

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

MINUTES

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION
and
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 27, 2015
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, Randy Wagler

Senior Staff: Ted Doherty, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Superintendents Jodie Baker, Peggy Blair, Paul Langis, Jane Morris and Associate Superintendent Cheri Carter

Student Trustees: Shannon Edwards and Zach Misener

Resource: Communications Manager Wes MacVicar

Recording Secretary: Barb Crawford

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wagler 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 2015 10 136 (D. Pratley – C. Schenk)

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.

Chair Wagler resumed the Chair at 6:00 p.m. and convened into Committee of the Whole, Open Session.

Approval of Committee of the Whole, Open Session Agenda

MOTION 2015 10 137 (N. Rothwell – J. Moore)

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

CARRIED

Trustee Open Time

PD Topics/Schedule

Chair Wagler opened the discussion asking for trustee input. Two options for trustee professional development including STR/VE and DiSC workshops were considered. Trustees agreed that PD would begin with the DiSC workshop and include trustees and senior staff. Trustees agreed to hold Tuesday, January 12, 2016 as a tentative date for the workshop. Following this session trustees will consider the STR/VE model later in 2016.

Strategic Plan for 2014/2015

Director Doherty advised this is the final year of the Board's four year Strategic Plan. All boards are required by legislation to develop and execute a multi-year plan for three or more years. In accordance with Policy #1, timing is such that a new Strategic Plan will be presented to the Board for approval in June 2016. Director Doherty explained that the Plan is the Board's Plan and that staff implement the Plan. Director Doherty will facilitate planning with staff, students, school councils and communities/municipalities, etc but before getting their input on behalf of the Board, the Board will need to provide guidance and suggest ideas on what should be changed on the Plan.

Chair Wagler noted the previous Strategic Plan was framed from a blank slate and further noted that perhaps this Plan could be tweaked based on the consultation groups input, staff input and trustee input. Trustees agreed at this stage the current Strategic Plan could just be revised.

Trustees agreed with the idea of consulting with different community groups in order to have their input on what they value in education. Trustees also agreed the new plan is an opportunity for trustees to pull together focus groups that are representative of all communities which could consist of local employers, parents, school councils, and local agencies.

Director Doherty suggested in order to get started on how the focus groups will be consulted that an activity with trustees and senior staff will be planned to achieve a consistent approach on the direction of the focus groups and the Plan.

As part of the kick off to the Strategic Plan and to think about what children could be facing in the future, trustees viewed a video called 'Humans Need Not Apply'.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Trustees agreed in order to disclose a declaration of pecuniary interest a form will be provided and trustees will express their conflict on a particular agenda item number without needing to provide a reason. The form will be used in both Committee of the Whole, Closed Session and Regular Board meetings.

Consent Items

Trustee Pratley introduced an idea of Consent Items on the agenda, which would change how items on the agenda are received. Consent Items could include minutes from regular and closed sessions, as well as information and action reports that do not require discussion. If there were reports that required discussion then the report could be removed from the Consent Items and addressed accordingly.

Administration will determine if other boards are using Consent Items on their agenda. This item will be brought forward to the November 24th Open Session of the Board.

Individual Trustee Evaluations/Feedback

Chair Wagler noted as in past years, trustees have completed an optional evaluation by asking up to three trustees to provide feedback on how they are doing in their role as Trustee. If trustees agree to provide input, the forms are to be returned to Barb Crawford by November 15th. The forms will be collated and sent to individual trustees by November 20th.

Trustee Cairncross was absent for Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

MOTION 2015 10 138	(R. Hunking – A. Kent)
RESOLVED THAT this Board reconvene into Regular Session.	
CARRIED	

ROUTINE MATTERS**Approval of Agenda**

MOTION 2015 10 139	(A. Kent – C. Schenk)
RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented.	
CARRIED	

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION 2015 10 140	(R. Hunking – J. Moore)
RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, October 13, 2015, be approved as presented.	
CARRIED	

Business Arising from the MinutesFrench Immersion Interest Survey

A revised copy of the French Immersion Interest Survey was distributed for information. Trustees were asked to provide further suggestions to Chair Wagler, Vice Chair Geddes and Director Doherty. When the survey is finalized it will be available on line, as well as distributed to schools, parents and municipalities. The results of the survey will be available at the Regular Board meeting on January 19, 2016.

Committee of the Whole, Closed SessionProposed Amendments to the Collective Agreement between AMDSB and OSSTF District 8 Regular Teachers' Bargaining Unit

MOTION 2015 10 141	(L. Geddes – C. Schenk)
RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the amendments to the Collective Agreement with the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation District 8, Teacher Bargaining Unit, as presented in Appendix 2 to the report.	
CARRIED	

Strategic Plan Reflection**Good News**

Trustee Pratley announced the OPSBA Western Region meeting on October 23rd was held at Avon Public School. The feedback from trustees from around both the western and central west regions was very positive.

