

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 John Howitt, Superintendents of Education Gary Girardi, 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
Regrets:	Trustee Derek Robertson, Superintendents of Education Angie Barrese, Ben Hazzard and Superintendent of Business Brian McKay
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.
#2019-126 Approval of the Agenda	Moved by Brittany Jenkins, seconded by Greg Agar, "That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of October 22, 2019 be approved."
	CARRIED.
Declaration of Conflict of Interest:	None
#2019-126 Approval of the Minutes Oct/8/2019	Moved by Britany Jenkins, seconded by Greg Agar, "That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2019."
	CARRIED.
Business Arising	None
#2019-127 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
#2019-128 Phasing Out and Reducing Single Use Plastics Report B-19-86	Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Lareina Rising, "That the LKDSB explore ways to phase out or reduce single use plastics and produce a report outlining what steps are doable with recommended timelines."

Trustee Fletcher served Notice of Motion at the October 8, 2019 Board Meeting. He referred to the rationale contained in the Board Report B-19-86. He noted that the Canadian Government will ban "harmful" single use plastics by 2021. He suggested that since the ban was coming, the LKDSB should continue its efforts to reduce and phase out single use plastics over time. He commented on the steps taken by the LKDSB including the installation of water fill stations. Trustee Fletcher commented on the production of alternative non-plastic products that dissolve over time. He suggested that LKDSB partners, like cafeteria services, be involved in the plan. He referenced the report developed

by the Greater Essex County District School Board. Trustee Fletcher commented that as responsible citizens and to set another example for other school boards and public institutions, the LKDSB needs to reduce and phase out single use plastics. The LKDSB can make a statement do to its part to move in the direction of responsible stewardship for the planet Earth.

Trustee Rising supported the Motion noting that small things will make a big difference. She noted that locally, raw materials are refined to make the plastics and cautioned against vilifying the production of plastics or those employed by the companies. Steps should be explored in a measured and an accountable way. Vice-Chair Campbell supported exploring ways to phase out and reduce single plastics. Student Trustee Harris commended Trustee Fletcher for bringing the report forward and commented on environmental stewardship.

Student Trustee Bressette joined the Board Meeting 7:12 p.m.

Student Trustee Harris suggested changing the Motion to read *phase out or reduce single use*.

Trustee Agar declared a conflict of interest because he spent his life making plastics.

Trustees confirmed that the timelines for the report would be left up to Administration to determine.

Trustee Fletcher agreed that changing the wording to *phase out or reduce* did not change the intent of the motion. He recognized that the local area is involved in manufacturing of plastics. He commented that he believes moving forward, other forms of economic gains will be made through other means in this area of manufacturing. He does not feel this will limit them in terms of financial gain.

It was agreed that the Motion would be changed to read *phase out or reduce single use ...*

Trustee Agar abstained from voting.

CARRIED.

Supervised Alternative
Learning Summary
2018/2019
Report B-19-94

Trustee Dodman provided a summary of the Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee Meetings held during the 2018/2019 school year. She outlined the members of the SAL Committee which included Trustees Dodman, Barnes, Campbell and Fletcher. She advised that students in the program attempted 234 credits over the year and earned 27 credits. The LKDSB continues to have an active SAL Program during the 2019/2020 school year. The students in this program are working toward either an Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) or an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Trustee Fletcher stated that he was very impressed by SAL giving students opportunities to succeed. Vice-Chair Campbell commented on the merits of the program and how it has expanded over the years.

Student Senate Report

Student Trustee Newcombe reported on the Student Senate Meeting held on October 21, 2019 at Wallaceburg District Secondary School. Student Trustees Newcombe and Bressette attended in person and Student Trustee Harris participated via teleconference. Student Senators Maddy Nemcek and Kayleigh Ritchie were elected Co-Chairs. The Student Trustees provided the Student Senators a summary of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) Annual General Meeting that they attended October 17 to 20, 2019. They emphasized the importance of the Senators reaching out to their Student Councils and that the Student Trustees serve as a liaison between Student Senate and the Board. The next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2019.

Trustee Agar stated that he sits on the Student Senate and was impressed with the Students.

Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA)

Student Trustee Harris advised that the Student Trustees attended the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) Annual General Meeting October 17 to 20, 2019. It is one of three meetings hosted by OSTA throughout the year. It provided an excellent opportunity for attendees to understand how other school boards run their Student Senate and engage with students. He commented on the topics covered throughout the event. Nancy Naylor, Deputy Minister and Norah Marsh, EQAO Chief Executive Officer addressed the group. Student Trustee Harris indicated that each attendee was also part of a working group. He is the Policy Coordinator and also serves on the Advocacy Working Group. Student Trustee Newcombe is Co-Chair of the Ontario Student Voice Awards Working Group. Student Trustee Bressette is on the Indigenous Relations Working Group.

On behalf of the Student Trustees, Student Trustee Newcombe expressed appreciation for the opportunity to attend the important conference noting it is an investment for the Board. Student Trustee Bressette commented on the great opportunity to network with others.

