

PRESENT:

- Trustees:** Chair Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair Randy Campbell, Greg Agar, Janet Barnes (via teleconference), Ruth Ann Dodman, Dave Douglas (via teleconference), Jack Fletcher, Scott McKinlay (via teleconference), Lareina Rising (via teleconference), 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, William Locke and Lucia Shultz-Allison
- 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.
- #2020-122**
Approval of the Agenda Moved by Jack Fletcher, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,
"That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of October 13, 2020 be approved."
CARRIED.
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest** None
- #2020-123**
Approval of the Minutes Sept/22/2020 Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded by Derek Robertson,
"That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 22, 2020."
CARRIED.
- Business Arising** None
- #2020-124**
Action of the Regular Board Private Session be the Action of the Board Moved by Randy Campbell, seconded Derek Robertson,
"That the Action of the Board in Private Session be the Action of the Board."
CARRIED.
- Presentations**
Summer Learning Program Superintendent Hazzard explained that the Summer Learning Program this year was very different from past years. It was offered virtually and was very innovative. He introduced Mary Lynn Anderson, System Coordinator, Student Achievement Elementary, and advised that she was responsible for the Summer Learning Program. Mary Lynn Anderson introduced three of the teachers who participated in the program Jessica Jette, Lesley Fraleigh and Samantha VanHooft. Mary Lynn Anderson explained that the Ministry provided the same amount of funding this year and all of it was spent on the students because there was not a need for transportation, meals, etc. A total of 95 students from 37 different schools were involved. Most students were entering Grade 6, and some were entering Grade 5. Nineteen math teachers were hired and five recreational teachers. One math teacher and one recreational teacher were on each team. The program ran from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for 5 weeks. The recreational teachers lead virtual tours of museums, outdoor scavenger hunts, yoga sessions, etc. The teachers shared their approaches to teaching mathematics and shared student feedback. They noted that attendance was excellent, and students gained confidence in their abilities. The teachers shared that they had a great experience teaching the students in the virtual Summer

	<p>Learning Program. Chair Bryce thanked the team for their caring approach. Director Howitt advised that Ministry of Education representatives visited LKDSB during the summer to see how the program was being offered and their representatives had an incredible experience. He noted that the LKDSB struggles at times with its geographic distance and this might be a way to reach more students in the future, possibly a mixed program offering in the future. He thanked Mary Lynn Anderson for her leadership.</p>
<p>Director of Education's Snap Shots of Excellence</p>	<p>Director Howitt presented the Director's Snap Shots of Excellence PowerPoint which features highlights of engagement across the district. Included in the presentation were examples of schools welcoming back their students face to face and virtually, teaching and learning face to face and virtually, health and safety measures put in place, socially distanced classroom set ups, outdoor activities, Orange Shirt Day activities and Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Day activities.</p>
<p>Delegations:</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Questions from the Public</p>	<p>Chair Bryce advised that members of the public may submit questions they wish to have asked at the Board Meeting by noon on the day of the meeting via email to trish.johnston@lkdsb.net. The Chair or a member of Senior Administration will answer the question at the Board Meeting if the information is immediately available or a written reply will be sent following the meeting. Chair Bryce confirmed that no questions were received for the October 13, 2020 Board Meeting.</p>
<p>Process for replacement of Of Trustee Brittany Jenkins Report B-20-93</p>	<p>Director Howitt explained that according to the Education Act, the Board is required to fill the Trustee vacancy created by the resignation of Brittany Jenkins. He outlined the options in the Education Act that the Board could use to fill the vacancy – a by-election or appoint someone. Director Howitt advised that when vacancies have occurred in the past, the Board has chosen the option of appointing a qualified person to fill the role. The vacancy was advertised in the jurisdiction of the vacancy. Interested qualified individuals would be asked to apply and present to the Trustees at a Public Board Meeting. Trustees would then be asked to cast secret ballots at the meeting to select the individual. Director Howitt recommended following past practice of appointing a person to the Trustee position. This vacancy is in the area of Sarnia/Point Edward. If the motion is approved, the advertisement would go out October 14 and close at noon on October 21, 2020. In the past, if there were ten applicants or less, the appointment took place at a Regular Board Meeting, if there were more applicants, a Special Board meeting was held to appoint a person.</p>
<p>#2020-125 Board to appoint a person to fill the Trustee vacancy</p>	<p>Moved by Greg Agar, seconded by Ruth Ann Dodman,</p> <p>“That the Board appoint a qualified person to fill the Trustee vacancy for the Lambton Kent District School Board.”</p> <p>Director Howitt confirmed that there had not been any media attention over the vacancy. The option of appointing the next person with the most votes from the 2018 municipal election was raised as a suggestion for consideration. That person has already proven their desire to be a trustee and this option has the accountability remaining with the electorate. Director Howitt confirmed that he had the results of the past election.</p> <p>Chair Bryce provided a historical perspective of how the Board has filled vacant trustee positions in the past. In the past, individuals who ran unsuccessfully in</p>

