

Regular Board Meeting Minutes Limestone District School Board

April 29, 2020

To help slow the spread of COVID-19, the Ontario government has extended the Declaration of Emergency to May 31, 2020. This extension will enable the government to continue protecting the health and safety of the people in Ontario. As such, for the time being, the Board will be conducting its business via virtual meetings.

Private Session

Present:

Trustees: J. Brown
G. Elliott
L. French (Vice-Chair)
T. Gingrich
B. Godkin
R. Hutcheon
K. McGregor
J. Morning
S. Ruttan (Chair)
J. Crook (Student Trustee)
A. Putnam (Student Trustee)

Staff: M. Babcock, Superintendent of Education - regrets
K. Burra, Superintendent of Education - regrets
S. Gillam, Associate Superintendent, Safe and Caring Schools - regrets
A. Labrie, Superintendent of Education and Human Resources
A. McDonnell, Associate Superintendent, Learning for All - regrets
D. Rantz, Director of Education
S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent, School Effectiveness and Assessment - regrets
J. Silver, Superintendent of Education - regrets
C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services - regrets

Guest:

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

Chair Ruttan called the roll.

MOTION: To move into Private Session.

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

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Elliott declared a conflict as his wife is a teacher with the LDSB and a member of ETFO.

Trustee Godkin declared a conflict as his daughter is an occasional teacher with LDSB's co-terminous Boards.

Chair's Update

No update at this time.

Director's Update

No update at this time.

Action Items

- (a) Board Minutes – February 12, March 25, April 8 and April 22, 2020

MOVED BY: Trustee Morning, seconded by Trustee Brown, that the minutes listed in Action Items, Private Session, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

For Information

- (a) Personnel Update (Item (a) on Agenda)

No update at this time.

- (b) Safe Schools Update.

No update at this time.

- (c) Property Update (Item (c) on Agenda)

No update was at this time.

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

An OPSBA update was provided.

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

A labour update was provided.

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

No update at this time.

Report to Public Session

Chair Ruttan 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 McGregor, seconded by Trustee Godkin. Carried.

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

Public Meeting

Trustees: J. Brown
G. Elliott
L. French (Vice Chair)
T. Gingrich
B. Godkin
R. Hutcheon
K. McGregor
J. Morning
S. Ruttan (Chair)
J. Crook (Student Trustee)
A. Putnam (Student Trustee)

Officials: M. Babcock, Superintendent of Education
M. Baumann, Manager of Business Services
K. Burra, Superintendent of Education
J. Douglas, Communications Officer
S. Gillam, Associate Superintendent, Safe and Caring Schools
A. Labrie, Superintendent of Education and Human Resources
A. McDonnell, Associate Superintendent, Learning for All
D. Rantz, Director of Education
S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent, School Effectiveness and Assessment
J. Silver, Superintendent of Education
K. Smith, Communications Officer
C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services

Guests:

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

Chair Ruttan stated:

"Good evening Trustees, Senior Staff and the viewing public. Welcome to the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting.

My name is Suzanne Ruttan. I am Chair of the Board, and the Trustee representing South Frontenac.

As we continue to trial virtual Board meetings, I ask for everyone's patience as we learn and adapt to this new platform.

As we are broadcasting from across the district, there may be Internet conductivity issues that arise. We do not anticipate any interruption, but if this does happen and we lose the connection, we will get back up as quickly as we can.

Gallery guests you will hear all discussion during tonight's meeting as Trustees' mics are turned on, as you would expect, and you will see presentations and reports shared to your

screen. You will only see the video of whomever is speaking. So, only one person at a time will appear on your screen.

I will call an alphabetical roll call for Trustees' questions and comments during and after presentations and reports. Trustees will appear on screen when they have a question. Gallery guests there will be a slight delay as the meeting's producer cues up the video for the next speaker.

It has been a steep learning curve for everyone as we pivot to virtual meetings. My sincere thanks to staff for making this possible with such short turnaround.

And with that I call this meeting to order."

Chair Ruttan read the Acknowledgement of Territory:

"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."

Adoption of Agenda

MOVED BY: Trustee Gingrich, seconded by Trustee Hutcheon, that the agenda, as presented, be approved. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Elliott declared a conflict as his wife is an employee of the Board and is a member of ETFO.

