

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

MINUTES

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION,
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION
and REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

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

PRESENT:

Trustees: Laura Bisutti, Colin Carmichael, Lynette Geddes, Robert Hunking, Herb Klassen,
Nancy Rothwell, Colleen Schenk, Al Sygrove

Absent: Julie Moore

Senior Staff: Director Lisa Walsh, Superintendents Janet Baird-Jackson, Jodie Baker, Kim Black,
Paul Langis, Jane Morris, and Associate Superintendent Cheri Carter

Resource: Sarah Stright

Recording Secretary: Barb Crawford

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schenk called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION

MOTION 2019-02-26-19

(N. Rothwell – L. Geddes)

RESOLVED THAT this Board convene into Committee of the Whole, Closed Session at 6:50
p.m.

CARRIED

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

RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION

MOTION 2019-02-26-20

(N. Rothwell – L. Bisutti)

RESOLVED THAT this Board reconvene into Regular Session.

CARRIED

Chair Schenk recited the Opening Statement:

"We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Anishinaabe 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."

Approval of Agenda

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

6.0 New Business – Trustee Reflection Discussion

MOTION 2019-02-26-21**(L. Geddes – R. Hunking)**

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

CARRIED**Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

No trustee made a declaration of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes**MOTION 2019-02-26-22****(C. Carmichael – H. Klassen)**

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, January 29, 2019 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 SessionApproval of Competitive Procurement Process

Vice-Chair Hunking brought forward the following motion.

MOTION 2019-02-26-23**(R. Hunking – A. Sygrove)**

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board award the contract to supply to the firm Cloud Managed Networks.

CARRIED**Trustee Reflection – Vice-Chair Hunking**

“You are braver than you think, stronger than you seem, and Smarter than you think”. This is somewhat a two perspective reflection.

I am maybe my hardest critic. This quote always resonates in my head. “One rises to their level of incompetence.” Does that mean one can only obtain so much? Picture a student with the same thought. It goes against everything we try to say and encourage in them, “chase your dream”, “you have the potential”, “you have the ability”. At times I feel as though I have reached my plateau and then someone says “you are doing a good job.” or “Have you considered taking on this?” Most of us strive to do more, reach higher, expand our horizons. As trustees we are charged with student achievement and well being within the guise of preserving, advocating for and advancing public education. At times you may feel that you have got in over your head or think whoa that person knows their stuff and your self esteem and confidence sinks. Imagine how a student feels when they ‘get it’ versus when they ‘don’t get it’. Why is that person so knowledgeable or how did that person become so informed? Was it just work related knowledge, experience, research or PD?

Or is it personal desire to grow to make that plateau higher and higher? How often have you heard “there is no stupid question?” and then get laughed at for asking that question. How does that make you feel? How do you think it would make a student feel asking that question that everyone pretends to know the answer to? Worth is not measured by intelligence. It is your desire to improve, grow, learn that are key elements of success. Many students have not developed a desire/passion to learn or that

passion that drives themselves to learn or have lost it or had it destroyed. We are beginning to realize that more often than not that passion for discovery is extinguished by school. Which theory do you want to pick? As adults most of us have realized the benefits of lifelong learning. We must put in place the conditions that encourage our students to be the same. It may only be tiny steps but one has to begin somewhere. It goes beyond extrinsic or intrinsic motivation or applying cognitive principles or metacognition. Who knows what the ripple effect may be. From our Board Plan: “At AMDSB, our goal is to foster successful graduates. We define successful graduates as students who leave AMDSB prepared for their next steps and understand themselves as learners and advocates for their own needs, are literate and are numerate. They are also prepared for a changing world and are confident and curious thinkers, resilient and flexible thinkers who demonstrate global competencies (communication, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and problem solving) and positive and principled engagement in society.” Engage Inspire Innovate... Always Learning: needs to be more than just words for us as trustees and administration and for our students. “If it doesn’t challenge you, it won’t change you”

Good News

Superintendent Black, on behalf of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IAEC), announced that Avon Maitland has launched their website on Indigenous Education.

Vice Chair Hunking announced Mikayla Ainsley, a student from Hullett Central Public School recently won the Lions Club International Peace Essay grand prize for her essay ‘Kindness Matters’. The contest was created specifically to give visually impaired students between the ages of 11 and 13 the opportunity to express their feelings of peace. In March, Mikayla and her family will be visiting the United Nations in New York where she will be presented with a plaque and the grand prize. Congratulations to Mikayla!

On February 11th Trustee Klassen attended a dinner at Stratford Northwestern Secondary School hosted by the Culinary Club. An authentic Middle Eastern dinner was prepared by a team of students from Stratford Central and Stratford Northwestern. The next dinner is March 25th. Please contact Stratford Northwestern for tickets.