the election have come forward to participate in the proposed appointment process.

Moved by Derek Robertson, seconded by Lareina Rising,

“That the motion be amended to add *in accordance with the past practice*.

AMENDMENT CARRIED.

The vote was taken on the Main Motion as amended.

“That the Board appoint a qualified person to fill the Trustee vacancy for the Lambton Kent District School Board in accordance with past practice.”

MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED.

Director Howitt advised that the vacancy will be advertised locally using social media platforms. Social media ads will be purchased to target areas. A news release will be issued. Print and radio ads will not be purchased.

Ontario Public School
Boards' Association
(OPSBA) Update

Trustee Fletcher advised that the OPSBA Annual General Meeting was held virtually on September 26, 2020 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and the Board of Directors Meeting was held on September 25 and the morning of September 26, 2020. He commented that, according to information shared, the money spent on the management of the COVID-19 pandemic by the federal government was more than the provincial government. He noted that most school boards dipped into their reserves and some did not have any reserves to use. Some school boards expressed concern that the reserves were for future projects. Trustee Fletcher advised that the following motion was passed: *Direct OPSBA to advocate to the Minister of Education to create an immediate mechanism to address the deficiencies and inequities in funding across school boards to fund safe school reopening.*

Chair Bryce expressed appreciation to Trustee Fletcher for representing the LKDSB.

Special Education
Advisory Committee
Report
Report B-20-94

Trustee Barnes reported on the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on September 17, 2020. SEAC members were provided with information regarding how the Board established the virtual schools and the methods being used to deliver programs and services to students with special needs in both the face to face model and the Learn at Home model. SEAC members recognized the efforts of all staff members.

Indigenous Liaison
Committee Report
Report B-20-95

Trustee Rising reported on the September 23, 2020 Indigenous Liaison Committee Meeting held via TEAMS. She noted the meeting scheduling conflicts that occur in September and the need to reconsider dates going forward. She noted that the Eelūnaapéewi Lahkéewit (Delaware Nation) indicated that half of their elementary and most of secondary students were attending school in person. For students learning from home, connectivity continues to be an issue despite having received LTE enhanced iPads. Zhahwun Shognosh is the new Secondary Indigenous Education and Special Projects Teacher.

LKDSB Reopening Our
Schools Plan Update
Report B-20-96

Director Howitt updated Trustees on what is happening in the secondary face to face and virtual schools. Secondary students are just past the halfway mark in the first quadmester. Students will be getting a midterm mark. Information will be communicated to parents/guardians as well. At the end of the quadmester, students will be given their final mark, but not the report card. The report card will be issued when all four courses are completed at the end of the traditional

semester. Director Howitt advised that students in some secondary programs (SWAC, Specialized Coop, etc.) are continuing to operate on a semester basis and they will receive traditional mid-term and final report cards. He explained that the playing of brass/wind instruments was paused at the start of the school year, but secondary schools are now able to engage in the playing of musical instruments outdoors, following guidelines outlined by the Ontario Music Educator's Association, and in consultation with local public health.

Director Howitt commented on what Learn at Home looks like for elementary students. Students are succeeding and family engagement has improved at the younger grades. Teachers, ECEs and EAs are effectively working together. Staff have noticed that some students who might be considered quieter in class are participating more in the virtual school. He commented on the collaboration between teachers which is enhancing student learning. Real-life learning is a focus, as the digital platforms mean the video conference can go anywhere. The intermediate classes will be learning about biology, science, and math with a video conference directly from a Veterinarian's office in the coming weeks. Great teacher ideas are shared as homerooms join together to learn, and then classes return to their own class virtually to discuss the learning. The Administrative team has engaged with families, adapted plans, and ensured that our students learn in new ways, in this virtual environment. Superintendent Mancini confirmed that the Specialist High Skills Major programs are continuing as well as the Cooperative education program.

