

Limestone District School Board

Agenda

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Limestone Education Centre

220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston

5:30 p.m. Meeting

Private Session

* In accordance with the Education Act, Section 207.(2) a meeting of a committee of a board including a committee of the whole board, may be closed to the public when the subject under consideration involves,

- (a) The security of the property of the board;
- (b) The disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a meeting of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian;
- (c) The acquisition or disposal of a school site;
- (d) Decisions in respect of negotiations with employees of the board; or
- (e) Litigation affecting the board.

Motion to Move into Private Session

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Chair's Update

Director's Update

Action Items

- (a) Board Minutes – March 8, 2017

For Information

- (a) Personnel Update
- (b) Safe Schools Update
- (c) Property Update
- (d) OPSBA Update
- (e) Labour Update
- (f) Legal Matter

Report to Public Session

Regular Meeting - 6 p.m.

Presentation: Provincial Skills Competition

Adoption of Agenda

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Chair's Update

Director's Update

Section A – Matters Requiring Action at the Meeting

1. Routine Matters

- (a) Expressions of Condolences and/or Congratulations
- (b) Board Minutes – March 8, 2017 (Pages 5-19)
- (c) Business Arising out of the Minutes
- (d) Reports from All Committees:
 - i) Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee - March 21, 2017 (Pages 20-24)
 - ii) Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations) - March 22, 2017 (Pages 25-37)
 - iii) Special Education Advisory Committee - March 29, 2017 (Pages 38-42)
- (e) OPSBA Report – Trustee Mahoney
- (f) Report from Student Trustee(s)

2. Reports for Information

- a) Interim Financial Report (Q2) - Superintendent Babin (Pages 43-44)
- b) International Education Presentation - Superintendent Burra (Page 45)
- c) New Intermediate/Secondary School Update - Superintendent Babin & Manager Fowler

3. Reports Requiring Decision

- a) School Year Calendar 2017-18 - Supervising Principal Gillam (Pages 46-50)
- b) Election of Board OPSBA Representative

4. Notice of Motion

Section B - Information

1. Internal Reports and Other Communications

2. External Reports and Other Communications (Pages 51-54)

- a) Letter from Bluewater District School Board to Minister Hunter re expansion of the Special Education Funding Working Group - February 22, 2017
- b) Letter from Waterloo Region District School Board to Minister Hunter - Lack of qualified French Teachers in Ontario - February 10, 2017

3. Communications Referred to Committee

4. Requests for Reports and/or Information

5. Other Business

6. Future Meetings

Audit Committee

- May 8, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Board Meetings

- May 17, 2017 6:00 p.m.
- June 21, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations)

- May 31, 2017 5:30 p.m.

Special Education Advisory Committee

- April 26, 2017 6:30 p.m.
- May 24, 2017 6:30 p.m.
- June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee

- May 16, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Budget Committee

- April 26, 2017 4:30 p.m.
- May 16, 2017 4:30 p.m.
- May 31, 2017 4:30 p.m.
- June 5, 2017 4:30 p.m.
- June 14, 2017 4:30 p.m.

School Enrolment/School Capacity Committee

- April 24, 2017 6:00 p.m.
 - May 9, 2017 6:00 p.m.
 - June 5, 2017 6:00 p.m.
- Yarker Family School

Parent Involvement Committee

- TBD – Spring 2017 Speaker Presentation
- May 11, 2017 PIC Meeting

LDSB Retirement Celebration

- June 13, 2017 7:00 p.m. Lancaster Drive Public School

7. Other Special Meetings/Events

Ontario Public School Boards' Association

- April 21-22 Board of Directors Meeting
- April 6-7, 2017 Education, Labour Relations & Human Resources Symposium
- June 8-10, 2017 OPSBA Annual General Meeting

8. Adjournment

Regular Board Meeting Minutes Limestone District School Board

March 8, 2017

A regular meeting (Business) of the Limestone District School Board was held in the Barry C. O'Connor Board Room at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario, on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at 5:30 p.m.

Private Session

Present:

Members/

Trustees: E. Crawford
D. Jackson - Absent due to Sanction (3 of 3)
W. Garrod
L. French
T. Mahoney
K. McGregor
P. Murray (Chair)
A. Ross
S. Ruttan (Vice-Chair)
J. Ascough

Officials: M. Babcock, Supervising Principal, School Effectiveness
P. Babin, Superintendent of Business Services
M. Baumann, Manager of Business Services
K. Burra, Superintendent of Education and Program and IT
D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services
B. Fraser-Stiff, Superintendent of Education and Program
A. Labrie, Superintendent of Human Resources
S. Gillam, Supervising Principal, Safe and Caring Schools
A. McDonnell, Supervising Principal, Special Education
D. Rantz, Director of Education
J. Silver, Supervising Principal, Student Success

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

MOTION: To move into Private Session

MOVED BY: Trustee Garrod, seconded by Trustee Ross. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Garrod advised that if there were any Labour updates he would be declaring a conflict of interest as his son is an employee of the Board.

Chair's Update

No update at this time.

Director's Update

No update at this time.

Action Items

- (a) Board Minutes – February 8, 2017

MOVED BY: Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee Ross, that the Board Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2017, Private Session, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

- (b) Committee of the Whole (Policy, Education & Operations) - February 22, 2017

MOVED BY: Trustee Ruttan, seconded by Trustee Garrod, that the Committee of the Whole (Policy, Education & Operations) Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2017, Private Session, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

For Information

- (a) Personnel Update

Superintendent Babin provided a Personnel Update.

- (b) Safe Schools Update.

Supervising Principal Gillam provided a Safe Schools update.

- (c) Property Update (Items (a) and (c) on Agenda)

Superintendent Babin provided a Property update.

MOTION: That the Board approve the sale of the former Glenburnie West Public School to Back Lakes Investments Ltd. for the price of \$235,000 (Two Hundred and Thirty-five Thousand Dollars) with a closing date of March 31, 2017 pending legal review.

The original motion was Called and Carried (6:3).

- (d) OPSBA Update (Item (d) on Agenda)

Trustee French provided an update.

- (e) Labour Update (Item (d) on Agenda)

Superintendent Labrie provided a Labour update.

No update at this time.

- (f) Legal Matter (Item (e) on Agenda)

No update at this time.

Report to Public Session

Chair Murray called for a motion for the Board to rise and report.

MOTION: That the Board rise and report, and that the resolutions, as noted above, be made public.

MOVED BY: Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee French. Carried.

The Board moved into Public Session at 5:50 p.m.

Superintendent Babin withdrew from the meeting.

Public Session

Members/ Trustees: J. Ascough (Student Trustee)
E. Crawford
D. Jackson
W. Garrod
L. French
T. Mahoney
K. McGregor
P. Murray (Chair)
A. Ross
S. Ruttan (Vice-Chair)
W. Sanderson (Student Trustee)

Officials: M. Babcock, Supervising Principal, School Effectiveness
P. Babin, Superintendent of Business Services - regrets
M. Baumann, Manager of Business Services
K. Burra, Superintendent of Education and Program and IT
J. Douglas, Communications Officer
D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services
B. Fraser-Stiff, Superintendent of Education and Program
A. Labrie, Superintendent of Human Resources
S. Gillam, Supervising Principal, Safe and Caring Schools
A. McDonnell, Supervising Principal, Special Education
D. Rantz, Director of Education
J. Silver, Supervising Principal, Student Success
K. Smith, Communications Officer

Guests: C. Jamieson, Teacher - Frontenac Secondary School
V. Puddicombe, Teacher - KCVI

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

"The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island.

We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land."

Presentation: Frontenac Secondary School: LiveFit Program

Chair Murray stated:

"I would like to welcome Christine Jamieson, Instructional Coach and English/Geography teacher at Frontenac Secondary School, along with her colleagues.

Christine is one of four facilitators at Frontenac Secondary School for the *Be Well & Live Fit* program that focuses on helping students develop strategies and skills to cope with stress and to 'be well' in their everyday lives. If you could please come up to the podium. I am pleased that you were able to attend tonight to talk about this initiative with trustees, and I understand you will also lead us in an activity."

C. Jamieson provided an overview of the LiveFit program, currently in its second year at Frontenac Secondary School. The program was developed in response the 'Tell Them from Me' survey data, which indicated that many students are affected by anxiety and depression. After a pilot run within just a few classes, the program is now being rolled out to all students at the school.

C. Jamieson conducted a 'Hersey Kiss' Meditation activity with the Trustees and Senior staff, highlighting the effectiveness of the program.

Director Rantz thanked C. Jamieson for her presentation.

Adoption of Agenda

Chair Murray stated that there would be an addition to the agenda:

- Business Arising from the Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations)

MOVED BY: Trustee Ruttan, seconded by Trustee Ross, that the agenda, as amended, be approved. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Garrod advised that if there were any Labour updates he would be declaring a conflict of interest as his son is an employee of the Board.

Chair's Update

Chair Murray offered the following remarks:

"On the provincial scene, 2-year contract extensions with Federations and unions is very positive news for school boards as we enter into budget planning for next year. It doesn't remove the fiscal challenges before us, especially in special education, but it very positive news. I had the pleasure of attending the opening night of the Sears Drama Festival hosted at KCVI, which runs for the rest of the week. Students are working through their school productions with their eyes on the regional festival later in April. This long-standing national festival, serves as a great foundation for students enrolled in the Specialist High Skills Major in Arts & Culture. The festival is indeed a real-world application of dramatic arts management or technical production.

