THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

November 23, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
Board Room, Education Centre

TRUSTEES

C. Antone
P. Cuddy
G. Hart
S. Hunt
A. Morell
L. Pizzolato (Chair)
S. Polhill
C. Rahman
M. Ruddock
H. Satheeskumar
J. Skinner
B. Smith
H. Subhani
N. White-Eye
B. Yeoman

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher
J. Pratt
R. Culhane
K. Auckland
S. Builder
A. Canham
C. Giannacopoulos
L. Griffith-Jones
T. Langelaan
C. Lynd
B. Puzahov
S. Thompson
A. Wall
M. Moynihan
L. Nicholls
S. Powell
P. Skinner
P. Sydor
G. Vogt
D. Wright
L. Lukinuk
D. Richter
S. Smith
C. Weedmark
C. Cvitkovic
C. Henriquez

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Pizzolato called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

2. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with a virtual signing performance of O Canada from Masonville Public School.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN IN ACTION

Superintendent Wright introduced Principal, S. Thompson and Vice-Principal C. Cvitkovic from Winchester Street Public School who presented information regarding their strategies for improving safety, regulation, and belonging. Connections to the strategic plan were highlighted.

Trustees asked questions of clarification to the presenters.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Ruddock requested a revision to the agenda, the rationale was provided.

Trustee Ruddock addressed questions regarding the urgency on the matter. Concerns were raised that time was not provided to Trustees prior to the meeting to review the report.

Moved by M. Ruddock
Seconded by S. Hunt

That the agenda be revised to include the addition of item 14.i 2021 November 23 Policy Working Committee Interim Report.

CARRIED

A recorded vote was completed.

Yeas: Trustees Antone, Cuddy, Hart, Hunt, Morell, Ruddock, Skinner, Yeoman
Nays: Trustees Pizzolato, Polhill, Rahman
Absent: Trustee Smith
Student Trustees Yeas: White-Eye, Abstain: Satheeskumar, Subhani

5. OFFICIAL RECORD

Acting Supervisor, Board Services, S. Smith, read the following official record into the minutes:

We regret to record the death of Julie Lynde on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. Julie was a retired Elementary teacher who was most recently employed at East Williams Memorial Public School and McGillivray Central Public School.

One minute of silence was observed.

6. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

7. DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Fisher provided an update on recent initiatives across TVDSB including partnering with Huron University for Scotiabank Scholars Program. The program focuses on providing mentorship, financial support, and equitable access opportunities for all students.

Director Fisher highlighted the virtual Holocaust Survivor Presentation by Pinchas Gutter where P. Gutter highlighted his experiences and promoted equity and social justice.

Director Fisher provided an update on his recent school visits, noting the continued efforts made to bring the TVDSB strategic priorities of achievement, well-being, equity and diversity, and relationships to life.

Director Fisher extended a congratulations to TVDSB alumni, Shaedon Sharpe for his career achievement of playing basketball for the Kentucky Wildcats.

8. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Chair Pizzolato acknowledged the passing of former Trustee Rob Campbell and provided a professional background on former Trustee Campbell's tenure with TVDSB.

Trustee Morell expressed condolences on behalf of the Board of Trustees and highlighted former Trustee Campbell's achievements, noting he was a leader in the community.

Board Chair Pizzolato reported on the successes of Local Government Week noting a grade 5 class submitted a persuasive writing piece to the Board as part of their assignment. Board Chair Pizzolato shared the letter submitted by grade 5 students.

9. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

10. MINUTES OF THE 2021 OCTOBER 26 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND 2021 NOVEMBER 1 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

a. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the 2021 October 26 Regular Board and 2021 November 1 Special Board meeting were approved on motion of Trustee Cuddy, seconded by Trustee Yeoman.

b. Business Arising from Minutes

In response to questioning, Trustee Rahman provided the rationale for moving the following motion:

Moved by C. Rahman
Seconded by S. Polhill

THAT the Chair write a letter supporting the educational reform recommendations in the Our London Family Act brought forward by the National Council of Canadian Muslims.

DEFERRED

Amendment: **Moved by** S. Hunt
Seconded by B. Yeoman

THAT the motion be deferred to the 2021 December 14 meeting of the Board.

CARRIED

11. STUDENT TRUSTEE UPDATE

Student Trustee Subhani reported on the work of the Student Advisory Council (SAC) and the creation of sub-committees where different initiatives and leadership opportunities will be granted. It was reported the individual Elementary Student Advisory Council (ESAC) will not proceed due to lack of time in students' schedules and confirmed that ESAC will be implemented in the monthly SAC meetings. It was also noted the grade 11 and grade 12 students were working on a student mentorship program for mentees facing adversity.

Student Trustee Satheeskumar reported further on their attendance at the Fall General meeting of the Ontario Student Trustees which was focused on professional development and connecting with fellow student Trustees. Student Trustee Satheeskumar spoke to the SAC focus on the infrastructure of mental health support available to adverse family trauma and made reference to the notice of motion in the agenda package.