Trustee Godkin declared a conflict as his daughter is an occasional teacher with LDSB's co-terminous Boards.

Private Session Report

Trustee French made the following statement:

In Private Session the following minutes and motions were approved:

February 12, 2020 – Safe Schools, OPSBA, Labour and Legal update.

March 25, 2020 – Director Search Firm Selection discussion

MOTION: That the Board defer the hiring process for the Director until such time as the COVID-19 situation is under control.

MOVED BY: Trustee Hutcheon, seconded by Trustee Morning. Failed.

MOTION: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees select OESC and award the contract for recruitment services for the position of Director of Education.

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

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April 8, 2020 – Director Search Committee

MOVED BY: Trustee Brown, that the draft LDSB Director Search Proposed Workplan, be accepted in principle, with the proposed completion dates for Action Steps 1-5, as noted, to be used as a guideline, and that for Action Steps 6 – 11, the dates are to be determined. Carried.

MOVED BY: Trustee Hutcheon, that during the execution of the consultation phase, public consultation be included, using Survey Monkey, incorporating the six questions identified by the consultants. Failed.

April 22, 2020 – Labour Update.

MOTION: To support ratification of the ETFO agreement.

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

April 29, 2020 – Personnel, OPSBA and Labour update.

Chair's Update

Chair Ruttan stated:

"The Premier of Ontario and Minister of Education have announced school closures will continue until at least May 31. We remain committed to supporting our students and staff in every way we can, until it is safe to be together again.

Over the past several weeks, we have seen examples of tremendous leadership, creativity, innovation, dedication, and compassion.

I cannot begin to describe how proud I am as a Trustee, as a Limestone parent, and as a taxpayer, of the innovative approaches being developed and delivered by Limestone staff during these unprecedented times.

Director Rantz and the entire Senior Leadership Team set to work developing plans to ensure that our students and staff were safe. Our strategic pillars of wellness, innovation and collaboration are serving us well, guiding us through this crisis.

Limestone will continue to put people first – with our focus on student and staff safety and well-being.

As plans continue to evolve and we respond to feedback, we know staff are providing the very best they can for our students and families.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, our sincere thanks to all staff for their dedication and diligence in preparing for Limestone's virtual teaching and learning environment, as well as, central administrative staff for their incredible efforts in maintaining regular business operations. Truly staggering efforts by all.

Our sincere gratitude also to our students and families for their flexibility, patience and understanding as we support the continuity of learning for students. We are all in this together.

Trustees, too, are pushing through new ways of doing business. During the extended closure, the Board of Trustees has continued its work requiring decisions virtually via telephone, email, and video conference.

We continue to trial virtual Board meetings. I would like to again recognize the hard work of Information Technology and Senior Staff for launching this online platform so quickly. Despite the operational challenges of negotiating collective agreements during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Council of Trustees' Association, and the provincial government have now reached deals or tentative central agreements with all education unions. Yesterday, OPSBA ratified settlements reached in March with the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario for both teachers and education workers, and last week a tentative agreement was reached with secondary teachers and education workers. These fully funded agreements ensure a stable learning environment for students and staff.

My heartfelt thanks to Limestone staff for their professionalism and patience as we navigate our way through this extraordinary time in public education, and in the world."

Director's Update

Director Rantz stated:

"Good evening Trustees and those watching remotely.

We are now in week four of emergency remote learning and you will hear more about that in an information report later in the agenda.

Much of our communication outreach has been to our families, but we also want to ensure that students, in particular, are engaged during this time. That is why one of my video messages last week directly addressed students of the Limestone District School Board. Student well-being and safety continue to be paramount, and learning is an important part of that safety plan. We know remote learning is not ideal, and all homes do not have equal access to the Internet and devices, but we continue to develop a range of options that are both reasonable and practical to support students' learning.

Remote learning is not business as usual. Emergency remote learning is an interim measure. It does not compare to the learning that happens in our classrooms where students are face-to-face with their teachers, other students, and school support staff. Staff are making the best of an unfortunate situation, and we hope students are, too.

We also want to reassure our Grade 12 students and their families that students who are on track for graduating this June will not have their graduation impacted by COVID-19. Guidance Counsellors and Lead Student Success teachers with the Limestone District School Board have created a dedicated website to help Grade 12 students navigate any changes. This was communicated to families and students last week.

