

AVON MAITLAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Engage, Inspire, Innovate ... Always Learning

MINUTES

INAUGURAL AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING

8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Maitland Room, Seaforth Education Centre
62 Chalk Street North, Seaforth, ON

PRESENT:

Trustees: Judy Cairncross, Robert Hunking, Alyson Kent, Doug Pratley, Nancy Rothwell, Colleen Schenk, Randy Wagler

Teleconference: Lynette Geddes, Julie Moore

Senior Staff: Ted Doherty, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Superintendents Janet Baird-Jackson, Jodie Baker, and Jane Morris and Associate Superintendent Cheri Carter

Recording Secretary: Barb Crawford

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schenk called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. for the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION

MOTION 2016 12 157 (R. Wagler – R. Hunking)

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

CARRIED

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION

Chair Schenk resumed the Chair at 7:05 p.m. and convened into Committee of the Whole, Open Session.

MOTION 2016 12 158 (R. Hunking – R. Wagler)

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

CARRIED

Approval of Agenda

MOTION 2016 12 159 (J. Cairncross – N. Rothwell)

RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Board Review / Self Evaluation

In accordance with Board Policy #10 re Committees of the Board, Section 7.5, trustees assessed their accomplishments, regrets, opportunities and barriers for 2015/2016. Trustees also reviewed the trustees' role performance for 2015/2016.

Individual Trustee Survey and Chair, Vice Chair Survey

Trustees agreed these surveys would be completed in the spring of 2017.

MOTION 2016 12 160**(R. Hunking – N. Rothwell)**

RESOLVED THAT the Board convene into the Inaugural Session.

CARRIED**INAUGURAL SESSION****CALL TO ORDER**

The Secretary of the Board, Ted Doherty, called the Inaugural meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Director Doherty extended a welcome to the trustees and guests to the Inaugural Meeting of the Avon Maitland District School Board. The Secretary called the roll. Seven trustees were present in the room. Trustees Geddes and Moore notified they will participate via email.

REVIEW OF ELECTION PROCEDURE BY SECRETARY

In accordance with the governance by-laws, Director Doherty explained the election procedures for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. Director Doherty called for a motion naming two scrutineers for the election.

MOTION 2016 12 161**(R. Hunking – J. Cairncross)**

RESOLVED THAT the two scrutineers for the election be Superintendent Morris and Associate Superintendent Carter.

CARRIED**ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**Election of Chair of the Board

The Secretary called for a nominating ballot for the office of the Chair of the Board. The Scrutineers distributed the ballots and left the room to tally the nominations.

The Director reported that the following trustees had been nominated:
Colleen Schenk and Randy Wagler

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

Trustee Wagler took the Chair and presided for the remainder of the meeting.

Election of the Vice Chair of the Board

Chair Wagler called for a nominating ballot for Vice Chair.

The Chair reported that the following trustees had been nominated:
Robert Hunking and Alyson Kent

In accordance with the Board Governance Bylaws, the nominated trustees were asked if they would allow their names to stand for election. Trustees Hunking and Kent agreed to stand for election. Trustees Hunking and Kent were given an opportunity to address the Board. Ballots were distributed for voting.

The first ballot resulted in Trustee Kent being elected as Vice Chair.

DESTRUCTION OF BALLOTS

MOTION 2016 12 162

(C. Schenk – N. Rothwell)

RESOLVED THAT the ballots from the elections for Board Chair and Vice Chair be destroyed.
CARRIED

REMARKS FROM CHAIR RANDY WAGLER

I want to begin my remarks tonight with a few thank you's. First I want to thank you, my fellow Trustees for your support. I will do all I can to live up to your trust in me in the year ahead. Second, I want to thank Trustee Schenk for her leadership as Chair this past year, and especially over these past months as we have begun the search for a new Director. I intend to build on the great work you have done as we complete the work to select a new Director, which brings me to my final 'thank you'.

You may not have realized this, but tonight is Director Doherty's last Board Meeting before his retirement, although he will be back in January to fill-in as we complete our search for a new Director. Ted, on behalf of the Board I want to sincerely thank you for the past 6 plus years you have served the Board as Director of Education. You have been an inspirational and visionary leader, helping us to create a Strategic Plan that all of Avon Maitland can understand, believe in, and most importantly see themselves in. You have helped create the phrase "4 C's and a P" that clearly guides much of what happens throughout our District. You have helped us stretch ourselves as a District for the betterment of our students in many ways. You spearheaded Next Generation Learning School 3.0 - one-on-one devices for students in grade 7 and above, all fully funded from our own resources; and you did this not because the technology was cool (which it is), but to transform and enhance learning and teaching. You promoted full inclusion because it was the right thing to do for all students, and you encouraged us to pursue international education, not just for revenue generation, but as a way of enriching education for students, staff and our community. And there's much more I could point too, but ultimately, what has impressed me the most about your time as Director is your unwavering desire to ensure that every students gets the best education possible and for that I and we as a Board thank you!!!

