

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

**MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION AND  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, April 24, 2018**

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

**PRESENT:**

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

**Senior Staff:** Lisa Walsh, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Superintendents Janet Baird-Jackson, Jodie Baker, Kim Black, Paul Langis, and Jane Morris

**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 5.33 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION 2018-04-24-405**

**(L. Geddes – A. Kent)**

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

**CARRIED**

Vice-Chair Robert Hunking was Chair for the Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION – Convened at 6:35 p.m.**

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION 2018-04-10-406**

**(A. Kent – L. Geddes)**

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

**CARRIED**

Review of Policy 6 re Role of Trustee

Trustees reviewed the proposed revisions to Policy 6. A notice of motion will be brought forward at the May 8<sup>th</sup> Regular Session for approval of Policy 6.

List of Policies to be Reviewed

Chair Wagler and Vice-Chair Hunking will create a process and schedule for review of all Board policies. Policies will be prioritized for a fulsome, expeditious process.

All-Candidates Meeting

Chair Wagler noted that OPSBA is developing resources to support the advocacy initiative, OPSBA Education Day, which is tentatively set for May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Trustees across the province have been asked to invite the local candidates from the four major provincial parties in their areas to participate in local all-candidates meetings. In the past trustees have endeavored to attend an all-candidates meeting within their municipalities and raise a few educational questions. Trustees agreed to continue with past practice, and not hold a special education-focused all-candidates meeting.

Meet with Student Senators

On Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> the Student Advisory Committee is hosting the annual Student Symposium at the Arden Park in Stratford from 9:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m. Trustees are invited to attend.

Chair Wagler noted the board values student voice and appreciates the work of the Student Senators relaying a student voice.

**RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION****MOTION 2018-04-24-407****(A. Sygrove – N. Rothwell)**

**RESOLVED THAT** this Board reconvene into Regular Session at 7:32 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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**

The following revisions were made to the Agenda for Regular Session:

- 1) Move the Expense Statements for September 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 to Consent Items
- 2) Remove the letter from Trillium Lakelands DSB from Correspondence Consent Items

**MOTION 2018-04-24-408****(A. Sygrove – J. Moore)**

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

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

*No trustees made a declaration of pecuniary interest.*

**Approval of Minutes**

Trustee Geddes noted she had recused herself on the Approval of Consent Items but the declaration of pecuniary interest came after the approval of consent items. The order of the items will be revised for future meetings.

**MOTION 2018-04-24-409****(L. Geddes – D. Pratley)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, April 10, 2018 be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Trustee Schenk noted at the OPSBA Regional meeting the Opening Statement item was discussed re recognizing Indigenous People. Trustee Pratley noted that in November 2016 he had brought forward a motion re recognition of Indigenous People, and further researched through the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation the term Anishnaabe Peoples. As a result, no further changes to the Opening Statement are under consideration at this time.

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

**MOTION 2018-04-24-410**

**(R. Hunking – C. Schenk)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Avon Maitland District School Board accept the quote for the bulk broadband Internet.

**CARRIED**

### **Good News**

Superintendent Baker announced the Board has received approval of the SHSM funding and programs for 2018/2019. Central Huron SS will offer Agriculture and Health & Wellness; Goderich District CI will offer Environment; Listowel District SS will offer Business and Construction; Mitchell District HS will offer Agriculture and Food Processing, St. Marys District CVI will offer Construction and Environment, Stratford Central SS will offer Arts and Culture, and Stratford Northwestern SS will offer Energy and Environment.

Chair Wagler announced he had attended the annual Huron Perth Canada-Wide Science Fair. Chair Wagler was again on the panel of judges. Chair Wagler expressed appreciation to staff, parents and students for their participation and dedication to the annual Science Fair.

### **Student Trustee Update**

Student Trustee Natalie Moore announced that Listowel District Secondary Schools' performance 'Lizzie Borden of Fall River' will advance to the National Theatre Festival Provincial Showcase on May 12<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge. They received an Award of Merit for Eilish Brennan's acting, for Dramaturgy by Natasha Bowles and Grace Jackson, an Award of Excellence to Chantel McIntosh for acting, and an Outstanding Production Award.

The Student Symposium will be held on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> in Stratford at the Arden Park starting at 9:30 a.m.

### **Student / Staff Presentation**

There was no student or staff presentation.

### **Public Delegations**

There were no delegations.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:**

#### Report of the School Year Calendar Committee

Trustee Schenk presented the report in detail. The Committee has held three meetings and there is one more scheduled for June. The school year begins on September 4<sup>th</sup> and classes end June 28<sup>th</sup> with a PA day. Winter Break commences Monday, December 24, 2018 and concludes Friday, January 4, 2019. Classes resume Monday, January 7, 2019. March Break commences on Monday, March 11, 2019 and concludes on Friday, March 15, 2019. There are seven professional development days scheduled as follows: Friday, September 28, 2018, Friday, November 2, 2018, Friday, December 7, 2018, Friday, February 1, 2019, Friday, April 5, 2019, Friday, June 7, 2019, Friday, June 28, 2019.

**MOTION 2018-04-24-412****(C. Schenk – J. Moore)**

**RESOLVED THAT** the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the 2018/2019 Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars.

