

PRESENT:

Trustees: Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Randy Campbell, Greg Agar, Janet Barnes, Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas, Jack Fletcher, Brittany Jenkins, Scott McKinlay, 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 and Mark Sherman and Public Relations Officer Heather Hughes

Student Trustees: Aurora Bressette, Simon Harris

Regrets: Student Trustee Newcombe

Recording Secretary: Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer

Call to Order: Chair Bryce called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and explained that the Board Meeting was being held via teleconference which was allowed because the Ministry of Education and the Government of Ontario has introduced new legislation allowing for Board Meetings to occur electronically. Regulation 463/97 was amended by Regulation 42/20, and removes the requirement for any persons to be physically present at electronic meetings if all schools have been closed by the Minister, the Medical Officer of Health or Cabinet.

Chair Bryce read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.

Chair Bryce read an in memoriam for Student Carter Brissette and Elementary Teacher Carol-Lee Halcovitch. A moment of silence was observed.

Chair Bryce explained the voting process for the electronic meeting.

#2020-52

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Derek Robertson,

“That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2020 be approved.”

CARRIED.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Robertson declared a conflict of interest with the motion emanating from Private Session.

#2020-53

Approval of the Minutes
Feb/25/2020

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Jack Fletcher,

“That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 25, 2020.”

CARRIED.

Business Arising

Director Howitt advised that a letter was sent by Chair Bryce, on behalf of the Board, to the Minister of Education expressing the LKDSB funding concerns. A copy of the letter is included on the Board Agenda under Correspondence. Understandably, a letter of response has not been received yet due to the focus on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motions Emanating from Private Session

Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded by Ruth Ann,

“That the Board excuse Trustee Derek Robertson from attending Board Meetings from April 14, 2020 to August 31, 2020.”

CARRIED.

Trustee Robertson explained that he fully intends to attend Board Meetings during the pandemic, but may not be able to attend due to his professional responsibilities.

#2020-54
Action of the Regular
Board Private Session be
the Action of the Board

Moved by Scott McKinlay, seconded by Brittany Jenkins,
"That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the
Board."

CARRIED.

Presentations:

None

Delegations:

None

#2020-55
2020/2021 School Year
Calendar
Report B-20-26

Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Janet Barnes,

"That the Board approve the 2020/2021 School Year Calendar and that this
calendar be forwarded to the Ministry of Education for approval as
required."

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 2020/2021, 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 7, 2020	Labour Day
October 12, 2020	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
December 21 to January 1, 2021	Holiday Break
February 15, 2021	Family Day
March 15 – 19, 2021	March Break
April 2, 2021	Good Friday
April 5, 2021	Easter Monday
May 24, 2021	Victoria Day

P.A. Days:

Thursday, September 3, 2020
Friday, September 4, 2020
Friday, October 9, 2020
Friday, November 20, 2020
Wednesday, February 3, 2021
Friday, June 4, 2021
Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Secondary Exam Days:

Wednesday, January 27 – Tuesday, February 2, 2021
Wednesday, June 23 – Tuesday, June 29, 2021

EQAO Dates:

Grade 3 & 6 Assessments -May 25 to June 7, 2021
Grade 9 Math - 1st Semester January 11 to January 22, 2021
Grade 9 Math - 2nd Semester June 3 to June 16, 2021
OSSLT April 8, 2021

Superintendent Hazzard explained the need to hold two PA days this year prior to the start of the school year this year.

Director Howitt explained that changing an approved school year can be done by Board Motion and Ministry approval. He expects that changes necessitated by the pandemic would be made at the provincial level. Superintendent Hazzard advised that the school year calendar being presented for approval is a typical school year calendar, in line with what the Ministry has recommended.

CARRIED.

#2020-56
Tender Award – HVAC
Lambton Central
Centennial Public School
Report B-20-31

Moved by Scott McKinlay, seconded by Lareina Rising,

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder, Postma Heating & Cooling Inc., Chatham for supply of a new HVAC roof top unit for the gym of Lambton Central Centennial Public School provided that the approved tender work is allowed to proceed under the definition of essential services by the province of Ontario.”

