

AVON MAITLAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Engage, Inspire, Innovate ... Always Learning

MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

8:00 p.m.

Maitland Room, Seaforth Education Centre

62 Chalk Street North, Seaforth, ON

PRESENT:

Trustees: Judy Cairncross, Lynette Geddes, Robert Hunking, Alyson Kent, Julie Moore, Doug Pratley, Nancy Rothwell, Colleen Schenk (via teleconference), Randy Wagler

Absent:

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

Student Trustees: Kaitlinn Shaw and Rachel Suffern

Resource Staff: Tim Bilcke

Recording Secretary: Barb Crawford

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wagler called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. for the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION

MOTION 2015 05 56

(J. Cairncross – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT this Board convene into Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.

CARRIED

Vice Chair Geddes was Chair for the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION

Chair Wagler resumed the Chair at 6:15 p.m. and convened into Committee of the Whole, Open Session. Chair Wagler highlighted the topics for discussion in Open Session.

1. Rules of Order
2. Chairs' Activity Report
3. Code of Conduct
4. Lessons Learned
5. Revisions to Board Policy 15 re *Pupil Accommodation Reviews*

Approval of Committee of the Whole, Open Session Agenda**MOTION 2015 05 57****(N. Rothwell – R. Hunking)**

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

CARRIED**Trustee Open Time****Lessons Learned – Employee Leave Issue**

Trustees provided feedback on what they felt went well, what could have been done differently and what the next steps and follow would be related the situation that evolved from the employee's leave of absence.

Revisions to Board Policy #15 re Pupil Accommodation Reviews

Superintendent Ash presented the report and noted at the end of March 2015 the Ministry released memorandum 2015: B09 re Release of New Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline. Board Policy #15 has been modified to match these new guidelines. Superintendent Baird-Jackson highlighted the main areas of change 1) more defined municipal role, 2) restructured ARC (Accommodation Review Committee), 3) shorter timelines, 4) reporting requirements, and 5) new optional modified accommodation process which would be shorter in the case of events to be defined by the local boards.

The new guidelines also require municipal input and Superintendent Ash confirmed the Policy will be brought forward to the municipal and community partners meeting on May 26th. Superintendent Ash highlights parts of the part noting the Board is required to formally consult all tiers of municipal government in areas where an accommodation review will take place. The role of the ARC is to gather information and to provide commentary on the staff option. They may, if they choose, provide other options along with rationale. ARC membership as outlined in policy will include parents of the affected schools through appointment by their school council as well as central office staff. School principals have been removed from the process although they may attend as a resource. The staff report will come forward to the Board in May and the staff recommendation and rationale will be part of that report. This process has not change what has been done previously but it changes when it is done. A Transition Plan is mandated, which has been something this Board has always done but now it is embedded in the policy.

Trustee Open Time – Questions / Issues

Trustee Cairncross brought forward questions about the rules of order at board meetings. In accordance with Board Policy #9 re Governance Bylaws, and at this time the Board continues to reference Robert's Rules of Order regarding parliamentary debate.

Trustees discussed topics for discussion at a future trustee information session and agreed rules of order, review of the definition of the role of the trustee, the role of the Chair and Vice Chair, and code of conduct will be topics at a future trustee information session.

The Regular Board session convened at 8:05 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION**MOTION 2015 05 58****(N. Rothwell – J. Cairncross)**

RESOLVED THAT this Board reconvene into Regular Session.

CARRIED

ROUTINE MATTERS

Approval of Agenda

MOTION 2015 05 59 Hunking)	(J. Cairncross – R.
RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented.	CARRIED

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION 2015 05 60	(R. Hunking – A. Kent)
RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, April 14, 2015, be approved as presented.	CARRIED

Trustee Cairncross noted the debate that supersedes Motion 2015 04 52 should be placed after the motion as the discussion took place after the defeated motion.