Our Educational Services team has been reaching out to at-risk and special needs students and this work will continue. We are here to support students through these uncertain times. We have been present at Community Partnership Tables and are grateful for our guidance from Dr. Moore and his team at KFL&A Public Health. We will continue to do everything we can to support the well-being of our entire Limestone community.

We are so proud of our partners at the Food Sharing Project who are providing hundreds of food hampers per week to our most vulnerable families in need with the support of some staff and dedicated volunteers in our community. Almost 500 families are being supported by this initiative.

Central office staff in human resources, financial, facilities and information technology services, our program team and communications are pulling out all the stops to keep the district humming. All their hard work, resilience and compassion have not gone unnoticed.

In closing, I wish to add how inspired I am with the dedication and creativity of Limestone educators, and all they are doing to remain connected with their students and each other such as heart-warming video messages of 'miss you ' and 'stay well' from teachers, daily health tips from Limestone's Student Support Counsellors, and multi-media morning announcements featuring students, teachers and special guests.

I am so proud of our staff, and all that they have done and all that they will continue to do to put our students first."

Section A – Matters Requiring Action at the Meeting

1. Consent Agenda

(a) Board Minutes – February 12, 2020

(b) Reports from All Committees:

- i) Special Education Advisory Committee - February 19 & March 11, 2020
- ii) Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee – March 10, 2020
- iii) Education, Policy & Operations Committee – March 4, 2020
- iv) Budget Committee – April 22, 2020

MOTION: That the Consent Agenda of April 29, 2020, as presented, be approved.

MOVED BY: Trustee Morning, seconded by Trustee Elliott. Carried.

2. Routine Matters

(a) OPSBA Report – Trustee French

Trustee French stated that the last Board of Directors meeting was in February, and that the minutes were shared with Trustees. OPSBA continues to share examples of great work at Boards across the province.

There was an update from Provincial Indigenous Trustee Council, offering advice for Boards who are electing an Indigenous Student Trustee.

A Best Practice Handbook for Student Trustees is in development, through a partnership with OSTA/AECO.

A scholarship in partnership with OPSBA has been established for students who excel in leadership.

All OPSBA events have been cancelled to the end of the year, including Take a Member of Provincial Parliament to work, the May Board of Directors, and the AGM.

(b) Report from Student Trustee(s)

Trustee Crook:

"Hello everyone. I hope you all are staying well during these difficult times. For Interschool Council our event unfortunately had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, but on behalf of Trustee Putnam and I, I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the council members who put in the time and dedication to the event during our planning phase. I do not have a doubt that it would have been an amazing event for Limestone students! On the other hand, the Student Trustee elections are coming up on May 4th and it is with great joy that I get to say that LDSB will be electing their first Indigenous Student Trustee to represent both the Urban and Rural High Schools. Overall, these are incredibly difficult times, but the LDSB community has shown nothing but incredible efforts and I congratulate everyone on their accomplishments. I wish you all the best and hope that everyone stays well during these unprecedented times."

Trustee Putnam:

"Good evening, I hope everyone is staying safe in these uncertain times. Both Trustee Crook and I would like to take a moment to thank Limestone's amazing teachers, administrators and Board office staff for their support during these trying times. We are grateful for everyone's patience, flexibility, understanding and hard work. We would also like to recognize students and their families who are doing their best to adapt to distance learning despite various barriers. Limestone has done an exceptional job making distance learning more accessible to all students by providing over 2,000 devices to students throughout the Board. Hopefully we can continue to work together, and I look forward to one day being able to see you all in person again. Thank you!"

A question was raised around the process for electing the new Indigenous Student Trustee. Superintendent Burra stated that due to the COVID-19 situation there was no time for another policy meeting before moving forward. He did meet with the Indigenous Education Advisory Council, and the Board will be mirroring the process used by Inter-school Council for Urban and Rural Student Trustees.

Superintendent Burra further stated that each school is selecting a group of Indigenous peers to nominate a candidate for the position.

3. Reports for Information

a) Quarter 2 Financial Report

Manager Baumann provided an update on the Interim Financial Operating expenditures for the period September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020 (Quarter 2).

A 2019-2020 Interim Financial Report was presented to the Board on January 29, 2020 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, 2019 (Quarter 1).