Superintendent McKay reported on the tender opening for a new HVAC roof top unit for the gym at Lambton Central Centennial Public School. He explained that the tender does not include the installation of the unit. A separate tender will be presented to the Board for the installation. He explained that the supply sector expects that there may be issues in the near future obtaining the HVAC unit, so this tender is being presented separate from the installation. The project cost for the unit of \$129,936.39 will be covered by the School Condition Improvement funds. Superintendent McKay confirmed that Postma Heating and Cooling Inc. are aware of this unique situation and the fact that they can bid on the installation tender as well. He advised that this project could not be done when school is in session due to the heavy equipment needed to lift the equipment. The project is not considered an essential service at this time because it is not a health and safety concern. The existing unit could be maintained for another year. Superintendent McKay confirmed that the tender can be cancelled if they cannot guarantee delivery on time. The same precautions will be in place for the installation tender.

CARRIED.

#2020-57
Tender Award - Asphalt
Replacement – Victor
Lauriston Public School
Report B-12-32

Moved Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Derek Robertson,

“That the Board award the tender to the successful bidder, Elric Contractors of Wallaceburg Inc. for asphalt replacement at Victor Lauriston Public School provided that the approved tender work is allowed to proceed under the definition of essential services by the province of Ontario.”

Superintendent McKay reported on the tender opening for asphalt replacement at Victor Lauriston Public School. The project cost of \$320,485.25 will be covered by the School Condition Improvement funds. Superintendent McKay confirmed that the majority of the asphalt at the school will be replaced. He will provide further clarification at the next Board Meeting.

CARRIED.

Indigenous Liaison
Committee (ILC) Report
Report B-20-27

Trustee Rising reported on the Indigenous Liaison Committee (ILC) Meeting of February 19, 2020 held at Eelūnaapéewi Lahkéewiit. She referred to the reports from the First Nation Communities.

Special Education
Advisory Committee
(SEAC) Report

Trustee Barnes reported on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting held on February 20, 2020. She commented on the excellent

Report B-20-28	presentations from Community Living Sarnia/Lambton, Community Living Wallaceburg and the Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent.
Student Senate Report Report B-20-33	Student Trustee Bressette reported on the Student Senate Meeting held on March 9, 2020. Superintendent Barrese, Mental Health Lead, Colameco, System Coordinator Moore and the LKDSB Social Workers attended the meeting. The Social Workers outlined the schools they work at and the various ways they interact with students through direct service, group work and classroom presentations. The purpose of the school Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) was explained. Social Workers are members of the MDT. She noted the plans to include Student Senators on the MDT in the future. Members of the Student Senate had decided to take the resources from School Mental Health Ontario (SHMO) and create voiceover clips to go with the slides. The plan was to play/share the clips during Education Week/Mental Health Week, the first week of May, through morning announcements, social media, websites, etc. She advised that Director Howitt shared the one page summary of his Entry Plan and the next steps which includes the development of the LKDSB Strategic Priorities. Student Senators were informed of the need to cancel some field trips scheduled for March Break due to the cases of the COVID-19 in international countries.
Ontario Student Trustees' Association Report	Student Trustee Harris reported on the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) Conference that was held from February 20 to 23, 2020. Student Trustees Bressette and Newcombe also attended the conference. It provided an opportunity to connect with student trustees from across the province and participate in the student trustee mentoring sessions. He commented on Keynote speaker Annie Kidder, President of People for Education. They provided feedback on the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association's (OPHEA) concussion module.
LKDSB Staff Supported Student Learning during COVID-19 School Closures Report B-20-34	Director Howitt commented on the tremendous work being done by all LKDSB staff to support student learning and the attempt to capture it in Report B-20-34. He commented on the flexibility and innovation that has come out of the situation during the first few weeks of the school closure. Senior Administration has been very conscious of the importance of communications to get the word out to everyone. Administration has tried to address gaps and challenges. He shared that feedback has been positive. Staff are reaching out to support student mental health and well-being as well as their educational needs. He stated that staff have not been able to reach some families due to internet issues, lack of devices, or relocation but they are continuing to try. Director Howitt advised that over 2200 devices were delivered students to support teacher lead student learning at home. He noted that the rural areas have challenges with internet. Some areas have 3G connection at best. Those speeds do not allow for some of the online activities students are asked to do. To address the equity issue, paper booklets were delivered to students without access to online learning. Additional printed learning materials will be shared in the coming weeks that will be more grade specific. Trustees thanked the LKDSB Staff for their hard work and the Director for the detailed report. Director Howitt confirmed that Premier Ford stated that schools would not be reopening on May 4. The Minister of Education has yet to provide a date. Regarding student marks, he explained that students eligible to graduate who are going on to postsecondary institutions, will have their second semester midterm marks submitted to OCAS and OUAC (colleges and universities) at the end of April. This process is continuing as it does every year. March 13 marks will be submitted for LKDSB students. However, if students do complete some