LKDSB Pupil Accommodation Report 2019/2020 Report B-19-95

Director Howitt reminded Trustees that the Pupil Accommodation Report is presented annually to the Board to provide an update on enrolment and demographics. He noted that the moratorium on school reviews and closures is still in place so school boards cannot pass any motions for school consolidations. Once the moratorium ends, it is expected that the government will issue revised procedures on what the process will look like. Accordingly, Administration would bring forward any required changes to the LKDSB regulations to the Board for approval before any formal accommodation reviews could begin. Director Howitt noted that declining enrolment continues in the LKDSB schools but at a less severe rate than earlier in the decade. He noted that the conterminous school board is experiencing the same. He advised that the LKDSB has over 8,000 empty pupil places. This is an ongoing challenge because it dilutes school staff assignments which impacts programs for students. Administration remains focused on fostering student success and programs for students. He reminded Trustees that four years ago, the Pupil Accommodation Report was presented to Trustees with eight possible review phases. Four have been completed and four remain. Director Howitt explained that when the moratorium is lifted the remaining phases will be reviewed and if appropriate, presented to Trustees for consideration. He confirmed that it is the Trustees who would determine if any reviews move forward by approving the commencement of a review. As well, Trustees would need to approve any outcome of an accommodation review.

Superintendent Sherman presented the Pupil Accommodation Report and explained that Appendix A provides school and site information for each school. He referred to the one-page Infographic that is a snap shot summary of the data contained in the report.

Superintendent Sherman presented the enrolment and demographic data. The LKDSB has 21,895 students as of September 20, 2019. The LKDSB's Ministry-rated empty pupil spaces is 8,387 as of September 20, 2019. LKDSB's current capacity utilization as of September 20, 2019 is 72.30%; and LKDSB's projection of enrolment continues to fluctuate and capacity utilization is 22,071 students in 2024 (72.88%) and 21,464 students in 2029 (70.88%). He noted that while Statistics Canada predicts that the birth rate in Ontario will increase from 2017 to 2027, the LKDSB birth rates and the projected student population is expected to decrease due to a decline in birth rate in the LKDSB area.

Superintendent Sherman stated that the elementary enrolment as of September 20, 2019 was 14,742 students, which represents an increase of 69 students in comparison to the 2018/19 elementary average daily enrolment (ADE) of 14,673. ADE is calculated by averaging the total enrolment on the Ministry funding dates of October 31 and March 31 of the school year. It is important to note that in the 2018/19 school year, elementary enrolment increased by 14 students on the March 31, 2019 Ministry funding date in comparison to the enrolment on October 31. Secondary enrolment as of September 20, 2019 is 7,153 students, a decrease of 208 students in comparison to enrolment on October 31, 2018. Secondary enrolment is projected to fluctuate over the next 10 years as a larger elementary class moves to secondary.

Superintendent Sherman stated that the LKDSB currently has 8,387 empty pupil spaces. He explained that the Ministry determines the school capacity and defines learning spaces. At the elementary level, classrooms are recognized as learning spaces, but music/drama rooms, libraries, auditoriums and gymnasiums are not funded as learning spaces. At the secondary level, music rooms do count as a learning space. He reviewed the Facility Condition Index Charts. Ministry representatives inspect the schools and determine how much it would cost to repair or replace the schools and provide the data for the FCI charts.

Superintendent Sherman commented on consolidating schools to provide the best programs for students. The goal is to improve program and opportunities for students.

Superintendent Sherman reviewed the four remaining proposed pupil accommodation review phases. He advised that the projected reduction of empty pupil spaces associated with each phase was included in the report this year. He noted that when the moratorium is lifted, the phases would need to be reviewed to see if they are still appropriate. He confirmed that for a new accommodation review to move forward, it would have to be approved by the Board. He referred to the Thoughtexchange data and confirmed that community input would continue to be part of the process.

Superintendent Sherman reviewed the information contained on the School and Site Information Summary for each school contained in Appendix A. He explained that the school FCI changes based on repairs completed on buildings or reassessment by the Ministry representatives.

It was noted that the Legend for the School Utilization Chart was on page 2 of Appendix A.

It was clarified that Thoughtexchange was a strategy used by Administration in the past to gather input before developing recommendations to bring forward to Trustees. Thoughtexchange will not be opening up for input in the near future but it will be an option for consideration closer to the time when Administration could bring recommendations forward.

Director Howitt clarified that schools with a capacity of +100% have portables on site. Portables are temporary and do not count as part of the Ministry's capacity ratings.

Director Howitt thanked Superintendent Sherman and the team for the report noting the significant amount of work required to put it together. He commented on the challenges before the Board noting the difficult emotional times ahead when the moratorium is lifted. Decisions will need to be made for student programs in the long run.

Chair Bryce thanked Administration for the report and stated that the Board supports the focus on students and student programs.

Announcements

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Chatham Education Centre.

Trustee Dodman shared the history of the annual Remembrance Day Service held at Chatham Kent Secondary School and invited everyone to attend on November 8, 2019 at 9:00 am or Noon.

Trustee Rising shared that Treaty Recognition Week is the first full week of November. She commended every school that takes the time to participate in learning activities. She encouraged everyone to learn about treaties and referenced the connection to the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement that is read out at the start of the Board Meetings.

Adjournment:
8:09 p.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Bryce declared the Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board