

PRESENT:

Trustees: Chair Randy Campbell, Vice-Chair Janet Barnes, Greg Agar, Jane Bryce, joining virtually, Ruth Ann Dodman, Jack Fletcher, Malinda Little, Roberta Northmore, Angela Richards, Kelley Robertson, and David Shortt

Student Trustees: Graysen Bathe-Minard, joining virtually, and Darshan Shah

Staff: Director of Education John Howitt, joining virtually, Associate Director Brian McKay, Superintendents of Education Emily Dixon, joining virtually, Gary Girardi, Ben Hazzard, Mary Mancini, and Interim Superintendent of Education, Carrielyn Smith

Regrets: Superintendent of Education Angie Barrese and Student Trustee Makaiyah Stonefish

Recording Secretary: Jaime Shannon, Executive Assistant to the Director

Call to Order: Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Campbell read LKDSB Procedural By-Laws Section 3.19 *Decorum at Board Meetings*.

#2023-136
Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Greg Agar, seconded by Roberta Northmore,

“That the Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of October 10, 2023 be approved.”

CARRIED.

Chair Campbell read the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

#2023-137
Approval of the Minutes
Sept/26/2023

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by David Shortt,

“That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2023.”

CARRIED.

#2023-138
Approval of the Minutes
Oct/4/2023

Moved by Malinda Little, seconded by Angela Richards,

“That the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 4, 2023.”

CARRIED.

Business Arising

None.

Motions Emanating from
the Regular Board Private
Session

None.

#2023-139

Moved by Janet Barnes, seconded by Jack Fletcher,

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

Action of the Regular
Board Private Session be
the Action of the Board

CARRIED.

Presentations

None.

Delegations

Chair Campbell read LKDSB Procedural By-Laws Section 3.14 *Delegations*
and Section 3.15 *Time Limitation*.

Liz Vallee and Kerry Byrne presented a delegation to Trustees relating to the
Health and Physical Education curriculum.

#2023-140
LKDSB Policy and
Regulations on Home
Schooling
Report B-23-115

Director Howitt reported that the policy and regulations on Home Schooling
have been reviewed as part of the LKDSB cyclical review. He relayed that the
policy has been updated to include a reference to PPM 131: Home Schooling
and the highlighted changes in the regulation reflect current practice.

Moved by Ruth Ann Dodman, seconded by Roberta Northmore,

“That be Board approve the revised policy and regulations on Home
Schooling.”

Following a Trustee question, Superintendent Mancini explained that #5 of the
regulation was updated as there is no current practice of assessing a child for
appropriate placement in the regular day school program and they are instead
placed in an age-appropriate grade.

CARRIED.

#2023-141
Long-term Growth Needs
and Capital Priorities
Report B-23-116

Associate Director McKay reported that the Ministry of Education has initiated
the latest round of Capital Priorities applications, which is a process that allows
school boards to submit business cases for new school and school addition
capital projects. He explained that the process has undergone a number of
changes, including an approval of enrolment trends by Trustees. He noted that
the enrolment trends will also be reported through the Pupil Accommodation
Report, as they have in the past, but noted that the projections are a snapshot
in time and differences may be seen in the next time they are reported. He
relayed that 3 Capital Priorities applications will be made, including a 4-
classroom addition, including one resource room, at Grand Bend Public School,
a 4-classroom addition at Plympton-Wyoming Public School, and 1 elementary
school with a 404 On-the-Ground (OTG) Capacity in the Sherwood Village
area. He explained that property is already owned in Sherwood Village and the
building of a school would not be moratorium related as students are currently
bused from the area to other schools.

Moved by Malinda Little, seconded by Kelley Robertson,

“That the Board approve the attached elementary and secondary long-term
growth needs projections.”

A Trustee asked what criteria was used to determine the 3 applications that will
be submitted to the Ministry. Associate Director McKay responded that the
primary measure the Ministry will review is pupil accommodation pressure, a
need for a new school, or communities with many portables. He explained that

Grand Bend Public School and Plympton-Wyoming Public School currently have portables on site and there are more anticipated in the future.

A Trustee asked why there are differences between the phases listed within the December 2022 Pupil Accommodation Report and the applications. Associate Director McKay responded that the Pupil Accommodation Report focuses on Pupil Accommodation Reviews, based on what schools need to be closed or consolidated, and looks at empty pupil spaces in schools, while the applications are focused on adding in areas under growth pressure. Director Howitt added that in the past, the Ministry directed boards to address excess space before new capital projects would be considered, while in this round of applications they will consider new capital projects if a board has growth pressures and can demonstrate schools are at full capacity. He noted that the moratorium is still in place.

Following a Trustee question, Associate Director McKay responded that the housing and demographic data, which is known 10 years in the future, comes from the Board's Municipal partners, which is generally found through building permits, but is also based on their share of the government's plan of building 1.5 million homes by 2031.

A Trustee asked if a new gymnasium at King George VI Public School in Chatham could be considered for a future application. Associate Director McKay responded that the Ministry has been approached in the past regarding gymnasium specific applications, and they are clear that they are adding classrooms, not gymnasiums. He explained that the Board is not allowed to use its own funds as it adds square footage to the building. He noted that the funding could change in the future and it's important to continue to push for items such as this.