Extra-curricular activities over the winter have been abundant, and similar to the Sears Drama festival, Limestone has been well represented at local, regional and provincial levels of competition. Congratulations to students, staff and volunteers for their participation and performance in a number of sports tournaments and academic pursuits. From swimming, and basketball, to Math competitions, and Destination-Imagination, Limestone students have

represented our district with great integrity and spirit. Congratulations to all. March Break will provide a much-deserved rest for all.

To all of our Limestone community, I hope you are able to take advantage of the time off, or at least at a little slower pace, during March Break, as we round the corner to the last third of our school year.

And that concludes my report."

Director's Update

Director Rantz offered the following statement:

"Creating learning opportunities, personal growth and life-long memories, it happens everyday in classrooms across the district, and this past weekend, was in full swing as 70 students auditioned for the Limestone Learning Foundation's Canadian Crystal.

For some, a vocal audition is something they have already done for a school musical, for many, this was the first time they had ever sung in front of judges. High stakes for sure, and these students, from grades 7 to 12, with support of their teachers, and families, were amazing. From the first note to the last note sung, students took a chance in the hopes they would be selected for this large-scale, professionally produced concert. They were encouraging to each other, they were excited just for the opportunity to try out. Now, the show's producers, Tim Stiff, Alex Mundy and John Abrams will have their work cut out for themselves, as they review the auditions and decided next steps. Show producers have never pre-set the number of students they thought the show would highlight, or the number of specific songs. Now with all of the talented students presented to them this past weekend, they will be inspired even more in their creation of the Canadian Crystal Concert.

Inspiring best practices and deepening our own learning, were of course, front and centre during the March 3rd PA day. Educators were strengthening their critical thinking, learning from each other, and digging deeper into student engagement. It was fulfilling to see the sharing and exchange throughout the day posted to various social media.

That commitment to learning by our staff was also extended to our school families recently, with many Family Math Nights being held last week. No shortage of expanding and developing a growth mindset for all, and together creating an environment for collaboration, engagement and success for all.

Provincially, recent announcements of contract extensions with Federations and union groups is very good news. Although we do not have details, we are hearing in the elementary contract, for example, an increase in grants for special education, which of course would be very welcome by Limestone. As you know we are managing significant reductions in special education funding, and any additional grants for student needs in this area would mitigate some of the losses Limestone faces, however, we still have pressures in special education funding, and the budget process will continue to be challenging in these times of constraints.

March Break is next week. It will be a much-deserved break for our hard-working students and school staff. I hope that we all take some time to rejuvenate, and re-energize, whatever that means to you.

Madame Chair that concludes my report."

Section A – Matters Requiring Action at the Meeting

1. Routine Matters

(a) Expressions of Condolences and/or Congratulations

Trustee Crawford expressed congratulations to Jessica Palmer, a teacher at Joyceville Public School, on the birth of her son.

(b) Board Minutes – February 8, 2017

MOVED BY: Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Ruttan, that the Board Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2017, as presented, be approved. Carried.

(c) Business Arising out of the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

(d) Reports from All Committees

(i) Special Education Advisory Committee – February 15, 2017

Trustee McGregor shared the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee of February 15, 2017.

MOVED BY: Trustee Ross, that the changes be accepted and the letter finalized.

MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor, seconded by Trustee Ross, that the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee of January 18, 2017, as presented, be approved. Carried.

Trustee Ross inquired as to how quickly would the letter be sent. Director Rantz stated it could be sent almost immediately after approval of the minutes.

Trustee Ruttan inquired if other SEACs in the province have sent similar letters, and what response have been received. Director Rantz confirmed that other SEACs have sent letters, and that she expected they had received similar responses as the one the LDSB SEAC received to their first letter to the Minister.

(ii) Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations) - February 22, 2017

Trustee Ruttan shared the report of the Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations) of February 22, 2017.

MOVED BY: Trustee Mahoney, that Trustees receive this report and support the recommendation to name the former Frontenac P.S. site the Katarokwi Learning Centre.

MOVED BY: Trustee Jackson, that a three-week extension from March 21, 2017 to April 11, 2017 to allow the PARC additional time to complete its work, be approved.

MOVED BY: Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Jackson, that the report of the Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations) of February 22, 2017, as presented, be approved. Carried.

Chair Murray stated that during the February 22, 2017 Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations) meeting the Board had agreed to the extension requested by the Odessa/Yarker PARC, which necessitated the change of several meeting dates. Upon further examination it was discovered that the SE/SCC May 16 meeting date will have to be changed to comply with the mandate of a meeting occurring a minimum of ten days after the meeting to receive delegations during a PAR process, which is the May 9, SE/SCC meeting. The new date for this meeting will now be June 5, 2017, to be followed by a Special Board meeting.

Trustee Garrod stated he was pleased that the Board had approved a three-week extension to the PARC, and that the June 5 meeting date would allow the Board to have more time to review the information from the PARC and make a final decision.

Trustee Mahoney inquired if the Board could prolong the PAR process longer than June 5, 2017.

Chair Murray stated that June 5, 2017 date is the final meeting of the SE/SCC.

Director Rantz stated that the new schedule is compliant with the Ministry guidelines. After the May 9, 2017 SE/SCC meeting to receive delegations, there must be a minimum of ten days to make final decision. On June 5, 2017, Trustees will be voting on the motion brought through the final staff report.

Trustee Garrod stated that Senior Staff can change recommendations in the final report from the initial report, based on information collected during the PAR process.

Director Rantz stated that all information will be analyzed by Senior Staff and a final staff report will be presented to the Board on June 5, 2017. She also stated that the Board always has the right to bring forward an alternative motion.

(e) OPSBA Report – Trustee Mahoney

Trustee Mahoney spoke to the following issues:

- Labour relations symposium - April 6, 2017
- Recent discussions on labour relations, amendments to bargaining procedures, and simultaneous bargaining
- Transportation and finance - procurement standard, policy development re Bill 168, and municipal conflict of interest penalties

(f) Report from Student Trustee(s)

Student Trustee Ascough:

"In February, we attended the Board Council Conference, held by OSTA-AECO in Ottawa. There, we worked on our initiatives and projects with the public board council and OSTA-AECO as a whole.

At the conference, we were privileged to have heard from keynote speakers such as Attorney General Yasir Naqvi, Member of Parliament Pierre Poilievre, and Denise Siele, who is Equal Voice's Director of Stakeholder and Community Relations, and works on encouraging women to get into politics.

This conference was also an important step for collaboration between Student Trustees across the province. For multiple sessions during the conference, we were able to work with our counterparts at REFCO (Regroupement des élèves conseiller ères francophones de l'Ontario) which is the OSTA-AECO equivalent for the French boards. It was a great experience collaborating with them and we look forward to both organizations continuing to work together to better represent students across Ontario.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Limestone District School Board for continuing to support our participation at these conferences."

Student Trustee Sanderson:

"On February 21st, we held our first interschool meeting of the semester. We used this opportunity to brainstorm and collect data which we then sent off to OSTA-AECO so that it may be used to inform future position papers.

During the brain-storming we focussed on curriculum changes as that was a popular topic at the OSTA-AECO conference. In our session, Interschool representatives discussed the need for more financial literacy and for more First Nations education within the curriculum and we discussed courses where those topics could be implemented.

We also had Alec Mundy and John Abrams come in to present about the Canadian Crystal. Interschool representatives were asked to encourage students from their school to audition for the event which will take place on November 4, 2017.

Thank-you, Madame Chair."

2. Reports for Information

(a) Equity and Inclusion

Supervising Principal Babcock shared the background on the LDSB's work to support transgender and LGBTQ students.

In 2009, *Ontario's Equity & Inclusive Education Strategy* was released with a vision for schools to be places where staff and students would "feel safe, comfortable, and accepted." Bill 33, *Toby's Act (Right to be Free from Discrimination and Harassment Because of Gender Identity or Gender Expression)*, was passed in 2012.

PPM 144 *Bullying Prevention and Intervention* and Bill 13 *Accepting Schools Act* state that "a positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, included, and accepted, and actively promote positive behaviours and interactions."

The Ontario Curriculum went through a revision after 2012 to reflect and support the growing diversity of school communities. For students to feel comfortable and safe in a learning environment, they need to see themselves reflected in the curriculum that they are learning.

The Limestone District School Board has developed a Transgender support document for staff. It provides definitions and explanations regarding language and terms, as well as pronouns that some students may prefer for themselves. The document offers ideas for supporting Transgender and LGBTQ+ students. This year, schools were provided with signage in order to have washrooms that could be identified as universal and gender neutral.

Schools support students by connecting them with local agency groups such as FUSE, LGBTQ Pathways, Transgender/LGBTQ office of the Canadian Mental Health Association of Kingston, and family doctors or other agencies.

Limestone District School Board staff are committed to creating positive learning spaces for all students. This is achieved by creating awareness, providing supports, and encouraging activities that promote inclusion. We are building learning environments where every student can see themselves in Limestone and thrive.

V. Puddicombe, a Teacher at KCVI, shared what their school is doing to support LGBTQ students, including educating staff and students on the use on new non-binary terms and the modern concept of sexuality. KCVI also runs a student-led Gender and Sexuality Alliance, offers rainbow ribbon distribution at grade nine orientation, a LGBTQ section in the library, safe space posters in classrooms and offices, "Rainbow Week" activities, and professional development for administration and staff to continue to build safe, inclusive schools that recognize and promote diversity.

Trustee Garrod thanked V. Puddicombe and Supervising Principal Babcock for all their hard work in the area of equity and inclusion.

Student Trustee Ascough thanked all staff for their hard work to build a place of inclusivity and respect in LDSB schools, and for actively listening to the student voice.