MOTION 2015 05 61	(J. Moore – N. Rothwell)
RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, April 28, 2015, be approved as amended.	CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Committee of the Whole, Closed Session

Appointment of Superintendent of Education

MOTION 2015 05 62	(L. Geddes – R. Hunking)
RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the appointment of Paul Langis to the position of Superintendent of Education, effective August 1, 2015 subject to confirmation of eligibility by the Minister of Education.	CARRIED

Approval of RFP – Construction Management for Mitchell District High School

MOTION 2015 05 63	(L. Geddes – D. Pratley)
RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the RFP from Wayne and Harold Smith Construction Ltd. for Construction Management of the Mitchell District High School structural repair project.	CARRIED

Approval of RFP – Construction Management for FE Madill Secondary School**MOTION 2015 05 64****(L. Geddes – C. Schenk)**

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the Request for Proposal from Wayne Elgin Contracting and Restoration Ltd. for Construction Management of the F. E. Madill mechanical, roofing, flooring and elevator project.

CARRIED**Strategic Plan Reflection – Trustee Julie Moore**

We commit to honouring all voices in our Strategic Plan. We have agreed to value our students, our staff, our families and our communities and have indicated that we will do so by honouring all voices.

This commitment has resonated with me in recent days and weeks. In part, because sometimes some of those voices are loud and angry, some of those voices are accusatory, dissenting or (if I'm honest) simply don't say things that I want to hear. Honouring those voices, in those moments, is the challenge.

As Trustees elected to be the voice of our community and tasked with bringing our community's concerns to the whole of the Board however, I am acutely aware of the importance assigned to honouring all voices, even the loudest ones.

In thinking about how I do that, or perhaps how I can do that better, I've decided these admittedly simple components should govern my practice both in this room and in my community:

- Asking questions is important. Trustees need information and lots of it to understand issues locally and provincially and to make good decisions. Ask questions in a way that is respectful but keep asking. Keep asking until you understand.
- Collaboration is vital. The myriad of perspectives, lived experiences and communities that are represented at this table makes for meaningful discussions and I know has changed my thinking and perspective on more than one occasion and on more than one issue in recent years.
- Listen to understand and not to say something back in return. There is a difference between truly listening and waiting for your turn to talk. At the risk of sounding like a feel good Facebook post - Listen in such a way that others love to speak to you.
- Be reflective. In valuing our staff & students, communities & families we need to adopt reflective processes in various contexts.
- And finally, prepare to be uncomfortable. Be prepared that in honouring all voices you may need to shift your thinking and challenge your own assumptions or challenge the assumptions of others.

Honour all voices, while it's only a short few words in our Strategic Plan, it is fundamental to our interactions both in this room, with our staff, in our communities and perhaps most importantly -in our schools.

Good News

Trustee Pratley congratulated the recipients from the Excellence in Public Education awards banquet held on May 7th and noted as a joint venture of the Board and OSSTF it is truly outstanding to hear what people from community members, EAs, support staff and teachers are involved in.

Trustee Pratley, along with Superintendent Blair and SEAC member Katie Fox, attended the 2015 Provincial SEAC conference on May 2nd. The focus of the conference was How to Build Resiliency in Children with guest speaker Dr. Michael Unger.

On April 30th Trustee Schenk attended the student art show opening held at the Blyth Festival Theatre. Trustee Schenk commented it was marvelous to see the students' talents from across the system. On May 1st Trustee Schenk attended the Howick Fun Night which is held every year and is well supported by the community.

Superintendent Ash congratulated participants who participated in the Skills Ontario competition. There were 24 competitors this year and four were from grades 7 & 8. Of the students who participated, the grades 7 & 8s from Stratford Northwestern Elementary School placed 13th in the province. Ten of the participants were in the top 20, 8 in top 10, 3 in top 5 and 7 out of 24 were

females. In terms of medals Luke Roth from Stratford Northwestern Secondary School received a silver medal in computers and bronze medal in cabinet making.

