

AVON MAITLAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Engage, Inspire, Innovate ... Always Learning

MINUTES

5:30 p.m. – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION

6:15 p.m. – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION

7:30 p.m. – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Seaforth Education Centre

PRESENT:

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

Absent: Lynette Geddes

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

Resource: Chera Longston

Recording Secretary: Barb Crawford

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schenk called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. and move into Committee of the Whole, Closed Session.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CLOSED SESSION

MOTION 2019-06-11-78

(H. Klassen – L. Bisutti)

RESOLVED THAT this Board convene into Committee of the Whole, Closed Session at 5:40 p.m.
CARRIED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, OPEN SESSION

MOTION 2019-06-11-79

(A. Sygrove – C. Carmichael)

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

CARRIED

Approval of Agenda

MOTION 2019-06-11-80

(N. Rothwell – C. Carmichael)

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

CARRIED

Presentations

Robotics and Coding

Superintendent Morris introduced teachers and students from North Perth Westfield, North Easthope, FE Madill and Stratford Central who gave an interactive demonstration with trustees of their robotics and coding.

Board Meeting Schedule

Trustees reviewed the draft board meeting schedule for 2019/2020 which included the idea of video-conferencing meetings. Administration will review Policy #9 re electronic board meetings, and confirm the number of trustees that are required to be present, and how many board meetings are required to be held.

RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION**MOTION 2019-06-11-81****(N. Rothwell – C. Carmichael)****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**MOTION 2019-06-11-82****(H. Klassen – C. Carmichael)****RESOLVED THAT** the Agenda of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting be approved as presented.**CARRIED****Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

No trustee made a declaration of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes**MOTION 2019-06-11-83****(A. Sygrove – L. Bisutti)****RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of the Avon Maitland District School Board meeting held Tuesday, June 11, 2019 be approved as presented.**CARRIED****Business Arising from the Minutes of May 28, 2019**

There was no business from the May 28th Minutes

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

Vice-Chair Hunking advised there was nothing to report from the Closed Session.

Good News

Trustee Klassen announced SEAC hosted a Transition Fair at the Seaforth Public School. The Transition Fair was in support of students and families to learn more about community supports, resources and the transition process for students with special needs. Approximately 80 people were in attendance, and there were 27 presenters available to provide information. The feedback was very positive as families appreciated learning more about community resources. Trustee Klassen expressed appreciation to SEAC, staff and community organizers for their time and commitment to host a successful Fair.

Trustee Al Sygrove recognized South Huron DHS teacher Amanda Keller's grade 9 science class for their work in promoting eco-friendly initiatives in their South Huron communities as part of their sustainable eco-systems unit. Eco Exeter is an initiative from South Huron District High School and they are working closely with a community group called 'Blue Bayfield'.

Trustee Carmichael announced that June 11th and June 12th the kindergarten classes from Goderich Public School are walking to Goderich District CI to see the drama class perform plays based on Robert Munsch stories. This initiative highlights the strong and special relationship between the two schools.

Trustee Bisutti reported Linda Duam, a crossing guard for Shakespeare Public School was recently recognized as one of Canada's Favorite Crossing Guards. Linda was one of three winners out of 40 nominations. Congratulations Linda!

Superintendent Morris announced the co-production between Upper Thames Elementary School's teacher Michele Nicholson's grade 6 class and Skyline Productions of 'To Illuminate'. The production is in support of the Tanner Steffler Foundation, and is a reminder to students and families to think about and consider the people you care about.

Superintendent Morris reported three Avon Maitland schools were recognized by Ophea as healthy schools. This is a rigorous process for schools to engage in, and aligns with the Ministry's well-being initiative. North Easthope Public School received gold, Huron Centennial Public School and St. Marys DCVI received silver certification. Congratulations to all staff and students

Trustee Rothwell reported the Board Recognition Reception was held on Monday, June 10th where the Always Learning awards were announced, and retirees and years of service employees were celebrated. This year also included recognition of the graduating student senators and student trustee.

Trustee Rothwell announced a recent activity in Stratford that involved grade 3 classes from Perth County. iFarm was held at the Burnside Agriplex and hosted by commodity groups from across Perth County. Students rotated through 8 interactive centres showing what happens with dairy cows, poultry, etc.

Student Trustee

There was no student trustee update.

Staff Presentation

There were no staff presentations.

Public Delegations

Pia Zeni, Parent, Stratford Central Secondary School delegated to the board regarding the Stratford renovation project.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Consent Items

Chair Schenk removed item 5.2 a) External Audit Planning Report for 2018/2019 Fiscal Year-End.

MOTION 2019-06-11-84

(C. Carmichael – R. Hunking)

RESOLVED THAT the Consent Items be received as presented.

CARRIED

ACTION REPORTS

External Audit Planning Report for 2018/2019 Fiscal Year-End

Trustee Sygrove reported the Audit Committee met on June 5th to review and approve the proposed External Audit Planning report for the year ending August 31, 2019. There were no significant changes to current developments and audit trends since the last update to Audit Committee in June, 2018.

MOTION 2019-06-11-85

(A. Sygrove – L. Bisutti)

RESOLVED THAT the Avon Maitland District School Board approve the Audit Planning Report for the Year Ending August 31, 2019 for the annual Financial Statement Audit as presented and accepted by the Audit Committee.

CARRIED

Approval of Tender: Alterations at Stratford Northwestern Secondary School

Resolved that, Avon Maitland District School Board accept the tender from Accuratus Design & Build, for alterations at Stratford Northwestern Secondary in the tender amount of \$410,755.00.

