

EDUCATION, POLICY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 5, 2022

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll call:

Trustees:	Staff:
J. Brown G. Elliott L. French T. Gingrich (Vice-Chair) B. Godkin R. Hutcheon K. McGregor J. Morning S. Ruttan (Chair) M. Elshrief (Student Trustee) E. Jackson (Student Trustee) J. Kolosov (Student Trustee)	K. Burra, Director of Education S. Gillam, Superintendent of Education P. Gollogly, Associate Superintendent A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent J. Silver, Superintendent of Education
Guests:	Recorder:
Y. Abdulkareem, Human Rights and Equity Officer R. McDonald, Elementary Equity Curriculum Consultant A. Barrow, Equity and Inclusion Consultant	S. Mitton, Executive Assistant to the Director and Trustee Liaison

Chair Gingrich welcomed everyone to the meeting. He began the meeting by reading 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.”

1. Call to Order

Chair Gingrich called the meeting to order and called the roll.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Trustee Godkin asked, that under New Business an item, “to engage in a conversation on the subject of smudging,” be added to the agenda.

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

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts declared.

4. Reports for Information

4.1 Equity Action Plan 2nd Edition, 2020-2023

Superintendent McDonnell welcomed the LDSB Equity team which is comprised of Yusuf Abdulkareem, Andrea Barrow, Racheal McDonald, Talya McKenna and Susan McWilliams. She introduced the Equity Action Plan and indicated that Trustees last saw this plan earlier this year at the April EPOC meeting. The plan had been revised based on stakeholder feedback and a commitment was made to review the plan annually in the fall to review progress. Superintendent McDonnell explained that the ‘stop light’ method was used throughout the report and indicated that there are several red lights due to challenges relating to professional learning and capacity building. As a result of public health protocols and release time constraints, there was an inability to engage in these areas. These areas will become priority focus areas moving forward.

R. McDonald shared the text and resource selection guide. The guide was launched this year at the September 26, 2022 PA day. The guide uses a series of tools centered around three main areas:

- Centering Student Needs and Interests
- Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
- Opportunities to Think Critically

There is a continuous effort to provide inclusive curriculum content that reflects the intersectional identities of all Limestone students.

Y. Abdulkareem was invited to speak about the Equity Advisory Committee. He articulated that there are 9 committee members made up of community members and LDSB employees. The team has already had their first meeting where they focused on reviewing the Human Rights Reporting Tool. The LDSB Human Rights Reporting Tool includes both a creation of an Administrative Procedure and Reporting Form.

A. Barrow spoke about Equity Champions where each Elementary and Secondary school has been asked to select a teacher to fill the role of Equity Champion. Equity Champions will act as a liaison between the Equity team and the school to bring resources and professional learning resources to monthly staff meetings.

Chair Gingrich thanked Superintendent McDonnell and the Equity Team and called upon Trustees for questions.

4.2 Summer Programming

Associate Superintendent Sartor introduced the report. She began with the Summer Literacy Program, Read-A-Lot. Over 225 students accessed the program over a three-week period. There was a focus on family engagement throughout the program and information sessions were offered to provide guidance on structured literacy.

Associate Superintendent Hedderson spoke to the Summer Credit Programs. He explained that typically these programs were used to repeat a course or upgrade credits where now students are completing courses in summer session to move ahead or clear space in their schedule. Overall, an increase in enrollment was seen compared to last summer.

Associate Superintendent Gollogly highlighted the Focus on Youth program.

Superintendent Gillam reviewed Summer Learning Support for students with special educational and mental health needs. Over 500 students with special education needs and/or complex mental health concerns were supported with transitional supports. During the summer training in the areas of Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) as well as Community Resilience Initiative (CRI) trauma inform course were offered to staff and community agencies.

Superintendent McDonnell pointed the Trustees to the list of summer programs offered by Gould Lake Outdoor Education Centre in the agenda package. Approximately 420 students accessed these learning opportunities. Due to Public Health restrictions these programs had not run since 2019.

Chair Gingrich thanked all the Superintendents and Associate Superintendents for their report and called on Trustees for questions.

5. Reports for Action

5.1 LSDB Procedural Bylaw Revisions re: Indigenous Trustee

Director Burra explained that with the addition of an Indigenous Trustee from the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte a review of policies as well as procedural bylaws was required as it relates to the implications of adding a 10th Trustee to the Board. Specifically, Articles I-III outlined in Appendix A of the LSDB procedural Bylaws are impacted. Director Burra guided Trustees through the edits for review.

MOTION MOVED By Trustee French that the Trustees approve the recommended edits to the LSDB Procedural Bylaws (Article I and Article III) as outlined in Appendix A. Carried by unanimous vote.

5.2 Tri-Board Student Transportation Services Banking Agreement

Superintendent Young stated the purpose of the report is to recommend a short-term borrowing resolution for Tri-Board Student Transportation Services to meet cash flow requirements. On occasion, the Tri-Board may be required to borrow funds for current operating purposes to cover interim financing if a cash flow situation should arise.

MOTION MOVED By Trustee Ruttan that the Board authorize the signing officers of the Board to enter into agreements with the Royal Bank of Canada for the following:

- 1. The borrowing of funds to meet operating requirements to a maximum of \$2.28 million for Tri-Board Student Transportation Services. Carried by unanimous vote.*

6. Unfinished Business

None at this time.

7. New Business

7.1 Conversation surrounding smudging

Trustee Godkin opened the floor to conversation around smudging protocols. He proposed that LSDB engages with Indigenous communities surrounding smudging practices to ensure alignment of protocols. Director Burra indicated that there is a smudging protocol in place for smudging practices in schools that has been in place for several years that was created by the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC). Superintendent Gillam explained that the smudging protocol will be reviewed again by IEAC for any potential changes or updates. A report on Indigenous Education will be presented to the Board later this school year, and it will include the updated smudging protocol.

8. Correspondence

8.1 Trustee McGregor shared that at the recent OPSBA meeting she learned that the Canadian Cancer Society is putting on a school wide contest called the On Your Feet Challenge. The contest runs from October 8th – 28th 2022. Additional information and resources are available on their website.

8.2 Trustee Ruttan acknowledged that this is the last EPOC meeting of the term and extended appreciation on behalf of all trustees to Chair Gingrich for his work chairing and leading the Board in the work conducted.

9. Next Meeting Date

December 7, 2022

February 8, 2023

March 8, 2023

May 3, 2023

June 7, 2023

10. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee McGregor that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.