIVS for the next 20 years and noted the need for new strategies to obtain funding for capital projects going forward.

In response to Trustee Jenkins' questions, Valerie Wright confirmed that the pottery spaces on the upper level would be relocated to the arts area and that the school would have two new elevators. All entrances would be accessible and the floor in the computer lab would be raised to meet accessibility standards. Superintendent Girardi confirmed that the school staff and students feel that the atriums and other new spaces will alleviate the concerns related to the size of the cafeteria. Valerie Wright confirmed that the request for the fashion and culinary room to be located in same area came from the school staff. Further discussions on the matter would take place as plans are finalized.

Chair Bryce thanked Valerie Wright for her presentation.

#### Questions from the Public

Chair Bryce referred to the LKDSB Procedural By-laws, Section 3.16. Posing Questions at Board Meetings.

Susan Litwin, Chair of the Ridgetown District High School (RDHS) School Council, referred to the letter the RDHS Council sent Chair Bryce and asked if it was shared with all Trustees because she felt the staffing issues raised in the letter would also impact other schools and create a situation where the Board may not be able to meet its Mission Statement *Fostering Success for Every Student Every Day*. Chair Bryce advised that she had not shared it as it had just been addressed to her. She confirmed that she had signed a letter of response for Susan Litwin. Chair Bryce confirmed that she would share both letters with all Trustees. Director Costello advised that Senior Administration has had many discussions about the government announcement regarding increasing secondary class size and staffing levels from 22 to 28. Administration is very

concerned about the impact on rural schools and will continue to work with the Ministry.

#2019-53  
Appointment to the Special  
Education Advisory  
Committee (SEAC  
Report B-19-33

Moved Lareina Rising, seconded by Janet Barnes,

“That the Board appoint Vicki Ware as the First Nation Member on the Special Education Advisory Committee for the period January 2019 to December 2022,”

Trustee Rising reminded Trustees about the process followed to select a First Nation representative to serve on SEAC. The Four First Nation partners choose a representative to serve on SEAC. The selection is ratified by the First Nation Communities. Vicki Ware is excited to take on the position. Superintendent Barrese advised that the SEAC members are delighted to welcome Vicki Ware to SEAC.

CARRIED.

#2019-54  
School Year Calendar  
2019/2020  
Report B-19-34

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Jack Fletcher,

“That the Board approve the 2019/2020 School Year Calendar and that the Calendar be forwarded to the Ministry of Education for approval.”

Superintendent Hazzard outlined the requirements of the school year calendar. He advised that *Regulation 304, School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days* outlines the requirements for the preparation and submission of school year calendars to the Ministry of Education. For 2019/2020, the school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which three days must be designated as professional activity (PA) days devoted to provincial education priorities. These priorities are reflected through the criteria and topics contained in *Policy/Program Memorandum No 151*. Boards may designate up to four additional days as PA days. A board may also designate up to ten instructional days as examination days. He advised that discussions took place with the coterminous school boards, unions, administrators and Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). A regular school calendar is being proposed for the 2019/2020 school year with the following dates:

Statutory/School Board Designated Holidays:

September 2, 2019	Labour Day
October 14, 2019	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
December 23 to January 3, 2020	Winter Break
February 17, 2020	Family Day
March 16 to 20, 2020	March Break
April 10, 2020	Good Friday
April 13, 2020	Easter Monday
May 18, 2020	Victoria Day

P.A. Days:

Friday, September 27, 2019  
Friday, October 25, 2019  
Friday, November 22, 2019  
Friday, January 31, 2020  
Friday, April 24, 2020  
Friday, June 5, 2020  
Friday, June 26, 2020

Secondary Exam Days:

Friday, January 24 – Thursday, January 30, 2020

Friday, June 19 – Thursday, June 25, 2020

EQAO Dates:

Grade 3 & 6 Assessments	May 19 to June 1, 2020
Grade 9 Math - 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	January 13 to January 24, 2020
Grade 9 Math -2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	June 2 to June 15, 2020
OSSLT	March 31, 2020

Superintendent Hazzard noted that the April 24 PA Day was determined based on PIC members input.

CARRIED.

#2019-55  
2017/2018 Annual  
Accessibility Report for the  
LKDSB  
Report B-19-35

Moved by Greg Agar, seconded by Jack Fletcher,

“That the Board approve the LKDSB 2917/2018 Annual Accessibility Report.”

Superintendent Girardi explained that the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) came into effect in 2005. The Act directs public sector institutions to develop, implement and enforce standards for accessibility related to Customer Service, Transportation, Information and Communication, Built Environments, and Employment. It also provides for the involvement of persons with disabilities and various community partners in the development of the proposed standards. The target date for reaching this goal is no later than January 1, 2025. He explained that this report describes the measures that the LKDSB has taken in the past and measures that have been taken during the 2017/2018 school year to identify barriers and enhance accessibility for individuals. Chair Bryce noted the Board’s continued work in improving accessibility throughout the district.

CARRIED.