Superintendent Morris reported the St. Donat 2019 trip was another success for students in grades 8 and 9. Fifty students from twenty schools across the district participated in the excursion. The students spent half the day in school and the other half day enjoying outdoor activities.

Trustee Sygrove recognized and thanked the owners and staff of Hansen’s Your Independent Grocer who visited the Exeter Elementary School where they served healthy breakfasts to students. Owner Mike Hansen said the program, Raise a Food Lover, was designed to get children involved in food and to encourage eating together as a family.

Trustee Sygrove also announced that students from South Huron District High School recently helped make their community safe and more active by raising over \$1600. for the Pedestrian Bridge on the South Huron Trail Project. The SHDHS Athletic Council, with the support of students and local businesses, donated the money to the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation and the Jones Bridge Project.

Superintendent Baker announced a number of schools have been promoting well-being along with the Board’s campaign ‘iAMwell’. Jeremy Brock, Principal at Milverton Public School posted a photo of Milverton’s ‘iAMwell’ which was then recognized by the organizers of Bell Let’s Talk Day.

Superintendent Baker also announced the Cosmetology Program at South Huron District High School was recently launched and have two sections filled.

On February 5th Stratford Northwestern and Stratford Central hosted an Open House to talk about the 2019/2020 transition year. Student Trustee Kristin Vleeming, who attends Stratford Central, noted that there was a very good turnout and students found the open house helpful.

Director Walsh formally introduced Sarah Stright. Sarah is acting Communications Manager with responsibilities including the website, graphic designs, and campaigning related to all senior staff portfolios.

Chair Schenk acknowledged the gallery in attendance for this evening's meeting. The guests are participating in the PQP Part I course.

On February 21st and 22nd Chair Schenk attended the Principals' conference. Also in attendance were Vice-Chair Hunking, and Trustees Geddes and Klassen. The theme was 'Leading the Learning Profession'. Speakers included Todd Whittacker, Dr. Greg Wells, Karen Acton and Dr. Carol Campbell.

Student Trustee Update

Student Trustees Moore and Vleeming attended OSTA-AECO on February 21st to 24th in Ottawa.

Staff Presentation

Safe and Welcoming Learning Environment / Learning Services Update

Superintendent Black and Learning Services Coordinator Kristin Frank presented progress to date and next steps related to transition planning and supports for students with special needs. More information is available at the following link: http://dar.yourschools.ca/year_in_review.html

Superintendents Baker and Black provided information regarding the medical and recreational Cannabis on school grounds and reference AP314 re Prevalent Medical Conditions in Schools.

Public Delegations

There were no delegations.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

Consent Items

5.3 a) Expense Statements – Trustee Geddes asked to remove this item for discussion.

MOTION 2019-02-26-24

(L. Geddes – N. Rothwell)

RESOLVED THAT the Consent Items be received as presented.

CARRIED

Review of Code of Conduct Policy

Vice-Chair Hunking brought forward a request to review Board Policy #5 re *Code of Conduct*, in accordance with OPSBA's direction. The Policy must be reviewed by May 15, 2019.

MOTION 2019-02-26-25

(R. Hunking – C. Carmichael)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board establish an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Chair Schenk, Vice-Chair Hunking, and Trustees Geddes and Sygrove, to review Board Policy #5 re *Code of Conduct*.

CARRIED

INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTS

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

Expense Statements for September 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019

Associate Superintendent Carter presented the report for information, and explained how trustee expenses are distributed for PD, conference and other travel expense.

Trustees agreed for a future Open Session agenda to review and discuss the allocation of PD on behalf of trustees and student trustees.

Staff Adjustments**Retirements and Resignations**

Name	Location	Position	Effective
Lydia Wassink	Listowel District SS	Educational Assistant	January 31, 2019
Dani Rathwell	Education Centre	Communications Manager	February 1, 2019
Betty Regier	Bluewater Coast ES	Secretary	February 28, 2019
Greg Murray	Goderich District CI	Teacher	March 31, 2019
Sylvia Cattrysse	Elma Township PS	Principal	April 30, 2019
Michelle Ellison	AMDEC/Mitchell DHS	Teacher	June 30, 2019
Susan Ryan	Anne Hathaway PS	Teacher	June 30, 2019
Bill Shore	Central Huron SS	Teacher	June 30, 2019
Robin Rutherford	Little Falls ES	Teacher	June 30, 2019
Patricia Brine	Stratford Central SS	Teacher	June 30, 2019
John Hindley	Stratford Central SS	Teacher	June 30, 2019
Gail Fricker	Stratford Northwestern SS	Teacher	June 30, 2019
Patricia Webb	Upper Thames ES	Teacher	June 30, 2019