As at Quarter 2, \$121,423,445 of the \$248,930,822 operating budget or 49% 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 Continuing Education in which 30% of the operating budget was spent in Quarter 2. (See Appendix 1 for more information.)

The 2019-2020 interim financial report for Quarter 2 indicates a spending level of 49%, which is 1% less than the 50% spending level reported for the same period last year. The 1% reduction in spending is related to savings as a result of strike days. There will be an offsetting funding reduction due back to the Ministry.

The Board is on target to end the 2019-2020 fiscal year in a balanced-budget position.

With the recent announcement from the Minister around iPads, it was questioned whether or not there was additional money for this. Superintendent Young answered that this report is until January 29, so any additional expenditures for electronics due to remote learning are not reflected in this reporting period.

In a question for further clarity on the savings due to strike days, Superintendent Young answered that Financial Services had budgeted amounts for classroom teachers during the strike times, but because of the strike days taken less salary was paid out. Boards must show strike savings, and then this money is returned to the Ministry. In the end it is a zero sum.

It was questioned if there was anything saved on busing fees during the school closure. Superintendent Young stated that LDSB has continued to pay Tri-Board, and that operators have continued to pay drivers. There has been a fuel offset, which means that funds have been reduced. Again, these savings will be returned to the Ministry for a net zero amount.

When asked about the donations made to health care partners, and how Boards are to account for those expenditures, Superintendent Young answered that the donations were approximately a one-month supply for cleaning supplies or PPE, which were not being used in LDSB sites during the same four-week period. At this point it is not an expense to LDSB.

b) Emergency Remote Learning

Director Rantz stated that as a result of the extended school closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, school boards across Ontario were directed by the Ministry of Education to draft a continuity of learning plan to begin April 6, 2020. Prior to April 6, students and families were encouraged to take advantage of the Ministry's Learn at Home suite of online resources. Limestone supplemented this portal with its own list of curated online learning resources organized by grade and curriculum area.

Like every other school board in Ontario, Limestone used the time after March Break to develop the first draft of our Emergency Remote Learning Plan. Our priority, in these extraordinary times, has been to ensure our students' basic physical, mental and emotional needs are met (food, security, health care, mental health), especially for our most vulnerable students and families. We also focused on the mental wellness needs of our staff, who were also catapulted into a remote working environment while balancing their own personal responsibilities.

One of the first stages of Limestone's plan included connecting with all administrators and educators as well as support staff to establish protocols for working from home, including an inventory of staff technology needs and access to the Internet. This was followed by a needs assessment of students' access to technology, the Internet and other considerations to support their remote learning and well-being.

Given the range of circumstances of students, families, and staff, we knew any plan would require a range of delivery options that are both reasonable and practical. Teaching and learning in this evolving context would not look the same as the customary in-class experience. The Board's goal is to ensure the successful completion of the school year for all students, and to support students to advance to the next school year, earn credits and graduate.

Current Status:

Learning Model: The Ministry of Education released the following model for remote learning:

- K-Grade 3: 5 hours of work per student per week with a focus on literacy and math
- Grades 4-6: 5 hours of work per student per week with a focus on literacy, math, science and social studies
- Grades 7-8: 10 hours of work per student per week with a focus on core math, literacy, science and social studies
- Grades 9-12: 3 hours of work per course per week for with a focus on achieving credits/completion/graduation

Important considerations in distance learning is that it remain flexible to student and family needs including ability to: complete work at any point of the day/week; allow for student voice and choice; not always require online access; and be done with minimal or no adult support.

Every student should have, by now, received outreach from their school and/or teacher(s) to determine their ability to engage with remote learning. It is important to note that contacting families has not been straightforward due to outdated contact information and the inability to reach parents/guardians who are essential workers, among other issues, some of which are tied back to technology and Internet access.

Device Distribution: Schools opened briefly during controlled periods to allow staff to retrieve needed learning materials from their work sites. Schools began distributing devices the week of April 6. Both processes were managed by administrators according to approved protocols developed in consultation with KFL&A Public Health. This work is ongoing. To date, more than 2,000 devices have been provided to students in need while another 200 devices have been distributed to Board staff (who did not already have access to devices). Staff devices required a more intensive authentication and distribution process to ensure privacy protocols and security are met.