(b) Strategic Plan Update

Director Rantz provided an update on the strategic planning consultation process.

The Board provided several opportunities for input and feedback between early December and early February. A Board-wide blitz occurred between January 30 to February 3, to capture feedback from stakeholders who had not yet participated.

The Board invited input using an online and telephone survey, prioritization activity, Twitter chat, and face-to-face meetings with several key groups. We engaged some groups, such as municipal and community partners and staff associations, via email to respect their busy schedules (at their request). In total, 2,251 people participated in the online and telephone survey. Another 478 participated in the prioritization activity.

Analysis of the feedback has begun, and senior staff will work with these themes and supporting data to develop a draft plan, which will be presented to Trustees in spring 2017. Feedback from the recent Special Education review, the French review, and the upcoming IT review will also be considered.

Trustee Mahoney stated that Special Education and mental health stand out in the feedback as concerns by participants. He questioned if these areas are becoming a problem in the Board. Director Rantz stated that there will always be a need for more financial assistance,

and that the four years of Special Education funding cuts continues to be a challenge. While it is a priority, the Board also continues to receive commendations in this area.

Trustee French offered her acknowledgement of the effort involved in reaching this level of engagement, and thanked staff for their hard work.

This report was received for information.

3. Reports Requiring Decision

None at this time.

4. Notice of Motion

Trustee Ross brought forth the following motion:

MOTION: That the Limestone District School Board require that its official indigenous land acknowledgement, viz:

The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Metis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land.

be read or broadcast in every Limestone school at the start of each school day, before the playing of the national anthem.

MOVED BY: Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Mahoney.

Trustee Ross explained that the idea for this motion was influenced by the low number of students self-identifying as FNMI, and the recent Truth and Reconciliation session on the OPSBA conference. He stated that he had consulted with a local First Nations leader, LDSB Aboriginal Consultant Kevin Reed, and LDSB students and staff for the development of the motion. He received their enthusiastic endorsement.

Trustee Ruttan thanked Trustee Ross for bringing forward the motion, and inquired what questions were asked of the people he consulted and what the feedback was. She expressed concern about imposing processes on schools that may not be the correct course of action.

Trustee Ross replied that he did not ask specific questions, but informed the people he consulted of what he planned to do. He stated he received positive feedback.

Student Trustee Sanderson stated that this issue had been discussed at the Interschool Council and that the feedback was mostly positive, with many feeling that it would be especially valuable for younger students. He stated that he felt it would become respected like the National anthem has. He also expressed concerns about the length of the acknowledgement, but feels the sentiment is important.

Chair Murray asked for clarification from staff on what the procedure is now. Superintendent Burra stated that after the Board passed the motion to accept the Indigenous Land Greeting that staff were directed to use the acknowledgement at formal events at school, for parent council meetings, and to read from time to time as part of morning announcements.

Student Trustee Ascough thanked Trustee Ross for consulting the Indigenous community. He inquired if Trustee Ross intended for it to also be used online and/or posted in schools.

Trustee Ross stated that he had not considered other avenues for sharing the acknowledgement except for morning announcements, but that he was not opposed to other platforms for sharing.

Trustee Garrod stated that he would like to see more background information (i.e. what it will accomplish) before moving forward. He further stated that he did not want the Board to take an incorrect step in such a sensitive area.

Trustee Ruttan suggested it should be vetted through the Indigenous Advisory Committee. She stated that the motion needs further consultation to ensure the correct next steps.

Chair Murray cautioned the Trustees that the consultation undertaken by Trustee Ross is not an official report.

Trustee Jackson applauded Trustee Ross for bringing the motion forward, stating it was an important issue across the nation. He felt it would send an important signal to endorse a motion of this nature.

Trustee French cautioned that Boards needs to be careful when directing schools on operational matters. She offered the following friendly amendment:

That the Limestone District School Board direct senior staff to develop a strategy to include the official Indigenous Land Acknowledgement each day in all schools.

Trustee Ross stated he did not endorse the amendment, but that he did support further consultation with Indigenous communities.

Trustee McGregor stated she had concern over directing schools to read the Indigenous Land Greeting on a daily basis, when it was developed for use at special events.

Trustee Crawford stated that she supported Trustee Ruttan and Trustee McGregor's comments, and that she had concerns about it having to be read every day.

Trustee Ross stated he could accept the friendly amendment with the view to the end result being a daily reading.

Superintendent Burra suggested making the wording of the motion more open for consulting with Indigenous Advisory Committee, specifically that they do not have to consider only the current land acknowledgement.

Trustee Garrod suggested that Trustee Ross bring back a new motion for the next Board meeting.

Trustee Jackson stated that he supports Superintendent Burra's suggestion of enhancing the language. He also stated that there are differences in opinions and practices between urban and rural indigenous communities.

Trustee Ruttan stated she supports Superintendent Burra's suggestion.

Trustee Ross stated he felt it would be important to include pedagogical supports for staff when implementing this change.

Director Rantz cautioned the Board about hurrying into an implementation, but that she supports the idea in spirit. In the Education Act, there are directions around items to be included in morning announcements. She expressed her concerns about directing schools on an every-day use of the greeting without first vetting the idea through appropriate consultation

MOTION: That the Board accept the wording for the new motion:

That LDSB senior staff develop a strategy to include an official Indigenous Land Acknowledgement each day in all schools.

MOVED BY: Trustee Ross, seconded by Trustee Mahoney.

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee French, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Ascough, Trustee Sanderson (8)

NAYS: Trustee Garrod, Trustee McGregor (2)

ABSTAINED: Trustee Crawford (1)

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee French, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (6)

NAYS: Trustee Garrod, Trustee McGregor (2)

ABSTAINED: Trustee Crawford (1)

The original motion was called and Carried (6:2).

MOTION: That LDSB senior staff develop a strategy to include an official indigenous land acknowledgement each day in all schools.

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee French, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Ascough, Trustee Sanderson (8)

NAYS: Trustee Garrod, Trustee McGregor (2)

ABSTAINED: Trustee Crawford (1)

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee French, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (6)

NAYS: Trustee Garrod, Trustee McGregor (2)

ABSTAINED: Trustee Crawford (1)

The original motion was called and Carried (6:2).

Section B - Information

1. Internal Reports and Other Communications

None at this time.

2. External Reports and Other Communications

a) Letter from Peel District School Board to Ontario Universities Application Centre - December 2, 2016

b) Letter from Township of South Frontenac to Honourable Mitzie Hunter regarding Moratorium on the Accommodation Review Process - February 15, 2017

c) Letter from R. Hillier regarding Open Letter to LDSB - February 22, 2017

d) Letter from Durham District School Board regarding OUAC fees - February 13, 2017

e) Letter from OSSTF Limestone District 27 regarding Teachers' member Survey - February 1, 2017

Trustee French stated that OPSBA is looking at the Ontario Universities Application Centre issue at a provincial level.

3. Communications Referred to Committee

Trustee Jackson requested that the letters concerning Ontario Universities Application Centre and OSSTF be referred to EPOC.

Chair Murray stated that the letters would be referred to the agenda setting committee.

4. Requests for Reports and/or Information

Trustee Mahoney requested an update on fentanyl situation and more information on support to rural communities (cited in the Minister's letter of March 6, 2017).

Supervising Principal Gillam stated that he had a recent conversation with KFLA Public Health, and is waiting for notice from Dr. Gemmell that can be shared with schools.

Director Rantz stated that there will be more information coming from the Ministry regarding the engagement around rural schools.

5. Other Business

None at this time.

6. Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Limestone District School Board of Trustees will take place on April 12, 2017.

7. Other Special Meetings/Events

See agenda listing.

8. Adjournment

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor, seconded by Trustee Ross, that the meeting adjourn.
Carried.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Limestone District School Board**

March 21, 2017

A meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee was held in the Barry C. O'Connor Board Room at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario on Wednesday, March 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Present

Members: Roger Healy, KCAT
Robin Hutcheon, Parent Involvement Committee
Sarah Keyes, Loving Spoonful
Zabe MacEachren, Faculty of Education, Queen's University
Tracey McKenzie, County of Lennox & Addington

Officials: Michele Babcock, Supervising Principal
Dave Fowler, Manager of Facility Services - regrets
Dan Hendry, Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator
Joe Hendry, Energy/Environmental Technologist
David Jackson, Trustee
Tom Mahoney, Trustee
William Sanderson, Student Trustee - regrets

Regrets: Stana Luxford Oddie, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
Kathy Moulton, Hydro One
Tom Carpenter, SWITCH
Linda Malcolm, KFL&A Public Health
Iain Munroe, Sustainable Kingston
Kelly Pender, County of Frontenac
Beth Sills, St. Lawrence College

Guests: Andrea Loken, OSSTF
Liam Conway, Green Economy Kingston
Pavel Graymason, Green Economy Kingston

Recorder: Liz Strange, Records Management Coordinator - regrets

1. Welcome

Trustee Jackson welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Due to lack of quorum the meeting proceeded as a discussion/information exchange only.

3. Business Arising From the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Community Organizations Updates

Queens University, Faculty of Education

Z. MacEachren reported that the ECO Blast will not run this year based on student evaluations. Instead the program is looking at taking teacher candidates to Little Cataraqui Conversation Area.

The Faculty of Education is also continuing to look at a forum for sharing information.

Z. MacEachren has been approached by two local small schools afraid of closing, with a proposal regarding turning them into an environmental hub.

Hydro One

Representative not present at the meeting.

County of Frontenac

Representative not present at the meeting.