Student Trustee Update

Student Senator Suffern reported the senators were finalizing their May 26th Symposium, as well as working on their year-end project. The May 26th Symposium begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Maitland room and trustees invited to attend.

Staff Presentations

There was no staff presentation.

Public Delegations

Chair Wagler welcomed Dana Morgenroth, Anita Gross, Amanda Dekker and Loni Vanderburgh representing the Huron County Parents for French Immersion. The presentation was focussed on bringing French Immersion in Huron County effective September 2016, using the same FI program format that is currently offered in Bedford and Anne Hathaway public schools in Stratford.

Chair Wagler thanked the delegation for their thoughtful presentation and advised the delegation a response would be forthcoming within 30 days as per Board Policy #9.

Election of OPSBA Delegate and Alternate Delegate

Review of Election Procedure by the Chair

The Secretary called the roll. Eight trustees were present in the room, Trustee Schenk participated via electronic means in accordance with Board Policy #9.

In accordance with the governance by-laws, Chair Wagler explained the election procedures for the positions of the Ontario Public School Boards' Delegate and Alternate Delegate. There will be no declaration of the count of ballots. Chair Wagler called for a motion naming two scrutineers for the election.

MOTION 2015 05 65

(J. Cairncross – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT the two scrutineers for the election be Superintendents Janet Baird-Jackson and Jodie Baker.

CARRIED

Election of the Board's Delegate to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association

The Chair called for a nominating ballot for the Ontario Public School Boards' Association delegate for the Board.

The Chair reported that the following trustees had been nominated:

Trustees Hunking and Rothwell

In accordance with the Board Governance Bylaws, the nominated trustees were asked if they would allow their names to stand for election. Trustee Hunking agreed to stand. Trustee Rothwell declined.

The first nomination ballot resulted in the election of Trustee Hunking as the Board's Delegate to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association.

Election of the Board's Alternate Delegate to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association

The Chair called for a nominating ballot for the Ontario Public School Boards' Association alternate delegate for the Board.

The scrutineers reported that the following trustee had been nominated:

Trustee Kent

In accordance with the Board Governance Bylaws, the nominated trustee was asked if she would allow her name to stand for election. Trustee Kent agreed to stand.

Trustee Kent is the Board's Alternate Delegate to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association.

DESTRUCTION OF BALLOTS

MOTION 2015 05 66

(A. Kent – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT the ballots from the elections for the OPSBA Delegate and OPSBA alternate be destroyed.

CARRIED

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Communication and Advocacy Plan

Chair Wagler presented the changes as discussed at the April 14, 2015 Regular Board meeting. Trustee Cairncross wanted to ensure the Federations were aware that the Director, Chair and Vice Chair will make themselves available to meet with the federations to continue to maintain relationships between the federations and the board of trustees. The Communication and Advocacy Plan will be reviewed at the trustee information session that is planned for the fall 2015.

MOTION 2015 05 67

(J. Cairncross – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the Communication and Advocacy Plan for 2015/2016.

CARRIED

Superintendent Baird-Jackson reported the following tender packages are part of the ongoing infrastructure improvements to be funded through Ministry capital funding.

Approval of Tender: Roofing at Bedford Public School and Stratford Central Secondary School

MOTION 2015 05 68

(A. Kent – D. Pratley)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the tender from Nedlaw Roofing Limited for re-roofing at Bedford Public School in the contract amount of \$215,423.00 and Keller Roofing and Sheet Metal Limited for re-roofing at Stratford Central Secondary School in the amount of \$97,180.00

CARRIED

Approval of Tender: Roofing at Brookside Public School, Howick Public School and Listowel Eastdale Public School

MOTION 2015 05 69

(C. Schenk – D. Pratley)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the tender from Smith Peat Roofing & Sheet Metal Limited for re-roofing at Brookside Public School in the contract amount of \$157,044.01; Conestoga Roofing & Sheet Metal Limited for re-roofing at Howick Public School in the contract amount of \$280,127.00 and Keller Roofing & Sheet Metal Limited for re-roofing at Listowel Eastdale Public School in the amount of \$81,360.00.