INFORMATION AND PROGRESS REPORTSPreliminary Accommodation Analysis Report for 2018/2019

Superintendent Baird-Jackson presented the detailed annual preliminary accommodation analysis based on the Ministry's 2015 revised Pupil Accommodation Review guidelines. An accommodation review may lead to any number of things including grade changes, closures or consolidations. There are some changes that do not require an accommodation review ie same boundary area, or where less than 50% of enrolment is being affected.

Declining enrolment is the biggest financial challenge as revenues are directly tied to student enrolment within the Board. With the Ministry of Education's priority on 'right-sizing' spaces, and now the added implication of secondary class size ratios, changes in school accommodation have to remain an option for the Board. At this time there is still a moratorium unless it involves joint board initiatives.

Staff will continue to monitor enrolment, extreme costs for renovations and operation, challenges for the delivery of quality programs and accessibility issues.

In responding to a question about relocating the Section 23 class from Clinton Public School due to space issues, Superintendent Baird-Jackson commented that it has been considered, however it's complicated in part due to transportation and keeping the program in a central location.

Superintendent Baird-Jackson explained that border crossing requests create some additional pressures on schools and in the past some of the requests have had to be controlled and change of boundaries to address enrolment.

At this time staff are not recommending any schools for further review.

Principal / Vice-Principal Placements for 2019/2020 (laydown)**Principals**

| Name | From | To |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Robyn Carnochan (Interim) | VP – Goderich PS | Brookside PS |
| Deanne Deelstra (Interim) | VP – FE Madill SS | FE Madill SS |
| Adrienne Jacques (Interim) | VP – Anne Hathaway PS | Romeo PS |
| Ruth Lovell | Bedford PS | Listowel Eastdale PS |
| Kate Lusk | Romeo PS | Elma Township PS |
| Marie McDade | FE Madill SS | Upper Thames ES |
| Bevan Moir | Downie Central PS | System Principal – Program |
| Dree Park | Brookside PS | Hullett Central PS |
| Matt Robinson (Interim) | Hullett Central PS (Acting) | Downie Central PS |
| Paula Robinson | Upper Thames ES | Bedford PS |

Vice Principals

| Name | From | To |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Jason Burt | Mitchell District HS | South Huron DHS |
| Melissa Campbell (Acting) | Vice-Principal Pool | Huron Centennial PS |
| Gary Coursey | Huron Centennial PS | Maitland River ES |
| Sarah Haanstra (Acting) | Vice-Principal Pool | Howick Central PS |
| Ed Havenga | South Huron DHS | FE Madill SS |
| Shannon Hughes | Stratford Northwestern SS | Upper Thames ES |
| Lucy Langis (Acting) | Vice-Principal Pool | Mitchell District HS |
| Paul Menary (Interim) | Vice-Principal Pool | Bedford PS |
| Lori Stevens | Bedford PS | Goderich PS |

Staff Adjustments**Retirements/Resignations**

| Name | Location | Position | Effective |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| John Power | Bluewater Coast ES | Teacher | June 30, 2019 |
| Ruth Hulley | Brookside PS | TRA | July 31, 2019 |
| Gary Hakkers | Central Huron SS | Custodian | June 28, 2019 |
| David Armour | Goderich District CI | Teacher | June 30, 2019 |
| John Feeney | Listowel District SS | Custodian | June 6, 2019 |
| Debbie Blum | Stratford Northwestern SS | EA | June 21, 209 |
| Robin Collings | Stratford Northwestern SS | Teacher | June 30, 2019 |
| David Finnie | Stratford Northwestern SS | Teacher | June 30, 2019 |
| Patricia Spence | Upper Thames ES | EA | May 31, 2019 |

New Hires

| Name | Location | Position | Effective |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Chad Haggitt | Listowel District SS | Custodian | May 27, 2019 |

OPSBA Update

Vice-Chair Hunking advised there are still positions available on the OPSBA working group. If any trustee is interested, please contact Vice-Chair Hunking or Trustee Klassen.

Chair Activity Update

Chair Schenk will bring a fulsome report to the June 25th meeting.

Senior Staff Updates

Superintendent Black advised that June 21st is National Indigenous Peoples Day, also called Solidarity Day. Schools are encouraged to celebrate this day of national recognition and to share the First Nation, Metis, and Inuit cultures.

Associate Superintendent Carter Cheri outlined the budget process noting the Finance Committee had met prior to the regular board meeting to review draft revenues for 2019/2020. Finance Committee will meet on Monday, June 24th at 9:00 a.m. to review the draft budget. The budget will be presented at the June 25th regular board meeting.

Stratford Update

Superintendent Baird-Jackson reported the asbestos abatement at Stratford Central will begin on Monday, June 24th, and the fencing will be erected on June 25th to begin the demolition process in accordance with Municipal bylaws. It is anticipated it will be one month to complete the demolition. A schedule will be provided once more specific details are available.

Superintendent Baker confirmed June newsletters will be released, including one for staff that will summarize what is going to transpire up to the end of June. A transition newsletter for families of students in feeder schools will also be released, and a newsletter to residence around the Stratford schools will summarize the response to traffic concerns, etc.

Superintendent Baker highlighted the 6th annual Jill of All Trades where students from eight Avon Maitland schools participated. The event was held at Conestoga College and is sponsored by the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Avon Maitland's dual credit school college work initiative, a partnership with Fanshawe, Lambton and Conestoga Colleges is among the leaders with the highest number of credits earned per student.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustees discussed how the board will respond to the delegation received earlier in the board meeting and agreed to bring forward feedback for the Chair at the June 25th board meeting. Trustees were encouraged to share their feedback between now and the June 25th meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Board Meetings (at Education Centre unless otherwise noted)

- June 25, 2019 – 3:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole, Closed Session, 3:30 p.m. Regular Session

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

- HPSTS – date and time to be confirmed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2019-06-11-86

(C. Carmichael – N. Rothwell)

RESOLVED THAT this meeting be adjourned at 8:45 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