KFL&A Public Health

Representative not present at the meeting.

KCAT

KCAT is launching a master plan for Active Transportation for Kingston, based on work that began in Fall 2016. The master plan makes recommendations based on projected population growth. During peak travel time in Kingston approximately 74% are single occupancy vehicles; 2-3% cycling; more walking than typical city because of university/ hospital/ downtown core business. The goal was to reduce car trips from 74 to 69%.

Feedback indicated the need for more segregated bike lanes.

KCAT would like to share information to influence staff & students to be aware of transportation costs and environmental effects.

The K&P Trail now extends from downtown as far as Parham. KCAT is advocating for the pathway to be created for back door entry to Little Cataraqui Conversation Area, and has asked for the sidewalk to be extended. A Safety Audit is also being looked at.

SWITCH

Representative not present at the meeting.

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The County of Lennox & Addington

Several examples were shared regarding reducing emissions in infrastructure. Suggestions included: the use of recyclable materials in asphalt cement, use re-claimed asphalt pavement in new builds, and source materials locally to reduce cost and transportation.

Sustainable Kingston

Representative not present at the meeting.

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority

Representative not present at the meeting.

Loving Spoonful

Information was shared regarding the GROW project, which is presently in 7 schools. Loving Spoonful has applied to Trillium for grant and if successful will be able to expand to 15 schools over 3 years.

Loving Spoonful has partnered with YMCA for cooking and food preparation, and physical activity.

St. Lawrence College

Representative not present at the meeting.

LDSB

The City of Kingston has extended free bus passes to Grade 8 students.

Youth Mentoring program is happening at Queen's AMS.

The Great Lake Water Festival will be taking place June 1, 2017.

LDSB is continuing with its recycling system expansion.

LDSB is also continuing its work with Evergreen.

5. Presentation on Green Economy Kingston

Liam Conway and Pavel Graymason attended the meeting to provide a presentation of Green Economy Kingston.

Trustee Mahoney inquired what the motivator was for St. Lawrence College's involvement. The intention was to advance their sustainability, to make a greater impact, and to transfer knowledge to students & staff.

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Trustee Mahoney inquired if there is an arm of government that handles this area, and if LDSB can lobby them as a school board. Staff were unsure, but suggested that if the board could show success then there would be something to share.

A. Loken inquired if Green Economy Kingston can show the board how practices can turn into money savings. It was explained that it can be shown over the long term (i.e. lighting changes).

Trustee Mahoney stated that he would like the LDSB to go to 'cap & trade'. There was disagreement about this, as it passes cost onto consumers.

Trustee Mahoney inquired if the LDSB has ever measured its carbon footprint. J. Henry responded, noting the 397 Report, and ongoing staff training and updates.

R. Hutcheon asked if the report includes emissions from transportation. J. Hendry responded that it did not.

Trustee Mahoney stated that the LDSB buses probably produce 5 times the emissions as its buildings. He stated he'd like to see initiatives that would see LDSB as front runner.

A. Loken stated it would be valuable to calculate the cost of closing schools and their emissions versus keeping it open, including transportation data.

Trustee Jackson stated that the more rural schools that are closed, the more students who are bused. He asked that Green Economy Kingston take the discussion away to write a response and bring back to the committee in May.

R. Hutcheon asked if there was a part of the program that could be incorporated into the curriculum. The Green Economy Kingston representatives stated that they would like to work on this.

Z. MacEachren inquired if there is a network with other school boards regarding sharing information. J. Hendry replied that LDSB belongs to Energy Managers in Ontario, and that each board has someone with the responsibility for this area.

Trustee Mahoney asked where information goes once its gathered. J. Henry replied that it is used internally.

Trustee Mahoney asked what the most important thing LDSB could do. J. Hendry replied that he couldn't speak to busing, but that the LDSB works on the principal "what gets measured, gets managed".

Membership Cost is based on employee size. The LDSB is in the largest bracket, and pays an approximate \$5000 annual fee.

The Chair thanked the presenters and asked for them to follow up on questions raised.

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6. Election of Community Co-Chair

Deferred.

7. Other Business

Several possible agenda items for future meetings were discussed.

J. Hendry shared that LDSB does publish its electricity use annually.

8. Next Meeting Date

May 16, 2017.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Members/

Trustees: J. Ascough (Student Trustee)
E. Crawford
L. French
W. Garrod
D. Jackson
T. Mahoney
K. McGregor
P. Murray
A. Ross
S. Ruttan (Chair)
W. Sanderson (Student Trustee)

Officials: M. Babcock, Supervising Principal - regrets
P. Babin, Superintendent of Business Services
K. Burra, Superintendent of Education
B. Fraser-Stiff, Superintendent of Education
D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services -regrets
S. Gillam, Supervising Principal- regrets
A. Labrie, Superintendent of Human Resources
A. McDonnell, Supervising Principal - regrets
D. Rantz, Director of Education
J. Silver, Supervising Principal - regrets

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Personal Update - Trustee Murray
- Transit Pass update - Director Rantz

MOVED BY: Trustee Murray, that the agenda, as amended, be approved. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Garrod advised that if there were any Labour updates he would be declaring a conflict of interest as his son is an employee of the Board.

Section A - Matter Requiring Action at the Meeting

1. Reports Requiring Decision

- a) Private Session - Use of Electronic Devices

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Director Rantz stated that she had incorporated the language decided on at the December 14, 2016 EPOC meeting in Sections 12.10.3 and 12.10.4.

In addition, Director Rantz conducted research on the practice in other School Boards, but could not find language about the use of electronic devices in Private Session in other Board's policies. The Director drafted the language in Section 12.10.5 for the Board's consideration.

The Trustees decided to separate the three sections for voting.

MOVED BY: Trustee Murray, that the Board accept the amendments to Policy 9: Section 12.10.3

Trustee Ross suggested that in Section 12.10.3 it should read "and the pages within will be numbered previously, and shall be returned to the Director of Education by each Trustee for secure storage or shredding prior to the Board rising and reporting."

Trustee Mahoney suggested Section 12.10.3 should read "Director and/or designate."

Trustee Mahoney stated he would like the policy to specify that confidential documents be recorded as accepted and returned. He further suggested that the policy should read that the confidential documents be accounted for (logged) by the recording secretary.

Trustee French expressed her support for the proposed changes, and hoped that the new wording will allow Trustees to fully participate in the processes of the Board.

Trustee Mahoney stated that he had abstained during the vote at the March 8, 2017 Private Session Board meeting because a policy with such wording was not in place.

Director Rantz stated that notes are to be used to inform a decision, but once completed they should be shredded.

Trustee Mahoney stated that he agreed that shredding of notes after a decision is made is for the protection of the Board.

Trustee Jackson stated that he felt there are some situations where it would be prudent to store Private Session notes for a period of time. It could be valuable to have the notes to reflect on, and for use in ascertaining a pattern of behaviour or events. He stated that keeping notes would ensure that due diligence is done, but agreed that long-term storage is not the answer. He further stated that if a Trustee is not able to go back and reflect on a specific situation as needed, it will send the wrong message to the public.

Trustee Jackson offered a friendly amendment to add the wording 'store private session notes for a short term.'

Director Rantz stated that any Trustee can come back and review private session documents as needed.

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Trustee Garrod stated that Private Session minutes are the Board's official record, and that he did not see the need to keep notes. He further stated that it was for Trustees' protection that notes are destroyed. This is not a new practice for the Board.

Trustee French stated that if the Board documents a time period for retention of notes that it becomes part of the Board's official record, and will put the Board at risk. It would be a very dangerous position for the Board to be in.

Trustee Murray stated that she did not think it was wise to keep Private Session notes.

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (11)

NAYS: (0)

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (9)

NAYS: (0)

The motion was Called and Carried (9:0).

MOVED BY: Trustee Jackson, that the wording 'Private Session notes be stored for a period of three months and then be destroyed' be added to Section 12.10.3.

Director Rantz stated that a legal opinion she had received advised that the Board should destroy all notes after a decision is made. She also expressed concerns about the legal risk to the Board and the management of the stored notes.

Trustee Jackson stated he was not aware that Private Session documents would be available and searchable under FIPPA.

Trustee French advised that the Board should destroy all rough notes, with no retention. Once notes are retained they become a matter of record, even private session documents.

Trustee Ascough inquired if Trustee Jackson's intention for storage of Private Session notes was for matters that have been decided on, or matters that are ongoing. Trustee Jackson replied that he didn't think the two should be parcelled.

The Chair called the question.

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

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YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee Jackson, (2)*

NAYS: *Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (9)*

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee Jackson, (2)*

NAYS: *Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (7)*

The motion was Called and Failed (2: 7).

Trustee Mahoney stated he would like to see a written legal opinion about destroying notes.

Trustee French suggested that Senior Staff could research current Records Retention guidelines for information, instead of acquiring a legal opinion. The Board agreed to this suggestion by consensus.

MOVED BY: Trustee French, to accept the addition to Policy 9: Section 12.10.4.

Trustee McGregor stated that she hoped that documents projected would be clear on the screen.

Trustee Jackson suggested the Board investigate the use of additional screens for projecting.

It was suggested that the wording 'on the screen' should be removed.

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (11)*

NAYS: *(0)*

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (9)*

NAYS: *(0)*

The motion was Called and Carried (9:0).

MOVED BY: Trustee Garrod, that the drafted language for Policy 9: Section 12.10.5, as follows, 'With the exception of the Recording Secretary or designate, any and all recording and/or notetaking of Private Session meetings is expressly prohibited,' be accepted.