With all these thank you's out of the way, let me very briefly point out what I think are some of the key challenges and opportunities we will face as a Board in the year ahead. As I've mentioned a number of times, we'll be welcoming a new Director soon. While this will be an uncertain time for sure, I look to the new opportunities this change will offer our students, staff, and us as Trustees, as this new Director brings his or her own unique perspective and vision to our District, building on the great work that is already being done here in Avon Maitland. The year ahead will also be filled with other challenges: we have some accommodation issues to address; we have secondary enrolment decline that puts a strain on our ability to deliver an adequate variety of courses in some of our smaller high schools; we have challenges in our math achievement for elementary students, as does the rest of the province; and finally we continue to strive to ensure that our students and staff are supported as we continue on our journey of full inclusion for all students. These are just a few of the challenges we will face, but I know that if we demonstrate the 4C's and a P from our Strategic Plan: Communication, Collaboration, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, then we as a Board will ensure that these challenges truly become opportunities for us to enhance the educational opportunities for all our students!

Again, thank you all for your support and I look forward to serving you as Chair in the year ahead.

REGULAR SESSION

Chair Wagler recited the Opening Statement:

“We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Anishnaabe Peoples. We wish to recognize the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario and show our respect to them today. We recognize their stewardship of the land; may we all live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship.”

ROUTINE MATTERS

MOTION 2016 12 163 (C. Schenk – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT this Board convene into Regular Session at 8:48 p.m.

CARRIED

Approval of Agenda

MOTION 2016 12 164 (D. Pratley – N. Rothwell)

RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

Trustee Cairncross deferred the item Core French and French Immersion Instruction to the January 2017 Board meeting.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION 2016 12 165 (C. Schenk – J. Cairncross)

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, November 22, 2016, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

Committee of the Whole, Closed Session

Ratification of Tentative Agreements – Custodial and Maintenance Staff Represented by UNIFOR

MOTION 2016 12 166 (A. Kent – D. Pratley)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the tentative agreement with UNIFOR for a Collective Agreement to cover the period September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2017.

CARRIED

MOTION 2016 12 167 (A. Kent – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the tentative agreement with UNIFOR for a Collective Agreement to cover the period September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2019 as outlined.

CARRIED

Good News

Vice Chair Kent attended the commencement at Stratford Central Secondary School on November 22nd.

Trustee Schenk noted she had attended the December 2nd PA day in Clinton and had the opportunity to thank the keynote speaker Dr. Jean Clinton who reviewed the Ministry's well-being strategy for education and presented on the Power of Relationships between students and staff. Trustee Rothwell attended the session in Stratford and also thanked Dr. Clinton who was keynote speaker in Stratford.

Public Delegations

There were no public delegations.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTIONApproval of Board Policies #9 re Board Governance Bylaws and #10 re Committees of the Board

Director Doherty presented the policies for board approval. Trustees had received the revised policies at the November 22nd and no further edits were received.

MOTION 2016 12 168**(D. Pratley – R. Hunking)**

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the revision to Policy #9 re Board Governance Bylaws and #10.

CARRIED**INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTS**Trustee Honoraria – Annual Calculation

Associate Superintendent Carter presented the annual report and explained the components used to calculate the honoraria. It was noted that there is a slight decrease effective December 1, 2016 of \$74.00 compared to prior year, due to enrolment decline.

Trustee Expenses and Attendance

Director Doherty noted trustees receive this annual report on expenses and attendance as per board policy #9.

Associate Superintendent Carter commented that the report includes trustees only and does not include expenses related to chaperones for the student trustees.

Staff Adjustments

The following staff adjustments were presented for information.

New Hire:

William Bowers, Custodian at North Perth Westfield effective November 28, 2016

Retirement/Resignation:

Susan Lawrence, Teacher at St. Marys DCVI effective January 31, 2017

OPSBA Update

Trustee Hunking reported information from the recent OPSBA Board of Directors meeting and reminded trustees that OPSBA's Discussion Paper on EQAO and Large Scale Testing in Ontario will be available on the OPSBA website. The Ministry is holding consultations on Early Years and has provided details on the current consultation document entitled Building a Better Future. An update was also provided on community hubs and issues. The Ministry's FSL working group held its first meeting on November 16th. OPSBA's process to collect feedback for the ministry for the 2017/2018 GSN consultation was highlighted.

Trustee Pratley followed up noting that Trustee Schenk is a part of the working group on the Discussion Paper on EQAO and Large Scale Testing in Ontario.

Minutes from Board Committees

Student Advisory Committee: Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Cairncross re French Immersion and Core French – was deferred to January 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Board Meetings (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- Tuesday, January 24, 2017 – 5:00 p.m. Finance Committee; 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Open Session; 7:30 p.m.; 8:00 p.m. Regular Board Session
- Tuesday, February 14, 2017 – 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)

- SEAC: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 – 4:00 p.m.
- OSPBA Public Education Symposium – January 18 to 21, 2017
- Principals Conference February 16 and 17, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2016 12 169

(C. Schenk – N. Rothwell)

RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

CARRIED

Approved at Seaforth, Ontario
January 24, 2017

Randy Wagler
Chair of the Board

Ted Doherty
Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board