**CARRIED**

Chair Wagler expressed appreciation to staff and the members of School Year Calendar Committee for their work in achieving a final calendar.

**INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTS****DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:**Comparison of 2016/2017 Actual Versus Tendered Prices

Superintendent Baird-Jackson highlighted the annual information report noting this is the fourteenth year for this comparison data. Over time there has been significant work to reduce the variance and develop better cost estimates. The ongoing focus remains on standardizing so that Facilities can be more predictive of actual costs.

Trustee Pratley noted the bottom line numbers of estimates and actuals was very close and expressed appreciation to the facilities team for their due diligence in completing the projects.

Staff Adjustments

Superintendent Langis presented the following:

*Retirements and Resignations*

Shannon Kirk, Educational Assistant, Goderich District CI effective April 25, 2018

Katharina Coolman, Educational Assistant, South Huron DHS effective June 29, 2018

Meaghan Myers, Assistant Secretary, Maitland River ES effective June 29, 2018

Kaitlynn McBride, Teacher, Stratford Northwestern/Stratford Central effective June 30, 2018

Robert Siefert, Head Custodian, Listowel District SS effective October 19, 2018

*New Hires*

Kelly Bates, Teacher, Avon PS effective March 29, 2018

Clayton Peters, Teacher, Goderich District CI 7-8 effective April 3, 2018

Andrew Somers, Custodian, North Perth Westfield PS effective April 16, 2018

OPSBA Update

Trustee Schenk provided highlights from the Board of Director's meeting. Topics discussed were OPSBA budget noting a zero percent increase to membership fees this year, proposed changes to legislation was provided by the Education and Service Working Group, the TRC Curriculum Steering Committee met on April 9<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the curriculum progress that has been made to date, OPSBAs' plans for the 2018 election and the resources to support Education Day on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, trustee honoraria was identified in the GSNs and there is an interim increase for trustees, regulation now requires all boards to have a code of conduct policy in place by May 15, 2019, OPSBA is leading an FSL labour market partnership project, a final report of the education assessment review will be released late April, and a one-year pilot was passed for additional involvement of student trustees in OPSBA in 2018/2019. The annual general meeting will be held in Niagara Falls from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Minutes from Board Committees

Student Advisory Committee: March 27, 2018

Senior Staff Update

Superintendent Langis announced that on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> there is a wrap up session for the participants of Year 1 of the ELDP sessions. Staff will receive notification of the launch of Year 2 through a system memo in the next couple of weeks.

Superintendent Langis reported a very successful vice-principal conference was held on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the conference was ‘Transforming Education Through Leadership’, and the guest speaker was Will Richardson.

Superintendent Black announced the findings from the Brock research on inclusion will be presented to SEAC on June 6<sup>th</sup> and also at the Board meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Superintendent Morris announced ‘Loud and Proud’ will be held on May 1<sup>st</sup> with over 500 students from across the district participating. The event will be held at Stratford Northwestern starting at 6:30 p.m. The annual dance showcase has become very popular and this year there will be two productions. The first event will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Stratford Northwestern starting at 7:00 p.m. and the second event will be held on May 16<sup>th</sup> at Seaforth Public School at 7:00 p.m.

Superintendent Morris reported today the government released the advisors’ final report, ‘Ontario, A Learning Province’. This report is a review of Ontario’s student assessment and reporting and was led by Dr. Carol Campbell and five other education advisors. The report is available on the Ministry’s website which includes the executive summary and a full comprehensive report.

Superintendent Baker confirmed the deadline for completing Our School student survey has been extended to May 10<sup>th</sup>. A reminder the Pathways Night at the Stratford Rotary Complex is scheduled for Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. There will be representation from local builder associations, colleges, universities, etc. The grade 8 Fanshawe trips have been successful with very positive feedback from students. School administrators will be receiving a system memo with information about steps to share with school councils on MyBlueprint.

### Correspondence

Trustee Pratley asked that the letter from Trillium Lakeland DSB be discussed and asked for staff comment regarding the concerns of sick leave costs. Superintendent Langis noted that Avon Maitland has an established health and wellness program and compared to school boards in the province Avon Maitland is below average. Superintendent Langis further noted there is a provincial working group that is monitoring trends.

Trustees also discussed the letter from Limestone DSB regarding the endorsement of the OSPBA Student Platform Report. This letter will be forward to the Student Advisory Committee for their information and discussion at the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Student Advisory / Trustee Committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No items of new business were presented.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- May 8, 2018 – 5:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Open Session, 7:30 p.m. Regular Session
- May 22, 2018 – 6:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Student Advisory Committee, 7:30 p.m. Regular Session

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

- HPSTS: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. at Huron-Perth CDSB
- Municipal and Community Partners: Tuesday, May 29, 2018 Municipal at 1:00 p.m. and Community Partners at 2:00 p.m.
- Joint Health & Safety: Thursday, May 31, 2018 – 1:30 p.m.
- School Year Calendar Committee: Wednesday, June 6, 2018
- PIC – ‘Let’s Talk Tech & Math’ Technology and Math Night: Wednesday, June 6, 2018
- Avon Maitland DSB Recognition Reception: Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION 2018-04-24-413**

**(C. Schenk – J. Moore)**

**RESOLVED THAT** this meeting be adjourned at 8:30 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