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Trustee Mahoney inquired how the Board would police the process of not using electronic devices during Private Session.

Director Rantz stated that the Board has a Code of Conduct, ethics, and standards, and feels that Trustees will act accordingly.

Trustee McGregor stated that a Trustee may be taking notes for clarification, such as a situation where adding figures to understand Budget totals.

Trustee French stated that it was her understanding that notes would be handed in with other private session documents.

Director Rantz stated that it is the desired end state for a lawyer that no private session documents leave the room with Trustees.

Trustee Ross suggested that notes 'may be taken but must be returned at the end of the meeting.'

Trustee Jackson stated that it can be useful for temporary notetaking during challenging decisions. He suggested a way to review the documents after the meeting could help track patterns.

Trustee Mahoney suggested including note paper with Private Session documents.

Trustee Murray stated that she felt any notetaking had to be turned in with the Private Session documents.

Trustee Garrod suggested including blank green paper with Private Session documents for notetaking.

Trustee French stated that she supported notetaking as long as the notes are turned in with Private Session documents.

Director Rantz suggested returning to Section 12.10.3 and revise the language to read 'documents and notes.'

Trustee French stated that rough notes are not considered a record, and allows for the disposal piece.

Director Rantz clarified that the intention of 'notetaking' was to refer to any electronic recording.

MOVED BY: Trustee Ross that Section 12.10.3 be revised to include 'along with any notes.'

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (11)

NAYS: (0)

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The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (9)*

NAYS: *(0)*

The motion was Called and Carried (9:0).

Chair Ruttan called the question on the acceptance of Policy 9: Section 12.10.5.

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (11)*

NAYS: *(0)*

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (9)*

NAYS: *(0)*

The motion was Called and Carried (9:0).

b) Policy 9: Abstentions

Director Rantz explained that the issue of abstentions was brought to her attention through a couple of recent voting incidences, which caused her to review the language in LDSB policy. The review uncovered that the LDSB Policy 9 does not include clear language on what constitutes a majority vote with abstentions. At present an abstention would be recorded as a non-vote.

If a Trustee abstains, their vote will not count, reducing the number of voting Board members by the number of abstentions.

Director Rantz asked Trustees to consider why they would choose to abstain from a vote. She stated that a conflict of interest would be an acceptable reason to abstain.

Trustee Garrod stated that he would only ever choose to abstain from a vote that related to Labour issues, as his son is an employee of the Board. He stated that Trustees are elected to make decisions regarding the business of the Board.

Trustee Mahoney stated that a Trustee might not have enough information to make a decision, and in that instance should abstain.

Trustee Jackson stated that abstentions are a complex topic. In his research, he only found one academic paper on the topic, which was strongly against allowing abstentions. He

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further stated that how an abstention is recorded is another matter, and suggested a backgrounder would have been helpful prior to the meeting.

Director Rantz stated that during her research she found varied language and positions on the issue across Boards. The legal advice received was to have policy match the Board's values.

Trustee McGregor stated that she would only consider abstaining if she felt as though she did not have enough information to make an informed decision.

Trustee Crawford stated that she had abstained during a recent vote because she felt the directive in the motion was not fair to impose on schools.

Trustee Murray stated that she does not support abstentions at all, and that she does not support making a declaration of the reason for abstention.

Trustee Ross stated that he agreed that Trustees are elected to make decisions, but also understands that there can be situations where a Trustee does not feel they are ready to make an informed decision.

Trustee French stated that she feels Trustees need to vote. Giving up the right to vote is not doing the Trustee's job. She further stated that she felt an abstention should be considered a 'no' vote, despite the reason for giving up right to vote. She offered her support for a declaration of abstention, with it recorded as a negative vote.

Trustee Mahoney stated he was concerned that if an abstention was considered neutral, it would lower the number of voting members and could put other Trustees in a precarious position. He stated that it should be recorded as a no vote.

Trustee Ascough stated that the Student Trustee vote is non-binding vote, but that he still takes it seriously. He stated he feels if a Trustee abstains they should explain why.

MOVED BY: Trustee Crawford, that the proposed changes to Policy 9: 8.1.0 be accepted.

MOVED BY: Trustee Mahoney, to defer the motion. Failed.

The original motion was brought forward for discussion.

Trustee Ross stated he supported the proposed language, provided it would be recorded as abstained in the minutes.

Student Trustee Ascough stated he felt that Trustees should provide an explanation for their abstention.

The following language was proposed by Director Rantz:

Every Trustee present, excluding those Trustees who have declared a pecuniary interest as required by the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, shall vote on all questions on which the member is entitled to vote. Any Trustee wishing to abstain shall state their intention before the question is called, and provide clarification as to why they are

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abstaining. Any abstention shall be recorded in the minutes as such, and counted as a vote in the negative.

Trustee Garrod stated that he felt it was a Trustee's responsibility to be prepared for an upcoming motion, in such they should seek clarity or further information from Senior Staff if needed. He offered his support for abstentions being recorded as a negative vote.

Trustee Crawford stated that she supports the motion as presented in the meeting package, but not the language of declaring the reason for an abstention.

Trustee McGregor stated that she did not believe that a Trustee should have to give a reason for abstaining. By understanding an abstention will to be recorded as a negative vote there is no need to record a reason.

Trustee Jackson stated that he agreed with a negative vote, but that it should be recorded as an abstention in the minutes.

Trustee French offered her support with the inclusion of declaration language.

Trustee French stated she felt that if a Trustee gives up the right to vote, that they are also giving up the right to judge the outcome.

Trustee Mahoney stated he felt that Trustees should have to legitimize the reason for abstaining.

MOVED BY: Trustee French that the changes to Policy 9: Section 8.1.0 include the declaration language.

Trustee Mahoney requested removal of the declaration language.

Trustee Ascough stated he felt it was important to have a reason included for abstentions.

Trustee Garrod stated that if a Trustee is going to abstain and knows it will be recorded as a no vote, then the Trustee should just vote no.

Trustee Murray stated she does not think a Trustee should have to give a reason for abstaining, as it is not required to give a reason when voting yes or no.

Trustee Ross stated he does not support inclusion of the declaration language.

In response to a question, Trustee French stated that OPSBA members can abstain, but it would be recorded as a non-vote.

The Chair called the question.

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (6)

NAYS: Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, (5)

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The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Ruttan, (4)*

NAYS: *Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, (5)*

The motion was Called and Failed.

Chair Ruttan called the question on the originally proposed language:

Every Trustee present, excluding those Trustees who have declared a pecuniary interest as required by the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, shall vote on all questions on which the member is entitled to vote. Any abstention shall be recorded in the minutes as such, and counted as a vote in the negative.

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (11)*

NAYS: *(0)*

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (9)*

NAYS: *(0)*

The motion was Called and Carried (9:0).

c) Policy 10: Committees of the Board

Director Rantz stated that the proposed change was a housekeeping item as the current language was not compliant with Education Act, and is in fact illegal for statutory committees.

MOVED BY: Trustee Murray that the proposed changes to Policy 10 be accepted.

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (11)*

NAYS: *(0) The binding recorded vote was as follows:*

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Mahoney, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (9)*

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NAYS: (0)

The motion was Called and Carried (9:0).

d) Policy 15: Pupil Accommodation Review

Superintendent Babin stated that the proposed changes were to make sure the LDSB's policy was in alignment with Ministry guidelines.

MOVED BY: Trustee French, that the proposed changes to the wording in Policy 15 be accepted.

Roll Call vote:

The non-binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, Trustee Sanderson, Trustee Ascough, (10)*

NAYS: *Trustee Mahoney (1)*

The binding recorded vote was as follows:

YEAS: *Trustee Crawford, Trustee French, Trustee Garrod, Trustee Jackson, Trustee McGregor, Trustee Murray, Trustee Ross, Trustee Ruttan, (8)*

NAYS: *Trustee Mahoney (1)*

The motion was Called and Carried (8: 1).

2. Reports for Information

None at this time.

Section B- Information Items

1. Internal Reports and Other Communication

None at this time.

2. External Reports and Other Information

a) Letter from Peel District School Board - Ontario University Application Centre additional fee

Trustee Jackson recommended sending a letter to the Ontario University Application Centre expressing concern over the additional processing fee.

Student Trustee Ascough stated he supports the writing of a letter. He stated that the fees can be a barrier for students from low-income families to get into universities.

Student Trustee Sanderson offered his support for the letter.

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Trustee Murray stated that there had been several announcements from the Ministry regarding free tuition since the release of the letter.

Trustee French gave her support for writing the letter and asked that a copy be sent to OPSBA as well.

It was agreed by consensus that Board would like the Director to draft a letter for the Chair's signature.

b) Letter for OSSTF Limestone District 27 - Teachers' Member Survey

Trustee Jackson stated that he would like the Board to consider bringing an OSSTF representative to a Board meeting to have a dialogue about the issues.

Chair Ruttan stated that the issues discussed in the letter are of an operational nature, which is not an area for the Board.

Trustee Garrod stated that he believes any follow-up to the letter belongs with Superintendent Labrie.

Trustee French stated that she thought the best course of action would be to craft a letter acknowledging receipt of the letter and thanking them.

Superintendent Labrie stated that there is nothing in the letter that has not been discussed at a labour relations meeting. HR also brings in members of the program team to address specific issues with union representatives. He cautioned that bargaining issues were included in the survey described in the letter.

Trustee Mahoney stated that he would like more information on the concerns from OSSTF. Superintendent Labrie advised that OSSTF was sharing their desire to have more staff in the classroom - EAs, social workers, etc.

