



Avon Maitland District School Board Annual Accessibility Plan Working Group

Wednesday, April 11, 2018
4:00 p.m.

Avon Maitland District School Board
Education Centre, Seaforth, ON
Festival Room

MINUTES

Attendance: Janet Baird-Jackson (co-chair), David Frier (co-chair), Laurel Mitchell, Hugh Cox, Rob Simmons, Jason Hillier, Vince Trocchi, Ralf Mesenbrink, Diana Doctor, Cheryl Peach. Mary-Jane Karkheck, Mary Lou Bilcke, Randy Wagler, Lynette Geddes, Janice Richmond, Amy Kipfer

Regrets: Wendy Case, Julia Opie, Cheryl Peach, Terry Marklevitz, Shelley King, Michelle Murphy-Bukala

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Janet Baird-Jackson welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Moved by Mary-Jane and seconded by Mary-Lou that the agenda be approved. Carried.

3.0 Review of Minutes from February 28, 2018

Moved by Lynette, and seconded by Laurel that the minutes from the February 28, 2018 meeting be approved. Carried.

4.0 Business Arising

4.1 AODA Accessible Document Training – Mary-Jane/Jason

Mary-Jane looked into Accessibility Ontario training and booked 3 webinars:

- Accessible Excel – April 20, 2018 9:30-10:30 am
- Accessible PowerPoint – April 20, 2018 1:00-2:00 pm
- Overview to Document Accessibility – May 3, 2018 10:00-11:00 am

Mary-Jane will be attending a course in Toronto next week on accessible Word documentation. Once she completes the course, she is then able to share the information with the organization.

Microsoft products have an Accessibility Checker on all of their products already so you can run the Accessibility Checker on those. Algonquin College has a one sheet checklist on how to make a documents accessible. IT is going to make updates and share it will the Board. All of the trainers will be trained in AODA so they will make that part of all their training. There will also be an AODA accessible documents workshop at summer institutes.

Action: Amy will discuss with Missy and Deb to see who will be available to attend the accessibility courses. Lisa Bruce and Shelley Kirkonnell will also receive the dates for the training.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Creating Segregation Awareness – Amy Kipfer

The work at a Board level is done around the Ontario Education Equity Action Plan document that came out in September. In 2014, the Ministry came out with a renewed vision for Education across Ontario. The Ministry reorganized their work around four goals.

4 Goals

- Achieving excellents
- Ensuring equity
- Promoting well-being
- Enhancing public confidence

The Board may need to look back at the Human Rights Code and review our policies and our documents to make sure things are aligning.

Equity Action Plan

1. School and classroom practice
2. Leadership and governance
3. Data collection, integration and reporting
4. Organization cultural change

The Government created an Equity Secretariat last May which superseded the Equity Portfolio at the Ministry at that time. They hired a Human Rights lawyer along with principals and superintendents who are working with equity to oversee the creation of this document.

Layers of Impact

- Personal
- Instructional
- Institutional

There will be province-wide collection of voluntarily provided data on key identity based data points for students is launched. This is a two-year mandate and will need to be completed by June 2019.

Collection categories

- First Language
- Ethnicity
- Creed/ Religion
- Race
- Gender Identity
- Sexual Orientation
- Disability
- Status in Canada
- Socio-economic Status

Students will self-identify how they want to be identified.

Timeline

Winter 2018

- Decision made to start with collection of student identity verses staff collection
- Trustees were informed of our participation
- Informing union leads

Spring 2018

- Gathering of a principal focus group for input into process
- Deadline is Friday March 23, 2018
- Collaborating with HPDSB

Fall 2018

- Communication Plan carried out
- Identify Data Collection Implementation

6.0 Subcommittee/Working Group Structure

The subcommittees discussed the information added to the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. All sub-committees must have their information finalized for the next meeting. The plan will be sent out to the committee for review prior to the meeting.

**Customer Service
Information and Technology
Employment
Transportation**

7.0 Future meetings

Dates of next meetings:
May 2, 2018

8.0 Adjournment at 5:14 p.m.

Moved by Mary-Jane, and seconded by Mary Lou that the meeting be adjourned.
Carried.