On April 17, the Ministry announced a collaboration with Apple and Rogers to provide data-enabled iPads to families struggling with Internet access. This is one option among several, to best try to meet Internet access needs across the district. We know, however, some geographical areas in our district will still experience low connectivity despite the option for data. We continue to investigate and implement sensible device and connection options for families based on needs and geography. Depending on device availability from providers and viable geographic options, this work will continue for a couple of more weeks.

Approved Learning Platforms:

Central Board staff developed online learning etiquette guidelines and additional guides on: how to connect devices to Wi-Fi; how to work offline; and how to conduct/participate in video conferencing classrooms/meetings for students, families and staff with a focus on privacy and security issues. Current virtual learning platforms include Desire2Learn (Minds Online), Google Classrooms/Meet and MS Teams applications, all of which are supported centrally, and maximize student and teacher privacy and safety.

Many students and teachers, particularly those in the secondary panel, are already familiar with the use of some of these platforms which were used by teachers prior to the school closure. For others, this is new learning and central staff are working diligently to support everyone through the transition. For students who cannot participate virtually, for whatever reason, teachers are supporting remote learning through other means. This might include calls and/or e-mails to parents/guardians providing opportunities for more traditional learning such as print packages, for example. The Board continues to explore opportunities for the engagement of secondary students enrolled in more technical/hands-on learning (skilled trades, the arts etc.) to determine how to best meet the learning needs as set out in the curriculum.

Assessment:

All school boards are following directions provided by the Ministry of Education with respect to assessment and evaluation. All students will receive a final report card in June. As always, families are encouraged to communicate with their student's teacher(s) regarding their progress through the school closure.

- Elementary: For elementary students (Kindergarten to Grade 8), the marks will be based on student's learning prior to the school closures in March. In the weeks ahead, teachers will be providing feedback only based on students' learning at home.
- Secondary: For graduating students, mid-term marks will be provided based on learning prior to the March school closures. These marks will be available to colleges and universities to meet post-secondary application deadlines. Secondary students will not receive mid-term report cards. Teachers will use remote learning tasks, projects, and culminating activities for evaluation purposes to support the student's final marks.

Support for Students with Special Needs:

Delivering remote programming, instruction, and support to students with individualized learning needs in creative ways that help the student continue to move forward during remote learning is a challenge. Educational Services has developed a document to support teachers with resources and guidelines. As of April 20, Student Support Counsellors, Adolescent Care Workers, School Attendance Counsellors, Clinical Staff, Speech Language Pathologists, Social Workers, Educational Assistants and Educational Services Teachers have connected with many of the students prioritized by school administrators, as well as other students on their existing caseloads. They will remain in contact with many of these students to provide supports for emerging student needs. We are grateful to all of our community partners for collaborating with us in order to meet our students' needs.

Director Rantz drew attention to the Information Graphic included in the report, which was shared with Ministry. LDSB has been recognized as a leader in the province during this difficult situation.

Director Rantz shared how proud she is of the work of the Food Sharing project, and their support of families in the LDSB area. She also recognized the work of staff in providing cleaning supplies and PPE to the local health care organizations.

Director Rantz noted that the biggest need in rural areas continues to be reliable access to Wi-Fi.

Superintendent Burra stated that LDSB has deployed over 2000 devices to students, and that there are only a very small number of families that still require devices. Arrangements for deliveries and pickups have been made to help meet the situations of LDSB families. The ITS department is working on gauging Internet access needs, and providing a number of solutions. Over the course of the next 1-2 week(s) the work on all remaining access issues will continue.

Director Rantz stated that in the coming weeks we will have to remain patient and be supportive of teachers and students. Plans are dynamic, and will continue to change as needed. She stated that there are lots of opportunities for learning beyond being on a computer, and staff will continue work to meet the physical, emotional and mental well-being needs of students.

Senior Staff are now undertaking a survey for staff and families to gauge how things are going, and this will inform service delivery until June 1, and possibly beyond if there are further closure extensions.

When asked if Senior Staff are taking the opportunity to prepare for a potential second wave of COVID-19, Director Rantz answered that contingency planning is ongoing, noting it is difficult to plan for unknowns.

It was questioned whether there have been criticisms from people who work from home regarding having students using remote learning, and are there any students that the Board hasn't connected with? Also, how many students do not want to go online; are we providing hard copies of student work and are there plans for bringing students back to class?