New Hires

Name	Location	Position	Effective
Rhiannon Poole	Bedford PS	Teacher	February 1, 2019
Allissa Wettlaufer	FE Madill SS	Teacher	February 1, 2019
Brydon Ensing	Stratford Northwestern SS	Teacher	February 1, 2019
Alexandra Wight	Stratford Northwestern SS	Teacher	February 1, 2019
Darlene Bleyswyck	Avon PS	Custodian	March 4, 2019

OPSBA Update

Trustee Klassen provided a summary of the OPSBA Board of Directors meeting held on February 22nd – 23rd in Toronto. The OPSBA Labour Relations Symposium is scheduled for April 4th and 5th. OPSBA will be participating in the consultation on Regulation 274 and class size. Legislative Updates for Bill 66 re Ontario's Commutative Act, and Bill 56 re Keeping Students Safe on School Buses were discussed.

Vice-Chair Hunking added that on April 8th OPSBA is hosting an Advocacy Day at Ontario Legislative from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. It is an open invitation for MPPs to attend with OPSBA to talk about current issues.

Chair Activity Update

Chair Schenk's activities have included attending school council meetings, attending the February Principals' Conference, speaking at the PQP Part I course, and agenda planning with the Vice-Chair and Director.

Senior Staff Updates

Superintendent Baird-Jackson began with a Stratford update and noted in terms of construction staff have been making progress. An application for approval to proceed has been submitted to the Capital Branch in the Ministry on February 13th. The design has now been finalized and will be out for tender when approval to proceed has been confirmed with the Ministry.

In terms of the Vision update, Superintendent Baird-Jackson noted there have been a number of questions submitted and staff continue to complete the answers and post in the Vision FAQ on the Board's Stratford website. When the Option 7 option was proposed, staff received a large number of questions. The themes covered a series of topics including transition, parking, transportation, athletics ie sport teams, etc. Staff are continuing to work through the questions and will post answers as soon as possible.

Superintendent Baker explained the transition process is well underway and involves a number of staff members and various departments. Senior Staff is connected relative to their portfolios. School administrators have been contacting feeder school families to follow up about the Open House and

answer any questions they may have. Administrators are going to work with school councils as a way to engage discussion and feedback to what they would like to see in transition.

Superintendent Baird-Jackson highlighted that the facilities work scheduled for March break included asbestos abatement in the front stairwell at Stratford Central, construction in the staff room at Stratford Northwestern, painting at Bedford Public School and Exeter Elementary School as well as fire alarm inspections throughout the district.

Superintendent Morris announced the release of the system memo re DELF assessment for 2019. The dates for the assessment will be May 6th to 8th.

A copy of the annual report from Kids First Huron Perth Committee was distributed. Avon Maitland DSB is a partner in the integrated approach of organizations to support children up to age 6. This Committee has been meeting since 2008 and continues to do tremendous work to support families and children.

Superintendent Baker announced for Semester II there are 139 students enrolled in dual credits where students attend college campuses for classes. An additional 40 students are expected to enroll in Team Taught Dual Credit which is when the college instructor teaches courses at the secondary school with an Avon Maitland teacher.

February 27th is Pink Shirt day where staff and students are encouraged to wear pink to recognize bullying awareness, and to improve the understanding of bullying versus conflict.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice-Chair Hunking brought forward for discussion the next steps re Trustee Reflection statements at the Regular Board meeting. Following input from trustees, it was agreed to pause on the trustee reflection until the fall.

MOTION 2019-02-26-26

(N. Rothwell – C. Carmichael)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board pause the Trustee Reflection statement and bring forward for discussion in September 2019.

CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Board Meetings (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- March 26, 2019 – 5:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Open Session, 7:00 p.m. Student Advisory Committee, 7:30 p.m. Regular Session
- April 9, 2019 – 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
- April 23, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Student Advisory Committee, 7:30 p.m. Regular Session; NOTE the April 23, 2019 meeting will be held at Mornington Public School
- May 7, 2019 – 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 28, 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Student Advisory Committee, 7:30 p.m. Regular Session
- June 11, 2019 – 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
- June 25, 2019 – 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)

- PIC: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.
- IEAC: Thursday, February 28, 2019 – 5:00 p.m.

- SEAC: Wednesday, March 6, 2019
- OPSBA – April 13, 2019 – discussion on CASE and Riverside programming
- Audit Committee – April 30, 2019

MOTION 2019-02-26-27

(N. Rothwell – H. Klassen)

RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

CARRIED

Approved at Seaforth, Ontario
Date approved

Colleen Schenk
Chair of the Board

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