

PRESENT:

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

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

Student Trustees: Aurora Bressette, Simon Harris and Byren Newcombe

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.

#2019-144
Approval of the Agenda Moved by Lareina Rising, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,
"That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of November 26, 2019 be approved with the addition of 12.c) OPSBA Advocacy Day."
CARRIED.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest None

#2019-145
Approval of the Minutes Nov/12/2019 Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded by Lareina Rising,
"That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 12, 2019."
CARRIED.

Business Arising None

#2019-146
Action of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded by Jack Fletcher,
"That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the Board."
CARRIED.

Presentations: None

Delegations: None

Questions from the Public None

#2019-147
Municipal Local Improvement Policy Report B-19-109 Chair Bryce explained that Trustee Robertson served Notice of Motion at the November 12, 2019 Board Meeting.
Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Greg Agar,
"That the Board send a formal request to the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, the City of Sarnia and surrounding lower tier municipalities to review the respective Local Improvement Policy, prioritizing new sidewalk implementation in accordance with policies that promote safe routes to school."

Trustee Robertson explained that the purpose of the motion is to ensure the safety of all students travelling to school. He provided an example of an unsafe situation in Chatham that a constituent had brought to his attention. He suggested that the Board make a formal request to have all municipalities review their Local Improvement Policy. Safe routes to schools should be a priority for all municipalities. He noted the importance of making this request now as

municipalities and local governments are about to approach annual reviews and budget deliberations. Trustees expressed support for student and community safety.

CARRIED.

#2019-148
LKDSB Policy and
Regulations on *Guide
Dog, Service Dog and
Service Animal*
Report B-19-110

Moved by Janet Barnes, seconded by Derek Robertson,

“That the Board approve the revised policy and regulations on *Use of Guide Dog, Service Dog or Service Animal by a Student.*”

Director Howitt advised that the LKDSB policy and regulations on *Use of Guide Dog, Service Dog or Service Animal by a Student* have been revised to meet the new requirements of the Ministry of Education’s Policy/Program Memorandum No. 163, issued September 9, 2019. School boards must implement and make publicly available on their websites their newly developed or updated policies and procedures on student use of service animals by January 1, 2020. He explained that currently the LKDSB policy and regulations cover students, staff and community members. PPM 163 requires the LKDSB to update the documents and have separate policies and regulations for students. Senior Administration consulted with the LKDSB legal team and insurance provider as well as the Council of Directors of Education.

The LKDSB currently has a separate administrative procedure for students and one for staff. The draft revised administrative procedure for students was shared with Trustees. It is in draft form and will be finalized following a Ministry webinar on November 28, 2019. Director Howitt commended Superintendent Barrese for her work on the documents. Input was obtained through the community partners represented on the LKDSB Special Education Advisory Committee.

Superintendent Barrese confirmed that currently there are no service animals in the LKDSB schools.

Director Howitt confirmed that some of the language in the regulation is required as per the PPM from the government. School boards must inform the community that a service animal is being considered for the competing human rights of other students and staff but not the reason the service animal is being considered.

Superintendent Barrese explained that the intent of #2 was to provide opportunity for discussion prior to someone spending significant dollars on acquiring a service animal only to find out that the animal could not be included in the school environment. The intent is not to prevent the purchase of an animal but to allow for consultation. It is not a requirement.

#2019-149
Amendment to the Original
Motion Approved

Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Lareina Rising,

“That the motion be amended to add that #2 in the regulation be revised to read *Parents, guardians or adult students when considering the purchase of a Guide Dog, Service Dog or Service Animal may want to consult with the school principal before making a commitment.*”

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED.

Director Howitt confirmed that Administration will adjust any similar language in the administrative procedure.

#2019-150
LKDSB 2018/2019 Annual
Accessibility Report

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Lareina Rising

“That the Board approve the LKDSB 2018/2019 Annual Accessibility Report.”

Report B-19-111

Superintendent Girardi outlined the composition of the LKDSB Accessibility Committee. He explained that the LKDSB 2018/2019 Annual Accessibility Report describes the measures that have been taken during the 2018/2019 school year to identify barriers and enhance accessibility for individuals who work, learn and participate in the LKDSB and environment. He advised that the LKDSB Annual Accessibility Plan has been reviewed by the members of the LKDSB Special Education Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

Annual Audit Committee
Report
Report B-19-112

Trustee Douglas provided a summary of the Audit Committee's actions for the year ending August 31, 2019. The External Auditors presented the LKDSB detailed Financial Statements to the Audit Committee members and the Audit Committee members recommended the approval of the Annual Audited Financial Statements to the Board. He commented on the activity of the Internal Auditors and the audits completed. Superintendent McKay confirmed that Administration had recently received an application from a community member to join the Audit Committee.

Budget Meeting Schedule
for the 2020/2021 School
Year
Report B-19-113

Superintendent McKay explained that the LKDSB annual budget process for the 2020/2021 school year will begin in February 2020. He reviewed the budget schedule that will guide the planning of revenues and expenses, for the upcoming 2020/2021 school year. The timelines will ultimately depend upon the date when the Ministry provides school boards with the grant regulations. Budget Workshops for Trustees and Administration will be held on April 7 and May 5, 2020. Budget development information will be shared at the Regular Board Meetings scheduled for April 14, 28, May 12 and 26. The Budget Information Session with the Student Senate will be on May 4, the Parent Involvement Committee session will be on May 11, the Indigenous Liaison Committee session will be on May 20 and Special Education Advisory Committee session will be on May 21. The final approval of the 2020/2021 Budget is scheduled for the June 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting with June 23, 2020 as the backup date.

OPSBA Advocacy Day

Trustee Fletcher advised that he attended the OPSBA Advocacy Day on November 25, 2019 in Toronto. There were various Trustees, Directors of Education and MPPs in attendance. He had the opportunity to speak with MPP Percy Hatfield from Windsor and MPP Rick Nicholls from Chatham-Kent - Leamington. Trustee Fletcher stated that he raised a couple of points one of which was the need for school boards to have more autonomy to reflect local needs. Trustee Fletcher had asked Chair Bryce and Director Howitt for input prior to the event which he shared with the MPPs. They advised that the government eliminated the Top of Funding which was provided to cover costs associated with excess pupil space. School boards need the funding back or the ability to proceed with accommodation reviews to address or eliminate the excess pupil places. Rick Nichols referred to a meeting he had with former Director Costello regarding the secondary schools in South Kent. Trustee Fletcher referenced the media release on the OPSBA Advocacy Day. He commented on the survey which indicated tremendous support for the public education system.

Announcements

The Organization Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Sarnia Education Centre.
The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at the Chatham Education Centre.

Adjournment
7:43 p.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Bryce declared the Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board