Director Rantz answered that Senior Staff are gathering feedback regarding remote learning, and that staff are grateful to families for doing the best they can. Principals were reporting it was difficult to reach students at first, but this has improved. There is only a small amount of students that cannot be reached.

Staff have developed a protocol for office staff to access school sites to produce student work packages. Staff also continues to encourage students/families to access some digital resources if they require hard copy work. Senior Staff are working with courier staff on plans to get packages to families, and establish possible pick-up sites.

The classroom situation when students return is being reviewed, and staff are preparing for every contingency. LDSB continues to work with the direction from the Ministry and to learn from other systems across the world.

It was noted that in the Toronto area some families have expressed feelings that the sharing of devices was charity, not equity. Director Rantz replied that families in LDSB have not reported anything similar. The response has been overwhelmingly positive and families are only taking what they need.

It was asked what the options are for families with no internet access. Director Rantz answered that there are very few families in this situation at this point. One solution is to deploy unused cell phones to enable them to hotspot to the internet. LDSB also continues to advocate because not all families have access.

It was questioned how the Board is supporting special education students. Associate Superintendent McDonnell answered that for mental health and wellness issues Social Workers were mobilized to make contact with the most vulnerable students and provide tele-counselling. A referral service is also now open for new connections. Student Support Counsellors and Adolescent Care workers have connected with all students on their caseload, and are able to take on new students as needed. Educational Services teams, such as the Autism team, have connected with all families who were under care of an LDSB program/support. Staff are working hard to tailor supports for students based on feedback. Staff are also available to assist families with behaviour supports. Programming and services remain in place, and are being provided virtually.

It was asked if there is a plan to deal with damaged or lost devices and Director Rantz stated that there is an expectation that there will be some loss, and some replacement costs involved. ITS does have some funds to cover these costs.

It was asked if there have been any decisions made about exams for high school students. Director Rantz stated that there is going to be a Ministry memo to describe what cancellation of exams will look like. No decisions will be made until that information is received.

c) Kingston Secondary School Update

Superintendent Young reported that work continued through March with special conditions in place to address COVID 19. This resulted in slower progress due to physical distancing and less workforce. The contractor started shutting down and demobilizing at the start of April. Sub-trades have moved to other projects.

It will take approximately 4 weeks to mobilize again when the contractor is allowed on site. This means the school will not be ready for September. The Board does not know what the restrictions will be when the site is operational again. If the Contractor is allowed to enter the facility by the end of May, the Board has been advised that we could expect a completion in November.

It was asked if classes are being reorganized for September, and if the Board has space to accommodate physical distancing requirements. Superintendent Young answered that there has been no direction regarding physical distancing in the classroom. He noted this would be an issue for all boards across the province, not just LDSB.

It was questioned if there are any considerations about a possible student transition in November. Superintendent Burra answered that Senior Staff cannot make decisions about start dates yet, as site completion timelines are uncertain.

It was asked what percentage of completion the site is at and what the plan is for communication about the delay. Superintendent Young stated that he expects most people will be understanding about the delay because of the situation with COVID-19. Superintendent Burra answered that the site is at approximately 93% completion.

Director Rantz stated that there is a letter ready to go for families and staff.

4. Reports Requiring Decision

None at this time.

5. Notice of Motion

Trustee Elliott stated that is withdrawing his former Notice of Motion.

Section B - Information

1. Internal Reports and Other Communications

None at this time.

2. External Reports and Other Communications

- a) Letter to Minister Elliott from Waterloo Region DSB re Vaping – January 10, 2020
- b) Letter to LDSB Board Chair from J. Heaton re support of the Board – February 19, 2020
- c) Letter to LDSB Board Chair from K. Stewart re: support of the Board – February 19, 2020
- d) Letter to LDSB Chair from L. Huffman and S. Notman re: support of the Board – February 26, 2020
- e) Letter to LDSB Board Chair from P. Dendy re: support of the Board – February 26, 2020
- f) Letter to LDSB Board Chair from S. Cond re: support of the Board – March 5, 2020
- g) Letter to LDSB Board Chair from M. Tarasick re: support of the Board – February 2020

3. Communications Referred to Committee

None at this time.

4. Requests for Reports and/or Information

None at this time.

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 May 20, 2020 at 6 p.m.

7. Other Special Meetings/Events

See agenda listing.

8. Adjournment

Chair Ruttan called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOVED BY: Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Gingrich, that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.