

AVON MAITLAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Engage, Inspire, Innovate ... Always Learning

MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 9, 2014
8:00 p.m.
Maitland Room, Seaforth Education Centre
62 Chalk Street North, Seaforth, ON

PRESENT:

Trustees: Michael Bannerman, Lynette Geddes, Robert Hunking, Alyson Kent, Julie Moore, Colleen Schenk, Al Sygrove, Jenny Versteeg, Randy Wagler

Senior Staff: Ted Doherty, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Superintendents Mike Ash, Janet Baird-Jackson, Jodie Baker, Peggy Blair and Jane Morris

Resource Staff: Steve Howe
Recording Secretary: Barb Crawford

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sygrove welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the 2014/2015 school year. Chair Sygrove called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. for the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION

MOTION 2014 09 111 (R. Wagler – L. Geddes)
RESOLVED THAT this Board convene into Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.
CARRIED

Vice-Chair Moore was Chair for the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session

REGULAR SESSION

MOTION 2014 09 112 (A. Kent – C. Schenk)
RESOLVED THAT this Board reconvene into Regular Session.
CARRIED

Chair Sygrove resumed the Chair at 6:10 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION

MOTION 2014 09 113 (C. Schenk – J. Versteeg)
RESOLVED THAT this Board convene into Committee of the Whole, Open Session.
CARRIED

Approval of Committee of the Whole, Open Session Agenda

MOTION 2014 09 114

(R. Hunking – M. Bannerman)

RESOLVED THAT the agenda for Committee of the Whole, Open Session, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Presentations: What Did AMDSB Students Do This Summer?

Director Doherty expressed appreciation to all Avon Maitland staff who worked throughout the summer in order to prepare Avon Maitland schools for the first day of school.

Director Doherty announced tonight's open session will have presentations from students and staff on how they spent their summer.

Barbara Alken, Vice Principal at Elma Township Public School and Gary Coursey, Vice Principal at Exeter Elementary School, along with several grade 7 students, presented highlights on their three week experience visiting Berlin, Germany in July. Students from Berlin will return to Avon Maitland schools for three weeks later in October.

Paul Finkelstein, Teacher at Stratford Northwestern Secondary School and Kirsten Durnin, Teacher at Central Huron Secondary School and Hannah Dickie, student from FE Madill Secondary School talked about their experience and journey to Italy. Forty-four students participated in the trip to Italy.

Also during the summer Kathleen Carr, along with 15 Avon Maitland students, participated in a French Excursion to Quebec.

Literacy/Numeracy Camps were held this summer and Diana Binotto Peel and Susan Gardiner Marklevitz highlighted the programs offered at the camps. Literacy camps were held in Wingham, Clinton, Stratford, and Listowel and the Numeracy camps were held in Romeo Public School and Little Falls Elementary School.

Laurie Langstaff presented highlights from Avon Maitland Summer School at Central Huron Secondary School, FE Madill Secondary School, Goderich District Collegiate Institute, Listowel District School, Mitchell District High School, South Huron District High School, St. Marys DCVI and Stratford Northwestern Secondary School.

Trustee Open Time

Skills Gap Committee

On July 18th Director Doherty and Trustee Hunking attended the Huron Skills Gap Working Committee to begin the review of the Skills Gap Study. The Skills Gap Study was commissioned by the Four County Labour Market Planning Board and its community partners as an update to the 2005 reports completed for Bruce Grey and Huron Perth. The Working Committee has identified six priorities related to employers/businesses, educators, and community partners. The Working Committee will meet again later in September.

FDK Class Size

Vice Chair Moore inquired about FDK class size, and specifically about classroom sizes across the district and teacher/student ratio. Superintendent Morris noted there are 1970 JK and SK students enrolled, and there are currently 80 FDK classes and 70 DECEs. Avon Maitland's average class size is 24.6 FTE. The Board is funded provincially for class size of 26.

Director Doherty noted the numbers are subject to change and staffing decisions are made accordingly to deal with changing class sizes.

Evaluation of Chair and Vice Chair (verbal)

Due to time constraints this topic was deferred.

Trustee Reflection Statements

Trustees agreed the reflection statement will be based on the Strategic Plan. A list will be circulated to trustees to sign up for the monthly reflection.

REGULAR SESSION**MOTION 2014 09 115****(J. Versteeg – C. Schenk)****RESOLVED THAT** this Board reconvene into Regular Session.**CARRIED**

Chair Sygrove resumed the Chair at 8:10 p.m.

ROUTINE MATTERS**Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was amended to move the School Climate Survey Results from Information Reports to Staff Presentations.

MOTION 2014 09 116**(M. Bannerman – A. Kent)****RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be approved as amended.**CARRIED****Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

No trustee declared a pecuniary interest regarding any item presented in this agenda.

Approval of Minutes

The following amendment was made to the report from Superintendent Ash re School Name Changes at Three 7 to 12 Schools:

“Superintendent Ash reported, as discussed at C/W Open Session on May 13th, three secondary schools had informally altered their school name by removing the word ‘secondary’. In working through the process, during the first two weeks in June the students, staff, and parents were asked to complete a survey. From the results it was apparent that staff will need to focus on developing a single school culture and moving the grade 7 to 12 schools requires additional time and support. Senior Staff is not recommending a name change for the 7 to 12 schools at this time.”