CARRIED

Approval of Tender: Mechanical at North Woods Public School**MOTION 2015 05 70****(R. Hunking – N. Rothwell)**

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the tender from Stratford Metal Products Ltd. for mechanical upgrades at North Woods Elementary School in the amount of \$106,736.41.

CARRIEDApproval of Tender: Renovations at Bluewater Coast Elementary School**MOTION 2015 05 71****(J. Moore – D. Pratley)**

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the tender from Wayne and Harold Smith Construction for renovations at Bluewater Coast Elementary School in the tender amount of \$266,567.00.

CARRIEDApproval of Tender: Howick Central Public School**MOTION 2015 05 72****(J. Cairncross – J. Moore)**

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the tender from PM Contracting for renovations at Howick Central Public School in the tender amount of \$609,070.00.

CARRIED**INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTS****Chair's Reports**Chair's Activities

Chair Wagler presented the activity report for information.

Director's ReportsStaff Adjustments

The following retirements/resignations have been received:

- Sheila Faber, Educational Assistant at Brookside PS effective August 31st

Senior Staff Updates

Superintendent Ash announced staff is currently working with a number of community partners as part of the Crown Ward Championship Team, which includes a number of agencies as well as the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, to work at breaking down barriers for youth. As a result of some recent Ministry funding and direction, we are in the process of developing CAS protocol related to how we interact as agencies. As part of the funding, David MacLennan has been hired by the Team as Educational Facilitator for Crown Wards and works directly with the Children's Aid Society as the team representative.

Superintendent Baird-Jackson noted finance staff is meeting with departments to build budgets. In facilities it was noted with the RFP approvals that were passed this evening, in terms of tendering components and due to quick turnarounds for these tenders that approvals may from time to time be needed by a poll vote.

Superintendent Morris extended an invitation to trustees to attend the Techno-Challenge to be held at the Seaforth Community Centre on May 13th and 14th. Today is the second day of the DELF testing held at Stratford Northwestern Secondary School. The testing is done by 15 Avon Maitland French teachers over a course of four days. This year two robotic programs were coordinated and facilitated by program staff. Teachers from Milverton Public School have organized their own competition to be held on June 8th.

Superintendent Blair noted on behalf of Learning Services staff plans are underway for summer institutes. More information will be available at a later date.

Communications Associate Tim Bilcke commented that the Board's website security has been updated.

OPSBA Update

Minutes from Board Committees

Student Senate Committee: April 28, 2015

Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

NEW BUSINESS

As follow up to this evenings delegation, Chair Wagler noted French Immersion will be on the agenda for the June 9th Committee of the Whole, Open Session.

Chair Wagler reminded trustees of the May 19th meeting with the MPPs and trustees at the Seaforth Education Centre.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Board Meetings (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- Tuesday, May 26, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session; 7:30 p.m. Student Senate Committee; 8:00 p.m. Regular Board Session
- Tuesday, June 9, 2015 – 5:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session; 6:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Open Session; 8:00 p.m. Regular Board Session

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

- MPPs and Trustees: Tuesday, May 19, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.
- Municipal and Community Representatives: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 – 3:00 p.m.
- SEAC: Wednesday, June 3, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
- Audit Committee: Tuesday, June 9, 2015 – 4:30 p.m.
- Board Recognition Reception (includes Retirement, Years of Service and Always Learning Awards): Wednesday, June 10, 2015 – 5:30 p.m. at the Central Huron Community Complex
- OPSBA – AGM: June 11 to 13, 2015
- Finance Committee: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.
- SEAC: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2015 05 73

(N. Rothwell – L. Geddes)

RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

CARRIED

Approved at Seaforth, Ontario
Date approved

Randy Wagler
Chair of the Board

Ted Doherty
Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board