CARRIED.

Parent Involvement
Committee Report
Report B-23-117

Director Howitt relayed that it was a pleasure to be a part of the first Parent Involvement Committee meeting of the 2023-2024 school year and noted there were new members as well as a new Committee Chair. He referred Trustees to the Board Report for further information.

Indigenous Liaison
Committee Report
Report B-23-118

Trustee Northmore reported to Trustees on the September 20, 2023 Indigenous Liaison Committee (ILC) meeting. She relayed that the format of future ILC meetings will change following concerns raised from the four First Nations representatives, and the next meeting will begin at 12:00 p.m. She reported that Aamjiwnaang First Nation hired a new teacher who graduated from the LKDSB/Queen's University Indigenous Teacher Education (ITEP) program, they are considering a Tutor Escort at Great Lakes Secondary School, and they would like to discuss additional support for the Indigenous Room at Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School. She reported that Eelünaapéewi Lahkéewiit held a back-to-school event, which distributed school supplies to 135 students and that a window needs repair in the Delaware Room. She noted that a request has been made to the Education Representatives to report to their Chief and Council on the Ministry's plans to create a template for all future school builds as there is concern that one template does not work for every community. She reported that 3 Indigenous Graduation Coaches have been hired, so now each of the 4 schools that First Nations students attend will have a Graduation Coach.

Ontario Public School Boards' Association Update (OPSBA)	Trustee Fletcher encouraged Trustees to review the OPSBA Provincial Update was sent on October 6, 2023 and relayed that a number of recommendations were made by the Policy Committee on Bill 98.
Special Education Advisory Committee Report Report B-23-119	<p>Trustee Little relayed that the most recent Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting took place on Sept 21, 2023 and asked Trustee Robertson to provide the report as she was unable to attend the meeting.</p> <p>Trustee Robertson reported that the meeting included a Priority-Setting session, where attendees participated in an exercise that helped to identify their respective areas of interest, the Special Education Plan Checklist submitted to the Ministry was reviewed, of which all goals and objectives of year were completed as required, and there was a discussion on a letter from Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board regarding recruitment and retention of Educational Assistants.</p>
Safety and Security Protocols for Board Meetings Report B-23-120	<p>Director Howitt reported that the Safety and Security Protocols for Board Meetings were developed at the request of the Chair and Vice-Chair. He shared that other boards in Southwestern Ontario have had to close their Public Gallery while a review of protocols was completed, and this was a proactive measure to ensure this was not necessary at the LKDSB. He noted that this was the first Board Meeting the protocols would be in place and they would continue to be in place moving forward and noted that they are posted on the LKDSB website.</p> <p>A Trustee asked if changes would be made to the Security Protocols document as needed. Director Howitt responded that it is a living document that will be revised as necessary based on feedback from Trustees, Staff, and Security Personnel, to ensure the safety and well-being of all present.</p> <p>A Trustee asked how the Public Gallery capacity of 30 people was determined. Director Howitt responded that it is not part of the occupancy rate, but instead is the number of people that can be seated within the space while keeping emergency exits accessible, and to allow room for members of the media and audiovisual support. He noted that traditionally there have been very few meetings that had a Public Gallery of 30 people, but when future meetings arise with high attendance expected, for example, Accommodation Review meetings, Trustees will need to consider if an offsite location is necessary or if the option of virtual attendance for the public is sufficient.</p>
Correspondence	None.
New Business	None.
Trustee Questions	A Trustee noted that the Ministry of Education provides the provincial curriculum and local boards are responsible for the delivery of the curriculum, and asked what the process would be for parents/guardians to opt out of certain portions of the curriculum they do not wish their children to be a part of. She also asked how parents/guardians would know when the curriculum is being taught and what the child would do during that portion of the class if they were not taking part in it. Director Howitt responded that parents/guardians have the option to opt out of the Human Development and Sexual Health expectations found in the Health and Physical Education curriculum, but do not

have the option to opt out of other parts of the curriculum. He explained that if parents/guardians wish to opt their child out of curriculum, they should refer to the LKDSB Administrative Procedure *Exemption Procedure for Human Development and Sexual Health expectations of The Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Grades 1–8, 2019*, which has been in place since 2019 and can be found on the LKDSB website under Policies & Regulations. He explained that along with providing information on the process for exemptions, the Administrative Procedure refers to the Curriculum Expectations by Grade, includes the form for parents/guardians to request an exemption, and the information sent home to parents/guardians prior to the curriculum being taught. He noted that the full curriculum can be found on the Ontario website. He explained that if a student is not taking part in the curriculum the parent/guardian would work with the principal to determine if they would remain in the classroom, leave the classroom for the duration and be supervised elsewhere, or be withdrawn from school. He encouraged communication with the principal and/or classroom teacher to assist with the process.

Notices of Motion

None.

Announcements

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at the Sarnia Education Centre at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Board, Chair Campbell declared the Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board