#2019-56  
Tender Award –  
Classroom Renovations,  
Roofing and Site Work at  
McNaughton Avenue  
Public School  
Report B-19-36

Moved by Lareina Rising, seconded by Brittany Jenkins,

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder, Elgin Contracting and Restoration Ltd. for classroom renovations and roofing and work site at McNaughton Avenue Public School.”

Superintendent McKay reported on the tender opening for the classroom renovations, roofing and site work at McNaughton Avenue Public School. The School Condition Improvement funding will be used to cover the \$2,470,445.91 cost of the project.

CARRIED.

#2019-57  
Tender Award –  
Classroom Renovations,  
Mechanical and Electrical  
Upgrades – A. A. Wright  
Public School  
Report B-19-37

Moved by Janet Barnes, seconded Greg Agar,

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder, Westhoek Construction Ltd. for the classroom renovations and mechanical and electrical upgrades at A.A. Wright Public School.”

Superintendent McKay reported on the tender opening for the classroom renovations, mechanical and electrical upgrades at A. A. Wright Public School. The School Condition Improvement funding will be used to cover the \$1,816,026.35 cost of the project.

CARRIED.

#2019-58  
Trustee Scott McKinlay  
Excused from Attending  
Board Meetings  
April 9 to June 30, 2019

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Lareina Rising,

“That the Board excuse Trustee Scott McKinlay from attending Board Meetings from April 9 to June 30, 2019.”

Report B-19-39 Chair Bryce advised that the Education Act requires that the Board pass a resolution authorizing a Trustee's absence for more than three consecutive regular meetings of the Board. Trustee McKinlay is asking to be excused from April 9 to June 30, 2019 for personal reasons.

CARRIED.

Special Education  
Advisory Committee  
Report  
Report B-19-38 Trustee Barnes reported on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting held on March 21, 2019 at Wallaceburg District Secondary School. SEAC members heard presentations from representatives from Development Services Ontario (DSO), Pathways Health Centre for Children and the Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario. SEAC members continued to review sections of the Special Education Plan. The LKDSB's September 2017/August 2018 Accessibility Report was shared with the SEAC members for their review and comment. Chair Bryce noted that Rose Gallaway was elected to the position of SEAC Chair and Trustee Barnes was elected to the position of SEAC Vice-Chair.

New Business Superintendent Girardi advised that the LKDSB School Climate Survey was underway. Individuals are invited to participate from April 1 to 12, 2019. The data obtained will assist school staff and Administration to determine what programs and supports are needed in the schools to sustain a positive school climate. The survey is conducted every 2 years. The school Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT) analyse their school climate results to make decisions about programs and supports needed in the school. This year, Administration created a broader working group to develop the questions to make the survey more meaningful. Input was obtained from Indigenous representatives, Parent Involvement Committee representatives, Student Trustees along with school staff and students. Administration has engaged staff from the Windsor Essex Health Unit to analyse the LKDSB data. Information will be shared with school MDT, school communities and the greater public. As of today, 2000 students in Grade 4 to 6, 3000 students in Grades 7 to 12 and 555 staff members have participated. Parent involvement has increased from 200 to 1265 so far.

Trustee Agar announced that Student Trustee Graham participated in the recent Optimist Club public speaking event and qualified to move on to the event in Chatham on April 27. She will be competing for a scholarship for postsecondary studies.

Trustee Questions Trustee Barnes stated that a partnership between the LKDSB, the Wallaceburg and District Council for the Arts and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent came into existence in early 2016 and a community concert band was formed. The group is completely voluntary. Members are not paid. Donations, sponsorships and grants are obtained from the community. Performances are free. Trustee Barnes explained that through an agreement with CLASS, the group utilizes room 184 at Wallaceburg District Secondary School (WDSS) in the evenings. She explained that the group sets up and tears down their equipment daily and for performances. Going forward, the group would like to utilize room 184 exclusively in the evenings at little or no cost. She stated that she understands that the room is currently used for one class three times a week during the day. She shared the discussions that have occurred since January 2019 involving the Mayor of the Municipality of Chatham Kent, executive of the Band, LKDSB staff and the Wallaceburg and District Council for the Arts. Trustee Barnes asked how she could assist the Band with further discussion in the hope of having a community agreement and securing a practice area for the Band? Trustee Barnes advised that she is a member of the Band.

Director Costello advised that he had received correspondence from a retired WDSS teacher on this topic. The group is currently renting the room at a very low cost through CLASS and the Community Use of Schools program, the appropriate channel. The Band is now asking for the Board to give them use of room 184 permanently. The current fee is minimal because the Band is a not-for-profit group. Director Costello stated that he is supportive of the group, however, it is a school first, and the Principal must make sure the room is surplus to the needs of the school. It may be needed for some Grade 7 and 8 program next school year. He advised that he will be visiting the school and talking with the Principal next week. Director Costello confirmed that there is nothing further that Trustee Barnes can do to move the process forward.

Announcements

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Sarnia Education Centre. There will be a Trustee workshop on Elementary Program Math Focusing on Fundamentals prior to the next Board Meeting.

Adjournment:  
8:25 p.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Bryce declared the Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Chair of the Board

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Director of Education and  
Secretary of the Board