

**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 24, 2017**

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

**PRESENT:**

**Trustees:** Lynette Geddes, Robert Hunking, Alyson Kent, Julie Moore, Nancy Rothwell, Colleen Schenk, Randy Wagler

**Absent:** Doug Pratley

**Senior Staff:** Lisa Walsh, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Superintendents Janet Baird-Jackson, Jodie Baker, Peggy Blair, Paul Langis, Jane Morris, and Associate Superintendent Cheri Carter

**Student Trustee:** Natalie Moore

**Resource:** Janice Richmond

**Recording Secretary:** Barb Crawford

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Wagler called the meeting to order for the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session at 5:00 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION 2017 10 328**

**(R. Hunking – C. Schenk)**

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

**CARRIED**

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

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION**

**MOTION 2017 10 329**

**(C. Schenk – N. Rothwell)**

**RESOLVED THAT** this Board convene into Committee of the Whole, Open Session at 6:04 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION 2017 10 330**

**(L. Geddes – R. Hunking)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Agenda of the Avon Maitland District School Board Committee of the Whole, Open Session meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

Student Support Team & Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) – Learning Services

Student Support Coordinator Tracy Marshment presented the ABA model that is used to support students from K to 12 schools in Avon Maitland. ABA is an effective approach to understanding and changing behaviour, and teaching skills.

Board Policy Review

In accordance with Policy #12 re Policy Making, trustees review board policies once in every term of the board to ensure the policies are still relevant, that policies conform to the criteria for exemplary policy, and that the policies have been implemented effectively.

Trustees received a list of policies for review and discussed Policies #2 re Trustee Job Description and #4 re Delegation of Authority. Trustees agreed to defer discussion on Policy #12 re Policy Making until the next Open Session.

Trustee Open Time – Questions / Issues

OPSBA has invited boards to provide brief presentation proposals that showcase innovative programs or initiatives that are making a difference for students. Trustees were asked if there were any suggestions for proposals to forward and agreed not to provide any at this time. The OPSBA Public Education Symposium is January 25 to 27, 2018.

**RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION****MOTION 2017 10 331****(L. Geddes – J. Moore)**

**RESOLVED THAT** this Board reconvene into Regular Session.

**CARRIED**

Chair Wagler called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**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 Indigenous Peoples in Canada 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****Approval of Agenda**

Chair Wagler asked for removal of any Consent items. The following items were moved from Consent Items:

5.2 a) Ad Hoc Committee Report re Trustee Selection Committee

6.3 a) Boundary Changes Following Consultation – North Perth and Stratford Planning Areas

6.3 b) Staff Adjustments

Item 6.8 a) re Correspondence was moved to Consent Item.

**MOTION 2017 10 332****(C. Schenk – N. Rothwell)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Agenda of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting be approved as amended.

**CARRIED****Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

*No member of the Board declared having a pecuniary interest regarding any item presented in this agenda.*

**Approval of Minutes****MOTION 2017 10 333****(L. Geddes – A. Kent)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, October 10, 2017 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED****Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, Report to Board Public Session**

Vice-Chair Kent confirmed there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

**Trustee Reflection**

There was no Trustee Reflection.

**Good News**

Superintendent Baker recognized teacher Isaac Moore from Stratford Central Secondary School, along with fellow teacher Josh Geddis for their outstanding and innovative social media campaign #teachlikegord. The campaign asked colleagues to incorporate the words of the late Canadian music icon Gord Downie from Tragically Hip into their week's lesson planning with the hashtag #teachlikegord. The project gained support from teachers across the country. Congratulations to both teachers.

Superintendent Morris advised trustees that this week students and teachers from 28 different classrooms are learning collaboration, critical thinking and problem-solving skills at D&D Automation in Stratford. Trustees were invited to drop in throughout the week.

**Student Trustee Update**

Natalie Moore reported the senators are focusing on sense of belonging in schools as well as classroom engagement. The senators have talked about the different ways they are trying to improve at their schools ranging from surveys, focus groups asking specific questions on what they would like to see improved, and also doing club fairs, etc. The senators are meeting again in November to review what has worked.

**Staff/Student Presentation**

There were no staff/student presentations.

**Public Delegations**

There were no delegations.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION****CHAIR'S REPORT**Ad Hoc Trustee Selection Committee

Chair Wagler reported that following Trustee Judy Cairncross' resignation effective August 31<sup>st</sup>, the board had posted the trustee vacancy and held interviews on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Seven applications were received, however two applicants withdrew their application as of October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION 2017 10 334****(C. Schenk – L. Geddes)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Avon Maitland District School Board appoint Al Sygrove as trustee representing Northwest Huron, for the remainder of the term of the Board, effective October 24, 2017.