Student Trustee Update

Student Trustee Shannon Edwards reported that Avon Maitland schools were involved in the Student Vote 2015 program and noted overall more than 850,000 votes from across Canada were recorded from over 6,000 schools. Shannon also noted she had attended an Aboriginal Workshop with teachers from Avon Maitland. The workshop included dynamic speakers and the focus was residential schools, aboriginal rights and issues.

Student Trustee Edwards will be participating in The Eat Fit Project travelling to Northern Ontario in November.

Staff Presentations

Director Doherty noted there are two parts to the staff presentations this evening. As staff continue their work on creating positive inclusive learning environment this evening's presentation is a very exciting example of some of the work that Avon Maitland is doing on inclusion.

Inclusion Student Team

Superintendent Blair introduced St. Marys DCVI principal April Smith and the school team including students Jensen Dundas, Bailey Wiffen and Taylor Simpson, and teacher Tawnya Basisto and Learning for All Coach Amy Crummer.

Strategic Plan Update for 2014/2015

Members of Senior Staff highlighted indicators of success within the 'Create Positive, Inclusive Learning Environments' and 'Maximize Student Outcomes' strategies.

Public Delegations

There were no public delegations.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTS

Director's Reports

Chair's Activities Report

Chair Wagler presented the report for information.

Primary Class Size Plan

Superintendent Baker reported as an annual requirement the Plan was filed as of September 24th. As noted in the report, Avon Maitland is compliant in all areas. October 31st enrolment data will be shared with the Board at an upcoming November meeting.

Staff Adjustments

Superintendent Baker presented the report for information.

The following retirements/resignations have been received:

- Lauren Mulder, DECE at Hamlet PS effective October 13, 2015
- Connie Devereaux, TRA at Upper Thames ES effective October 23, 2015
- Ken Thompson, BES-Chief at F.E. Madill SS effective October 23, 2015

The following new hires have taken place:

- Pam Lobb, Teacher at Exeter ES effective October 14, 2015
- Nicholas Haynes, Custodian at St. Marys DCVI effective October 19, 2015

Senior Staff Updates

Associate Superintendent Carter advised that the Auditors are on site and finance staff are working on the 2014/2015 year end. Financial statements will be brought forward to the November 10th Audit Committee and then to Board. The Procurement Services Team has been working diligently on removing surplus furniture from schools.

Superintendent Baker report local bargaining with union partners continues.

Superintendent Langis reported a positive start-up to the school year in secondary. In terms of PD provided this week focus has been on literacy and Dr. Jeffrey Wilhelm will be presenting at workshops on Wednesday and Thursday. Earlier today Dr. Marion Small presented numeracy initiatives at a workshop held at the Education Centre.

Superintendent Blair shared highlights of a special needs strategy wherein services and access to programs for children and youth with complex needs will be integrated. The second phase of this strategy is to integrate delivery of services which has involved many community partners. The proposal will be submitted to the Ministry and staff are hopeful to receive approval in early 2016.

Superintendent Morris report that heading into the month of November brings the Calling All three Year Olds (CATYO) initiative. Sample packages are available for trustees to see. November 6th is a scheduled PA day for secondary teachers and plans are underway to bring secondary teachers together at Central Huron Secondary School. The sessions have been organized for the teachers by teacher technology coaches.

Director Doherty was pleased to announcement 160 international students are enrolled at Avon Maitland schools.

OPSBA Update

Trustee Hunking announced OPSBA's Public Education Symposium is scheduled for January 27 to 29 2016. OPSBA is gathering input for the GSN submission and a draft is expected to be presented at the end of October to OPSBA's Board of Directors. Please send feedback to Trustee Pratley.

Minutes from Board Committees

There were no Board Committee minutes.

Correspondence

- 1) Letter from Chair Wagler dated October 19, 2015 to Parents for French – Huron County
- 2) Letter from Director Doherty dated October 21, 2015 to Municipality of Huron East and the Municipalities of Central Huron, North Huron, Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh and the Town of Goderich.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Board Meetings (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- Tuesday, November 10, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Closed Session, 8:00 p.m. Regular Board Session
- Tuesday, November 24, 2015 – 5:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Open Session, 8:00 p.m. Regular Board Session
- Tuesday, December 8, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Closed Session, 7

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

- AODA: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 – 4:00 p.m. – rescheduled to November 27th
- Director's Review Committee: Tuesday, November 3, 2015 – 4:30 p.m.
- SEAC: Wednesday, November 4, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.
- Audit Committee: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2015 10 142

(N. Rothwell – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:30 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