additional tasks and increase their marks, then the higher marks will be submitted. Students will not be disadvantaged by the COVID-19 pandemic. Director Howitt explained that for non-graduating students, the March 13 date is relevant if schools do not reopen. The students' grade as of March 13 would be the lowest grade teachers would use for reporting purposes.

Director Howitt confirmed that, as far as he knows, all schools have been able to deliver devices to students who did not have transportation to pick them up at their school. Staff in the Information Technology Department enable the school devices to work from students' homes. The devices were sent to the schools for pickup. Principals worked with families to pick up the devices at certain times respecting social distancing or having the devices delivered to homes where transportation was an issue. Director Howitt confirmed that over 2000 paper booklets were distributed to students and the packages included writing implements. Families should contact their principal if they need resources. Trustees offered to assist with getting resources to students. Director Howitt confirmed that there is not a need at present.

Trustee Bryce commented on the extraordinary times and advised that the Board wants staff to know that the Board greatly appreciates the efforts of all staff to deliver equitable educational opportunities throughout the LKDSB. Director Howitt advised that he would include a statement in the Director's weekly newsletter.

Salary Disclosure Act for
2019
Report B-20-29

Director Howitt advised that each year, since the *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act* was passed in 1996, the Ontario Government has published a compendium on public sector employees who were paid a salary of \$100,000 or more. Organizations that receive public funding from the Province of Ontario are required to disclose the names, positions, salaries and taxable benefits of these employees. The salary required to be made public under the Act reflects the amount to be reported to Canada Revenue Agency on the employer's T-4 slip for the employee. The T-4 amounts may include components that relate to a prior year and may exceed the employee's annual rate of salary. The taxable benefits listed on the report are the amount shown on the T-4 slip as prepared for the Canada Revenue Agency. The Act covers city and other local governments, universities and colleges, school boards, hospitals, and Crown agencies. It also applies to the Provincial Government ministries and members of the Assembly. Other non-profit organizations that receive a large share of their funding from the provincial government are covered as well.

Director Howitt advised that there are 273 employees on the list this year. Last year, 2018, there were 257 people on the list compared to 199 people in 2017 and 149 in 2016. He noted that in future years as collective agreements are settled, the number of employees will increase.

Correspondence

Letter dated February 27, 2020, sent to the Minister of Education expressing the LKDSB funding concerns, in a manner similar to the May 19, 2019 letter.

Announcements

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held electronically on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) event scheduled for April 30, 2020 is cancelled. It may be rescheduled to the fall.

Chair Bryce thanked Trustees and members of Senior Administration for enabling the Board Meeting to run smoothly electronically.

Adjournment
8:06 p.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Bryce declared the Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board