**CARRIED**

**Declaration of Office/Oath of Allegiance**

At this time Chair Wagler invited Al Sygrove to declare the Oath of Allegiance and Declaration. Al Sygrove recited and signed the Oath and Declaration. Chair Wagler welcomed Trustee Sygrove to the board. Chair Wagler called for a motion to dissolve the Ad Hoc Trustee Selection Committee effective October 24, 2017.

**MOTION 2017 10 335****(R. Hunking – N. Rothwell)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Avon Maitland District School Board dissolve the Ad Hoc Trustee Selection Committee effective October 24, 2017.

**CARRIED****INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTS****DIRECTOR'S REPORT**Boundary Changes Following Consultation – North Perth and Stratford Planning Areas

Superintendent Baird-Jackson presented the information report and outlined what has transpired since the June 13, 2017 report to board on proposed boundary changes based on development areas near North Perth Westfield Elementary School, and concerns regarding accommodation pressures at Downie Central Public School and Bedford Public School. Superintendent Baird-Jackson also reported on the meeting that was held on September 19<sup>th</sup> at Bedford Public School for the French Immersion parents affected by the boundary change.

Staff Adjustments

Superintendent Langis presented staff adjustments for information.

OPSBA Update

Trustee Schenk reminded trustees of the Regional Joint Meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Upper Grand DSB Education Centre.

Minutes from Board Committees

- a) PIC: May 17, 2017
- b) AODA: June 14, 2017
- c) Huron Perth Student Transportation Services: September 26, 2017

Chair's Activity Update

Chair Wagler reported he continues to fulfill the duties on behalf of the board, and attending board and committee meetings as required.

Senior Staff Update

Associate Superintendent Carter reported following the Ministry's March 6<sup>th</sup> announcement re rural and remote education consultations, the Ministry issued the 2017: B09 memo on June 28<sup>th</sup> re the plan to strengthen rural and northern education which included an in-year enhancement to the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) funding for the 2017/2018 school year, effective September 2017. The Ministry committed \$20 million through the Rural and Northern Education Fund (RNEF) as an enhancement to the GSN. The funding is intended to be dedicated to boards to further improve education for students from rural communities. Avon Maitland received \$838,666. Senior Staff continue to identify areas and initiatives to enhance quality rural education. A more fulsome report will be brought forward at a later date.

Superintendent Baker provided an update on international education. At this time 240 students were registered for Semester I, with 29 of these students assigned to Bluewater District School Board. The

international education department has organized a number of excursions for the students, hosting trips to Niagara Falls, Toronto, etc. The excursions are held on PA days.

Director Walsh updated trustees on the role of the ombudsman. Previously retired principal Floyd Herman held the position, and then Eleanor Salmon, who retired earlier this year, held the position. Currently Martin Ritsma has taken on the role of ombudsman. The purpose of the ombudsman is to help facilitate dialogue between school administrators and parents as necessary to problem solve. In addition, as senior staff have reviewed the board's leaver data, the role includes connecting with various families to re-engage students, to assist with health and safety protocol, to review the field trip administrative procedure and the OPHEA guidelines. The ombudsman does not make decisions in isolation but works with the school as support. Parents are encouraged to contact the school principal first.

#### Correspondence

Letter dated October 20, 2017 from Chair Wagler to Education Minister Mitzie Hunter re Executive Compensation Framework.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was presented.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Future Board Meetings** (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- November 14, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 7:30 p.m. Regular Board Session

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

- SAL: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.
- SEAC: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 – 4:00 p.m.
- Foundation Gala: Saturday, November 11, 2017 – Revival House, Stratford
- Audit Committee: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 – 4:30 p.m.
- HPSTS: Thursday, November 16, 2017 – 4:00 p.m.
- PIC: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.
- Student Advisory Committee: Tuesday, November 28, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.
- Joint Health & Safety Committee: Thursday, November 30, 2017 – 1:30 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION 2017 10 336**

**(N. Rothwell – A. Sygrove)**

**RESOLVED THAT** this meeting be adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Approved at Seaforth, Ontario  
Date approved

Randy Wagler  
Chair of the Board

Dr. Lisa Walsh  
Director of Education and  
Secretary of the Board