Trustee Jackson stated he felt the issue also fell under governance, and would like to have a 'high level' discussion with OSSTF.

Trustee Ross stated that the letter reflects some concerns brought to his attention by not only teachers, but parents and students.

Trustee Garrod stated that the Board had not yet heard from Superintendent Labrie on the matter, and that it should be discussed in Private Session. He stated he'd like to see the Board only acknowledge receipt of letter at this time.

Trustee Ross stated that he has no interest in getting into collective bargaining issues, but that he feels that there needs to be more attention brought to ensuring safe and equitable environments in all schools in the Board.

Trustee Mahoney stated he felt a letter of acknowledgement is fine. He further stated he wanted the issue explored at the governance level, and specifically that he wanted an update on a specific school.

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Trustee French stated that the current discussion was not Board meeting content. A number of issues in the letter are directly bargaining issues, which Trustees should not be discussing. She further added that work regarding safe and equitable schools is in the Strategic Plan, which the Director will update the Trustees on in the near future. She stated that the budget process is the most appropriate place to engage with Unions.

Trustee Jackson stated that there are issues in the community that should be discussed at the Board.

Director Rantz stated that she was troubled by the suggestion that specific incidents be discussed at the board level. She also pointed out some of the language in the survey was leading. She stated it was normal for the employer and union groups to be at odds over some issues and staff are willing to work with employee groups to discuss their concerns.

Director Rantz further stated that she could not support any schools being profiled in a public meeting. She advised that Trustees leave the day-to-day issues occurring at specific schools to senior staff to deal with, and that if any particular incidents are brought to any Trustees' attention, that they should inform her office or Superintendent Labrie.

The LDSB takes the health and safety of all staff and students very seriously, and the Director will always advise Trustees of incidents as appropriate and necessary.

The Board agreed by consensus that the Director should draft a letter acknowledging receipt of the letter from OSSTF.

Other Business

Trustee Murray shared a personal matter.

Trustee Ross stated that he did not mean to imply that the Board is not meeting the health and safety concerns of staff and students across the Board. He stated he was simply trying to draw attention to a particular situation he felt needed additional support.

Trustee Ross stated that he simply wished to see the issues resolved.

Director Rantz stated that she was surprised that she was hearing about this concern from Trustee Ross for the first time. If Trustees have concerns about a school in their district please contact her directly to discuss.

Trustee Mahoney stated that he wanted an update on problem areas in the Board, without getting into labour relations issues.

Trustee Garrod stated there is a process to refer complaints to the Board. He further stated that is not good practice to blindside the Board and senior staff with issues at a meeting, and that any concerns should be addressed through proper channels.

Trustee Jackson stated that there is a process to bring forward issues about specific schools, and that many of the issues being raised should be addressed in Private Session. He stated that he felt there were some issues that should be addressed publicly.

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Trustee French stated she did not see how it would be possible for people to be invited to a meeting to only discuss high-level issues. She further stated that a high-level component is already happening at meetings.

Director Rantz shared that the City of Kingston had passed a motion that 13 and 14 years old will now receive a free bus pass. This is another example of the great partnership Limestone has with the city.

Next Meeting Date

The next Committee of the Whole (Education, Policy & Operations) is May 31, 2017.

Adjournment

Chair Ruttan called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOVED BY: Trustee Murray, that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

**Special Education Advisory Committee
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March 29, 2017

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held in Barry C. O'Connor Board Room at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario, on Wednesday, March 29, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Trustees: K. McGregor, Chair
A. Ross, Trustee

Members: N. Carson, Epilepsy Kingston
K. Jeffrey, Lennox and Addington Resources for Children
G. Mallya, Family & Children's Services, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington
A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University)
L. Sadlowski, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston
E. Sheldon, Community Living Kingston
B. Shoniker, Member-at-Large

Staff: S. Burnett, Special Education Program Coordinator
A. McDonnell, Supervising Principal, Learning for All
J. Murphy, Special Education Program Coordinator
L. Rousseau, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator
D. Scarlett, Principal of Educational Services

Regrets: H. Box, Special Education Program Coordinator
M. Bryan, Down Syndrome Association of Kingston
A. Collins, Easter Seals
A. Yuile, Chief Psychologist & Mental Health Lead

Guest: D. Abbink, Transition Coordinator
C. Peterson

Recorder: Liz Strange, Records Management Coordinator

1. Welcome

Trustee McGregor called the meeting to order, welcoming all those in attendance to the meeting.

Trustee McGregor read the Indigenous greeting:

"The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island.

We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land."

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: N. Carson, that the agenda of March 29, 2017, as presented, be approved.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. Business Arising From the Minutes

None at this time.

5. Community Partner Presentation: Lennox and Addington Resources for Children - K. Jeffrey

K. Jeffrey provided a presentation on the Lennox and Addington Resources for Children (LARC) agency, located in Napanee. LARC manages all of the licensed daycare centres in Lennox and Addington, as well as the county's Ontario Early Years Centres, licensed home daycares, and before and after school care programs.

The Resource Consultant Program supports families with children from birth to twelve years of age who require extra support to facilitate their inclusion in a community child care setting.

LARC also provides training for child care providers, offers resources, lends equipment and provides enhanced support staff funding.

LARC participates on numerous committees, including Community transition to school protocol, Special Education Advisory Committee, Disability Services Committee, Advisory Committee for the ABS program at St. Lawrence College, L&A Service providers network, Special Needs Strategy planning table for KFL&A, KFL&A Children's Literacy Committee, FASD Action Committee and PELASS Capacity Building Committee for Childcare Programs.

In response to a question K. Jeffrey stated the LARC receives its referrals from different sources: daycare providers, parents, family physicians, etc.

It was clarified that LARC provides enhanced support as long as the child is enrolled in licensed daycare in their catchment area.

6. Educational Services Update

Donna Abbink and Cheryl Peterson provided a presentation on the Youth Employment Support Committee (YES). This committee will look for ways to assist students with barriers to employment, including those with an intellectual disability, physical disability, autism spectrum, learning disability, mental health problems and/or an Individual Educational Plan.

Currently there are 19341 students in Limestone District Schools, and 4851 students with Individual Education Plans.

**Special Education Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Limestone District School Board**

March 29, 2017

D. Abbink is working with special needs students on achievable post-school individualized transition goals to employment and/or to College. Barriers can include: being able to cope in a regular co-op placement, job coaching availability, job skills training, job training on site, transportation, and questions regarding Employment Agencies.

A Youth Employment Forum occurred in April 2016, which included staff from both school boards, local employment agencies, and agencies that work with youth with disabilities. The priority needs identified were:

1. Make it easier for students with a disability to access employment supports while in high school
2. Make it easier for service providers to work together with school staff & students
3. Raise expectations about what students with a disability are capable of doing & reduce stigma
4. Youth with Disabilities included in planning & service delivery
5. Job Readiness & Skills Training
6. Job Coaching
7. Transportation – training & funding
8. More Support for parents & students

The role of the YES committee is to provide advice, input and feedback related to addressing the pre-employment and employment needs of students and youth with disabilities in the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington area.

The YES committee members include:

- Limestone District School Board
- Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic School Board
- Local Youth Employment Service Providers
- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Employment Service Providers
- Community Agencies That Work With Youth

The 2016/17 Workplan Projects are:

1. Information Night to educate students, parent & school staff (held on Mar 23, 2017)
2. Pilot project – Provide supports & services to a group of students to help them make a successful transition from School to Work
3. Directory of Services for Students, Parents & General Public

E. Sheldon shared that she is exploring entrepreneurial options and suggested this could be an area for more exploration by the YES committee. C. Peterson shared that ODSP and the Opportunities Fund also provides entrepreneurial services.

E. Sheldon shared that Alberta has a peer supported employment program, where students with special needs are supported on the job by someone their own age.

Supervising Principal McDonnell referred to the LDSB document "Building our Vision for the Future, Enhancing Special Education Services in Our District" that had been included in the meeting package, noting that there was a commitment to share updates on progress three times a year with SEAC.

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Trustee Ross inquired if the plan addresses maintaining the current level of service in relation to the special education funding cuts. Supervising Principal McDonnell stated that the reductions to the special education budget were taken into consideration and that the plan would continue to be reviewed on an annual basis.

Supervising Principal McDonnell thanked the LDSB's community partners for their continuing support.

7. Correspondence

- i) Bluewater District School Board

8. Association Updates

Association updates were circulated as part of the meeting package.

9. Other Business

- i) Ministry Updates (Strategic Plan Reference 1.1 and 2.1)-Supervising Principal McDonnell

- a) Feedback session for the Provincial Framework for Alternative Programs and courses K-12

Supervising Principal McDonnell stated that draft provincial framework was seen for the first time last week.

E. Sheldon, who attended the meeting as a SEAC representative, stated she was extremely disappointed in the draft document. E. Sheldon felt that the overall message of the document was the presumption that students with special needs can't access regular curriculum and indicated that this position is the complete opposite of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education report of 2015, and is not consistent with what the rest of Canada is doing. Alternative programming should have an access point to regular curriculum, with necessary resources and supports in place for special needs students.

Supervising Principal McDonnell stated that other Eastern Region School Boards' provided similar feedback to the Ministry.

Principal Scarlett also expressed her disappointment with the framework, stating that the LDSB will continue moving forward with innovative and inclusive programming and supports to ensure that all students are successful.

E. Sheldon stated the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education will make a formal response to the Ministry on the framework. Community Living Kingston will also be making a request for a meeting with the area MPP.

- b) Transition to the Ontario Program - After School Skills Development Program

Information was circulated as part of the meeting package.