MOTION 2014 09 117**(J. Moore – M. Bannerman)****RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, June 26, 2014, be approved as amended.**CARRIED****Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Committee of the Whole, Closed Session**MOTION 2014 09 118****(J. Moore – R. Hunking)****RESOLVED THAT** the that the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the motion from the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session on September 9, 2014.**CARRIED****Good News**

Trustee Hunking reported an interesting news article in a recent Clinton News Record in the ‘early files’ referenced the enrolment in Huron in 1969 was 13,496 students.

Trustee Schenk announced the 94th annual school fair will be held in Belgrave on September 10th. Trustee Schenk is planning to attend the fair.

Communications Manager Steve Howe noted there are 153 students from around the world attending Avon Maitland schools.

Public Delegations

There were no public delegations.

Staff/Student Presentations2014 School Climate Survey Results

Superintendent Ash presented the report and advised that a survey of schools is completed every two years in accordance with PPM 145 and the legislative requirements under the Safe Schools section of the *Education Act*. Superintendent Ash and Assessment and Evaluation Coordinator Sandy Lee highlighted the results of the survey. In February 2006 and 2010 and March 2012 all grade 6 to 12 students were surveyed. This year the Board surveyed all grade 4 to 12 students, as well as staff and parents. The results of this years' survey have been shared with school administrators to help inform the work of the Safe and Inclusive School Teams. Superintendent Ash drew attention to section 5.5 in the report which highlights the resources and strategies available to schools. Superintendent Ash provided a list of next steps for schools and administrators in focusing on a positive, inclusive learning environment for all.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Committee Reports were presented.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**Recommendations for Immediate Action**Approval of Tender: New Construction of North Perth Elementary School

Superintendent Baird-Jackson presented the detailed report. The tender was structured in three parts and included the school with twenty-seven classrooms and the associated civil work ie parking, curbing, sidewalks; the daycare wing with associated civil work; and the access drive which provides access to the school and daycare site and the future North Perth recreation centre. Superintendent Baird-Jackson confirmed the Ministry of Education Capital Branch confirmed their support on Friday, September 5th. The project will be funded through the Ministry's Capital Priorities, the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve and Municipal funding.

Construction is planned to start on or about September 26, 2014 with the opening date to be September 2016. Director Doherty noted staff will be advising principals to communicate with their school councils and staff that the expected opening date is September 2016.

MOTION 2014 09 119**(J. Versteeg – C. Schenk)**

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the tender from Tambro Construction for construction of the new North Perth Elementary School in Listowel in the tender amount of \$14,575,192.00.

CARRIED**INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTS**OPSBA Membership Fee

Chair Sygrove presented the report for information. A report provided by OPSBA outlined the benefits of membership in OPSBA.

Tenders Over the Summer – Facilities Projects

Superintendent Baird-Jackson reported two projects were tendered and completed over the summer. The project at FE Madill Secondary School was an upgrade and expansion to the east parking lot. The work at Hullett Public School included creating additional parking spaces and repairing existing asphalt on the west side of the school.

Senior Staff Updates (updates are provided at the first Regular Board meeting of the month)

Superintendent Baker was pleased to report on the number of staff that has been hired in most employee groups across the Board. A new staff information session was organized for contract and LTO staff and NTIP (new teacher induction program) sessions will be held in the near future. In

labour relations it was noted that Ministry and Unions are meeting to determine what are central and what will be local issues to begin bargaining.

Superintendent Baird-Jackson announced safety culture training was completed for EAs and DECEs. Facilities staff was busy again this summer overseeing \$10.5 million in projects. Finance staff is well into year-end work.

Superintendent Ash reported opening day enrolments were up in projections in the elementary panel. In the secondary panel enrolment is closer to projections which staff continues to monitor and using all resources available to ensure the enrolment count is stable towards the count date. NGL – School 3.0 (Next Generation Learning) is rolling out 2200 iPads in the next four weeks. The IT staff worked diligently throughout the summer to prepare these iPads.

Superintendent Morris announced following CATYO projections in November there has been an increase of 131 FDK students for a total of 1970. Superintendent Morris also expressed appreciation to facilities staff for ensuring all FDK sites were ready for opening day.

Director Doherty commented the work that senior staff does throughout the summer generally revolves around the Strategic Plan and the BIPSA. The Strategic Plan website will be moving into the 2014/2015 version which will be shared with trustees in early November. Staff and student presentations will continue to be aligned with the two priorities and the six areas of emphasis.

Staff Adjustments

For information

OPSBA Update

Trustee Geddes attended OPSBA's annual general meeting and CSBA in Niagara Falls in July. There is a Directors' meeting on September 19th and a report will be forthcoming following that meeting.

Minutes from Board Committees

SEAC: June 11, 2014

Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Board Meetings (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- Tuesday, September 23, 2013 – 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 8:00 p.m.
Regular Board Session

Future Meetings/Events with Trustee Representation (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- SEAC: Wednesday, September 10, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.
- Director's Review Committee: Tuesday, September 16, 2014 – 5:00 p.m.
- Audit Committee: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 – 4:30 p.m.
- AODA: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.
- SAL: Thursday, September 25, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2014 09 120

(J. Versteeg – M. Bannerman)

RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

CARRIED

Approved at Seaforth, Ontario
Date Approved

Al Sygrove
Chair of the Board

Ted Doherty
Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board