Pupil Accommodation and
Enrolment Update
Report B-20-97

Director Howitt advised that the LKDSB regulation on *Pupil Accommodation* requires the Director of Education to present a Pupil Accommodation Report to the Board annually. This usually occurs in the fall of each year. He advised that the information to be included in the Pupil Accommodation report is not available at this time due to the unique situation created by the offering of the face to face learning model and the Learn at Home learning model for students during the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that there are more empty pupil places currently in schools than normally and secondary students are currently only taking two courses so they would be counted as part time students which they are not. As well, implementation of the new student information system has impacted the staff resources available to gather some of the required information. Director Howitt explained that Administration was planning to share October 31, 2020 enrolment data with Trustees by the end of November. Superintendent McKay had hoped to have the revised budget estimates information available at that time as well. This information will not be finalized by the end of November. As per the 2020/2021 Enrolment Register, for secondary schools using the quadmester model the October 31 enrolment will be established by averaging a student's timetable minutes on the 16th day of quadmester one with the 16th day of quadmester two. The LKDSB will be using student timetable minutes on October 5, 2020 (16th day of quadmester) and December 8, 2020 (16th day of quadmester 2) to calculate our October 31st enrolment. The information is likely to be available mid-December. The elementary enrolment count date remains October 31, 2020. The demographic information usually shared in the Pupil Accommodation Report will be provided as part of the Capital Plan in June or earlier if the situation changes. The government moratorium on school closures is still in effect. Director Howitt confirmed that the number of students being home schooled is two to three times higher than past years which negatively impacts the budget. Some families have asked to return to the LKDSB. The LKDSB numbers are consistent with what is going on across the province. The Ministry is aware of the increase in the number of families choosing home

schooling and will need to do something to address the loss of funds to school boards because school boards hired more teachers as directed by the Ministry. The work of the Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) team was recognized. SAL is a program for students, who for a variety of reasons, are at risk of leaving school early. Students are actively monitored, and the focus remains on migrating the students back to a formal program.

Director Howitt confirmed that in the past, school boards set the mill rates for local education taxes that brought revenue directly to the school board. The province changed this, and education taxes are collected by the government now, then the Ministry provides funding to school boards based on enrolment and some other specialized funding. Superintendent McKay confirmed that of the total LKDSB budget, \$57M comes from property taxation and \$250M comes from the provincial Treasury Board. The budget passed by the Trustees in July included the additional home schooled students as pupils of the Board. The revised estimates budget will show less students than the initial budget. He confirmed that the Treasury Board has already given the Ministry funding based on the initial budget and school boards are asking that the Ministry provide that funding to the school boards so they can remain whole financially. If the Ministry does not provide the funding, school boards will have to dip into reserves. The loss of 200 students to home schooling will cost the LKDSB about \$2.5M in funding. Directors and Superintendents of Business are working with the Ministry to ensure the funding will flow.

Summer Learning
Program
Report B-20-08

Superintendent Hazzard referred to the presentation earlier during the Board Meeting on the Summer Learning Program. The LKDSB received \$60 000 from the Council of Directors of Education to facilitate the Summer Learning Program (SLP) via virtual learning. SLP classrooms were held online using the videoconferencing tool, Google Meet. In total, 95 students (an increase of 32 students) from 37 school locations (an increase of 20 schools) participated in the summer program. During the numeracy portion, students worked to strengthen their basic math skills by focusing on number sense and flexibility of number. Students participated in number talks to improve their ability to communicate their math thinking. They learned to use a variety of strategies to solve problems, and to think flexibly with numbers. Following the math instruction, students were provided recreation opportunities. Each recreation teacher was assigned to a group of 3 or 4 classrooms. Students were led, remotely, through Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math (STEAM) activities like creating lava lamps and outdoor s'more makers. Indigenous culture was also a focus with an Anishnaabe artist session over multiple days. Superintendent Hazzard advised that parents/guardians also were able to attend the virtual classes each day with their student. Chair Bryce expressed support for the continuation of the funding for the Summer Learning Program

Announcements

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Sarnia Education Centre.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Bryce declared the Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board