**Special Education Advisory Committee
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9. Next Meeting Date

April 26, 2017

10. Adjournment

MOTION: B. Shoniker that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Limestone District School Board
Administrative Report



Report To: **Board of Trustees**

From: Myra Baumann,
 Manager of Financial Services

 Paul Babin,
 Superintendent of Business Services

Subject: **2016-2017 Interim Financial Report for Q2**

Date: April 12, 2017

Objectives:

To report on the Interim Financial Operating expenditures for the period September 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017 (Quarter 2).

History/Background:

A 2016-2017 Interim Financial Report was presented to the Board on February 8, 2017 and provided updated revenue and expenditure information from the budget to the revised estimates, as well as operating expenditures for the period ending November 30, 2016 (Quarter 1).

Attached is the 2016-2017 Interim Financial Report for the period ending February 28, 2017 (Quarter 2), which has been presented in a similar format as the 2016-2017 operating budget, indicating the amount spent by expenditure category and the associated percentage.

As at Quarter 2, \$118,944,136 of the \$236,654,793 operating budget or 50% has been spent. The expenditures are based upon items paid within the stated period. Certain expenditures may be non-cyclical in nature, which may lead to higher or lower expenditures within a given period. An example would be computers in which 38% of the operating budget was spent in Quarter 2. *(See Appendix 1 for more information.)*

The 2016-2017 interim financial report for Quarter 2 indicating a spending level of 50% aligns well with the 51% spending level reported for the same period last year.

The board is on target to end the 2016-2017 fiscal year in a balanced-budget position.

Recommendation:

That this report be received for information.

This report was reviewed by:

Paul Babin
Superintendent of Business Services

Debra Rantz
Director of Education

Limestone District School Board
Interim Financial Report-Operating Expenditures
For the Period Ending February 28, 2017 (Quarter 2)
Appendix 1

Expenditure Categories	2016-2017 Revised Estimates	2016-2017 Expenditures at (Q1)	2016-2017 % Spent at (Q1)	2015-2016 % Spent at (Q1)
Instruction				
Classroom Teachers	\$ 120,768,321	\$ 59,518,754	49%	51%
Supply Teachers	5,709,047	3,634,329	64%	48%
Educational Assistants/ECE's	18,245,190	8,746,481	48%	54%
Textbooks and Supplies	4,904,452	2,464,311	50%	34%
Computers	2,822,853	1,080,820	38%	65%
Professionals/Paraprofessionals	7,546,000	3,631,456	48%	51%
Library and Guidance	3,479,647	1,689,298	49%	52%
Staff Development	1,335,297	757,628	57%	45%
Department Heads	296,569	142,654	48%	49%
Principals and VPs	10,479,127	5,070,930	48%	47%
School Office	5,967,771	3,198,643	54%	56%
Coordinators and Consultants	2,800,404	1,404,827	50%	53%
Continuing Education	1,690,433	587,745	35%	58%
Instruction Total	186,045,111	91,927,876	49%	51%
Administration and Governance				
Trustees	184,412	63,202	34%	40%
Directors and Supervisory Officers	976,021	513,878	53%	57%
Board Administration	5,933,051	2,778,017	47%	48%
Administration and Governance Total	7,093,484	3,355,097	47%	49%
Transportation				
Transportation	15,819,335	9,694,507	61%	58%
Transportation Total	15,819,335	9,694,507	61%	58%
Pupil Accommodation				
School Operations and Maintenance	26,261,520	13,319,268	51%	49%
Pupil Accommodation Total	26,261,520	13,319,268	51%	49%
Other				
Other Non-Operating Expenses	1,435,343	647,388	45%	51%
Other Total	1,435,343	647,388	45%	51%
Operating Expenditures Total	\$ 236,654,793	\$ 118,944,136	50%	51%

Some expenditure mapping adjustments have been made to comply with Ministry reporting guidelines.



Limestone District School Board Administrative Report

Report to: Board of Trustees

From: Krishna Burra, Superintendent and Cal Bowry, Manager of International Education

Subject: LDSB International Education Program

Date: April 2017

Objectives:

As requested, to provide an overview of our International Education program.

History:

The international education department has been active at Limestone for more than two decades. Working in partnership with various schools, the department's primary roles are to attract good quality students to Limestone from around the world and to support them throughout their studies.

Each year, the department typically enrolls 40-50 new fee-paying international students, contributing to an average overall enrolment of approximately 125 international students throughout the board. About 80 percent of these students live with a local homestay family, which is coordinated through the international education department.

Observations:

The presentation at the Board meeting will provide a brief overview of:

- "International" students vis à vis other Limestone students who do not hold a Canadian passport.
- The big picture: transnational flows of students and Ontario's international education strategy.
- The benefits of international students to Limestone.
- The role of the international education department in supporting international students' unique needs, both inside and outside of school.

Recommendations:

Trustees receive this report and the presentation at the Board Meeting.



Limestone District School Board Administrative Report

Report to: Board of Trustees

From: Debra Rantz, Director of Education; and
Scot Gillam, Assistant to the Director

Subject: School Year Calendar for 2017-2018

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Objectives:

To update Trustees on the 2017-2018 School Year Calendar and receive Board approval at the April Board Meeting.

History:

Provincial Regulation 304 School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days requires that the school year shall start on or after September 1 and end on or before June 30. Every school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days.

In Limestone District School Board, the 194 school days are made up of seven PA days and 187 instructional days. Examination days for secondary schools fall under instructional days.

Regulation 304 requires the following school holidays:

- Every Saturday and Sunday
- Labour Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Fourteen (14) consecutive days for Christmas vacation
- Family Day, the third Monday of February
- Five (5) consecutive days for March Break
- Good Friday
- Easter Monday
- Victoria Day

The Board shall submit an approved school year calendar to the Ministry of Education for approval by May 1, unless the Board is submitting a calendar outside of the parameters established above or deviates from the Ministry template for the winter or March Breaks, in which case the Board must submit a modified calendar for approval to the Ministry by March 1.

Usually school starts in Ontario the day after Labour Day. For the 2017-2018 Calendar, Labour Day falls on September 4th, providing 194 school days from September 5 to June 30 inclusive. As noted, if days are scheduled before September 1 or after June 30, or the December and/or March Breaks deviate from the Ministry template, approval from the Board for a modified calendar must be submitted to the Ministry of Education prior to March 1.

The three boards in the Tri-Board Consortium (LDSB, HPEDSB and ALCDSB) have traditionally agreed upon a common calendar in order to share transportation costs. The Consortium agreement and practice is that should a board decide not to conform to the common calendar that board must continue to pay for the transportation as arranged in the common calendar and is also required to assume 100% of the transportation costs for any additional days of transport. In Limestone District School Board, each day of independent transportation costs approximately \$100,000.

The two small, geographically dispersed French Boards traditionally start near the end of August, and pay independently for their transportation.

For the 2017-2018 school year calendar, the same process was used as in the previous six years. This included consultation with internal stakeholders, community partners, and a parent survey. The parent survey was conducted using an electronic medium with the opportunity for people to request a paper version of the survey as an alternative.

Observations:

The Ministry template for the 2017-2018 calendar was received by LDSB at the beginning of January 2017.

In February 2017, LDSB parents and community partners (day cares, municipalities, Public Health, business associations, etc.) were invited to provide survey input to the Assistant to the Director on the 2016-2017 School Year Calendar. This year, over 700 survey responses were received. The vast majority of survey respondents supported the December Break beginning on Dec. 23rd. Negative feedback on the calendar was limited to the timing of Christmas, identifying the lateness being an issue with travel, etc. However, there were more respondents that favoured this date for Winter break than opposed. Many respondents also supported Friday PA Days, the PA Day prior to Victoria Day and the absence of any Thursday PA Days. Recommendations for next year were in favour of the Ministry proposed calendar by a large margin.

Facilitated by the Assistant to the Director, Limestone stakeholders met on January 31, 2017, to provide input. Stakeholders represented Trustees (Trustee Murray), parents (PIC chair), unions, federations, non-union groups, Human Resources, and administrators.

The LDSB stakeholder input from the January 31, 2017 meeting and the feedback from survey responses were shared with our Tri-board partners on February 15, 2017.

The calendar was approved by the HPEDSB Board of Trustees on Monday, March 27, 2017, and the ALCDSB Board of Trustees on Tuesday, March 28, 2017.

Notable details of the proposed 2017-2018 School Year Calendar are:

- The school year starts on September 5th for students and staff.
- There are seven (7) PA days in total (September 29th, October 27th, November 24th, February 2nd, April 13th, May 18th, and June 29th).
- Two (2) PA days are required for Elementary reporting: February 2nd and May 18th.
- Semester 1 runs from September 5th to February 1st inclusive. Semester 2 runs from February 2nd to June 29th inclusive.
- Each semester consists of 97 school days.

Recommendations:

1. That the Trustees of the Limestone District School Board receive and approve this calendar as presented with Appendix A.

2. That the calendar be submitted to the Ministry by May 1, 2017 as required by regulation.



Debra Rantz
Director of Education



Scot Gillam
Assistant to the Director

Board Name																												
Limestone DSB (B66206)																												
Calendar Title						Panel					Calendar Type					Date Created												
[2017-280601] Limestone District School Board						Elementary					Regular					Feb 27, 2017												
Start of School Year						End of School Year					First Day Students					Last Day Students												
Sep 01, 2017						Jun 29, 2018					Sep 05, 2017					Jun 28, 2018												
Status						Description																						
Draft						Regular Calendar for Limestone District School Board																						
Month	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week					PA days	Instr days	Exam days
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F			
August		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		0	0	0
September					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	1	19	0
						H																		P*				
October	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31				1	20	0
						H													P									
November			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30		1	21	0
																			P*									
December					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	0	16	0
																					H	H	B	B	B			
January	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			0	14	4
	H	B	B	B	B															E	E	E	E					
February				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28			1	17	1
				E	P											H												
March				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	16	0
											B	B	B	B	B									H				
April	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30					1	19	0
	H									P*																		
May		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		1	21	0
															P	H												
June					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	1	15	5
																			E	E	E	E	E		P			
July	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31				0	0	0
Total																										7	178	10

Legend

P -Professional Activity Day; **E** -Scheduled Exam Day; **B** -Board Designated Day; **H** -Statutory Day; / -Half Day;
P* -Professional Activity Day Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities;

Schools which will use this calendar :

Board Name Limestone DSB (B66206)			
Calendar Title [2017-285280] Limestone District School Board	Panel Secondary	Calendar Type Regular	Date Created Mar 23, 2017
Start of School Year Sep 01, 2017	End of School Year Jun 29, 2018	First Day Students Sep 05, 2017	Last Day Students Jun 28, 2018
Status Draft	Description Regular Calendar for Limestone District School Board		

Month	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week					PA days	Instr days	Exam days
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F			
August		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		0	0	0
September					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	1	19	0
October	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31				1	20	0
November			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30		1	21	0
December					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	0	16	0
January	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			0	14	4
February				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28			1	17	1
March				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	16	0
April	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30					1	19	0
May		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		1	21	0
June					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	1	15	5
July	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31				0	0	0
Total																										7	178	10

Legend

P -Professional Activity Day; **E** -Scheduled Exam Day; **B** -Board Designated Day; **H** -Statutory Day; / -Half Day;
P* -Professional Activity Day Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities;

Schools which will use this calendar :



Bluewater District School Board

351 1st Avenue North – PO Box 190

Chesley ON N0G 1L0

Telephone: (519) 363-2014 Fax: (519) 370-2909

www.bwdsb.on.ca

February 27, 2017

Sent by email: Minister.EDU@ontario.ca

Honourable Mitzie Hunter
Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Hunter:

On February 21, 2017, Bluewater District School Board passed a motion to write to the Minister of Education requesting that the scope for the Special Education Funding Working Group be expanded to include a more robust and comprehensive review of both the current special education model as well as the funding of special education in Ontario as a whole. The board recommends that further consultation should include the following groups:

- Minister's Advisory Council On Special Education;
- Provincial Parent Advisory Association Committee On Special Education Advisory Committees;
- Special Education Advisory Committees;
- Provincial organizations that represent each of the areas of exceptionality;
- Ontario Teachers Federation;
- School Boards;
- Trustees;
- Parents of students with special education exceptionalities; and
- Students with special education exceptionalities.

The basis for the board's recommendation included the following considerations:

- Bluewater District School Board currently provides special education services and programs to almost one in four of our students;
- Bluewater District School Board is one of the small number of school boards who is experiencing a significant reduction in their Special Education Needs Amount for specialized support for students with intensive and complex special education needs;
- Bluewater District School Board is experiencing a growing number of students with intensive and complex special education needs at the same time as it is experiencing a steady decline in the overall student enrolment;
- Bluewater District School Board has written previously to the Minister of Education expressing concern about the mental health and well-being of students with special education needs and their lack of access to a repository or portal of mental health resources that would benefit them and their families;
- The growth model of support for students with Autism in Ontario should be applied to all areas of exceptionality;

- Bill 82 was established in 1980 and required the publicly funded school system in Ontario to be responsible for the education of all Ontario students including those with special education needs in their language of instruction (page 8 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address¹);
- The \$20 million infusion in 2006 to the partnership of the Ontario Psychological Association (OPA) and school boards (page 21 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address²) has helped with the backlog of psychoeducational assessments, but there are still significant "wait times" for student assessments;
- Funding from the Special Education Per Pupil Amount and the Special Education Needs Amount (formerly High Needs Amount) are not allocated to specific students nor used on a strict student-by-student basis and represent approximately 93% of the Special Education Grant, (page 25 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address³).
- The current funding structure generates the potential for unequitable distribution of programs and resources to students within all areas of exceptionality and across school boards, despite the fact that Special education funding has been increasing, while overall provincial enrolment has been declining. (page 29 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address⁴);
- There are no updated guidelines or updated definitions for Intellectual (Developmental Disability, Mild Intellectual Disability, Giftedness) or Behavioural Guidelines. (page 18 Ministry of Education Special Education Update June 2015⁵) and only draft Guidelines for Programs and Services for Students Who Are Blind or have Low Vision (K-12). (page 4 Ministry of Education Special Education Update June 2015⁶);
- There is an issue of recruitment and retention of members on Special Education Advisory Committees in various boards across Ontario. (page 3 of the Executive Summary of the PAAC ON SEAC Survey 2014⁷);
- The ministry is currently reviewing Provincial and Demonstration Schools within the framework of Special Education (2015-16)⁸ which has raised concerns about access to very specialized programs that schools boards are not currently able to provide;
- Formal identification and placement decisions through the Identification, Placement and Review Process (IPRC) is on a significant decline and students with special education needs receive supports or accommodations more often through recommendations set out in an Individual Education Plan (IEP) (page 9 A People Report on Special Education 2014⁹); and
- The ministry plans to reconvene the Special Education Funding Working Group to continue to support the transformation of special education funding and other key special education initiatives going forward (Ministry of Education Special Education Update February 2016¹⁰).

1 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

2 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

3 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

4 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

5 <http://education.easterseals.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Ministry-of-Education-Special-Education-Update-June-2015.pdf>

6 <http://education.easterseals.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Ministry-of-Education-Special-Education-Update-June-2015.pdf>

7 <http://www.paac-seac.ca/wp-content/uploads/PAAC-on-SEAC-Survey-Executive-Summary-2014.pdf>

8 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/special_ed_update.html

9 <http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/special-education-2014-WEB.pdf>

10 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/special_ed_update.html#_Toc445455883

The Bluewater District School Board also recommends to the Ministry of Education that a comprehensive review should include:

- a gap analysis of our current provincial model for special education and any research on current and future models for special education around the world;
- a forensic analysis for each individual area of exceptionality to determine what portion of each special education dollar reaches students and what portion of each dollar goes to administration, communication, the IPRC process, and other paperwork;
- a narrative that links the "special education model" to the *Education For All* and *Learning For All* ministry documents;
- an analysis of the meta data that has been collected by the ministry since the inception of Bill 82 to discover patterns and insights that would be applicable to the development of a new or modified model for special education and appropriate funding for that model; and
- current directions in neuroscience in the review of the current model and development of any future special education model.

Bluewater District School Board looks forward to your response and would be pleased to speak further with you about these issues.

Sincerely,



Ron Motz, Board Chair



Paul Eichhorn, Chair of SEAC

c.c. OPSBA President
Ontario School Board Chairs
Ontario School Boards Directors of Education
SEAC Chairs
MACSE Chair
Association des Enseignants Franco-Ontariens
Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association
Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation
Non-Profit Advocacy Organizations (listed on EDU website)
Association for Bright Children
Association francophone de parents d'enfants dyslexiques ou ayant tout autre trouble d'apprentissage (AFPED)
Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO)
Canadian Association of Community Living
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children
Integration Action for Inclusion in Education and Community
Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders (OAFCCD)
Parents for Children's Mental Health
The Canadian Hearing Society (CHS)
Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario
Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada
Silent Voice Canada
Bob Rumball Foundation for the Deaf
Ontario Cultural Society of the Deaf
Ontario Association for the Deaf



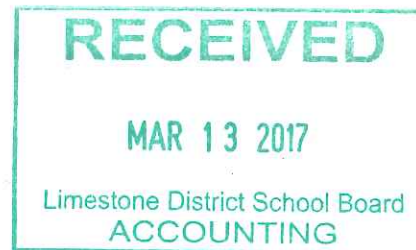
**Waterloo Region
District School Board**

Education Centre

51 Ardelt Avenue, Kitchener ON N2C 2R5
Phone: 519 570 0003 Ext. 4111 fax: 519 570 1618
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February 10, 2017

Honourable Mitzie Hunter
Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2



Dear Minister Hunter:

At the January 23, 2017, Committee of the Whole meeting of the Waterloo Region District School Board, Trustees requested we write to you to express our concern at the lack of qualified, fluent French teachers in the province of Ontario.

While our board currently has enough French teachers to meet our classroom demands, it is difficult for us to find suitably qualified French-speaking teachers for our occasional teacher roster and long-term occasional list. As a result, we periodically face challenges providing consistent programming for our students when French classroom teachers are away.

To address the lack of qualified French teachers available to our system, our Human Resources department is proactively working with universities and colleges across Ontario to secure teachers before they graduate. However, we are concerned about the long-term sustainability of this approach as all school boards compete for the same limited pool of newly-qualified French teachers.

We ask the Ministry of Education to explore ways it can encourage post-secondary institutions to expand French programs to grow the number of qualified French-speaking teachers in Ontario and improve the quality of French-fluent teachers available.

Demand for French Immersion programs in Waterloo region has increased by more than 11 per cent in five years, and we believe measures are needed immediately to ensure we can continue to meet the demands of our community while continuing to ensure that students achieve their potential and we protect the well-being of our system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott McMillan'.

Scott McMillan
Chairperson of the Board

Cc: OPSBA
Ontario School Board Chairs