Student Trustee White-Eye provided an update on the student senator's responses from the SAC meeting where 3 survey questions and responses surrounding missing and murdered Indigenous women were discussed. Responses received from student surveys for creating more awareness were shared in relation to National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls on May 5.

12. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

a. Potential Re-Naming of Tweedsmuir Public School

Superintendent Griffith-Jones presented for approval the Selection Committee's recommended name for the potential renaming for Tweedsmuir Public School. Details of the poll sent to the community, ranking order preferences, listing of names, and number of responses was provided.

Moved by S. Polhill
Seconded by M. Ruddock

THAT the Board approve the Selection Committee’s recommendation that the current name Tweedsmuir Public School remain Tweedsmuir Public School based on the first-choice naming preference of respondents.

CARRIED

b. Naming of the new Southeast London School

Superintendent Griffith-Jones presented for approval the Selection Committee's recommended name for the new Southeast London school. Details of the poll sent to the community, ranking order preferences, listing of names, and number of responses were provided.

Moved by S. Polhill
Seconded by B. Yeoman

THAT the Board approve the Selection Committee’s recommendation that the new Southeast school be named Summerside Public School based on the first-choice naming preference of respondents.

CARRIED

c. Low German Mennonite Focus School Proposal

Through a PowerPoint presentation, Superintendent Langelaan, and Principal A. Wall presented an overview of the Low-German Mennonite Focus School pilot proposal.

Questions of clarification were addressed by Administration regarding methods of data collection relevant to the needs of the community, focus schools, measurements of success, program mandates, program costs, supporting students at all locations, the communication plan, and Administration staffing.

Moved by M. Ruddock
Seconded by B. Smith

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the Low-German Mennonite pilot proposal for a two-year period effective September 2022.

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the Low-German Mennonite pilot proposal as a program eligible for transportation.

CARRIED

A poll vote was recorded.

Yeas: Trustees Antone, Cuddy, Hart, Pizzolato, Polhill, Ruddock, Skinner, Smith, Yeoman
Abstain: Trustees Hunt, Morell, Rahman
Student Trustees: Yeas: Satheeskumar, Subhani, White-Eye

d. Northwest London Accommodation Options

Superintendent Vogt presented for approval two interim options for Northwest London Accommodation for students within the Sir Arthur Currie Public School community, as well as the Sunningdale North and Fox Hollow West holding zones.

OPTION 1

THAT all new K-8 families from the Sir Arthur Currie Public School attendance area attend University Heights Public School or Knollwood Park Public School commencing in the 2022-2023 school year until a new elementary school opens in northwest London.

THAT Sir Arthur Currie Public School be restructured to a K-6 school and that current and future grade 7 and 8 students from the school attend a newly renovated Sir Arthur Currie Public School satellite campus that is separate from and located on the site of Sir Frederick Banting Secondary School commencing in the 2022-2023 school year until a new elementary school opens in northwest London; and

THAT all new K-8 families from the Fox Hollow West and Sunningdale North holding zones attend Wilfrid Jury Public School commencing in the 2022-2023 school year until a new elementary school opens in northwest London

OR

OPTION 2

THAT all new K-8 families from the Sir Arthur Currie Public School attendance area attend University Heights Public School or Knollwood Park Public School commencing January 1, 2022, until a new elementary school opens in northwest London.

THAT Sir Arthur Currie Public School remain a K-8 school with current Full Remote Learning students being permitted to return to in-person learning when grade 8 students graduate, and space becomes available; and

THAT all new K-8 families from the Fox Hollow West and Sunningdale North holding zones attend Wilfrid Jury Public School commencing in the 2022-2023 school year until a new elementary school opens in northwest London.

Questions of clarification were addressed by Administration regarding the use of the satellite campus, the number of students in full remote learning model, and the population difference between the options provided.

The Board chose Option 2 with the following amendments:

Moved by C. Rahman
Seconded by P. Cuddy

THAT all new K-8 families from the Sir Arthur Currie Public School attendance area attend Knollwood Park Public School commencing January 1, 2022, until a new elementary school opens in Northwest London.

THAT Sir Arthur Currie Public School remain a K-8 school, siblings of existing students attend Sir Arthur Currie Public School, current full remote learners wishing to return be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine if the school can accommodate the student. If space is currently unavailable, they will be allowed to return for the 2022-23 school year.

THAT enrollment at Sir Arthur Currie Public School be reviewed annually, with consideration given to allow for future enrollment of students residing in the catchment area should space become available.

THAT all new K-8 families in the Fox Hollow West holding zone attend Wilfrid Jury Public School and the families in Sunningdale North attend University Heights Public School commencing in the 2022-23 school year until a new elementary school opens in Northwest London.

THAT all Fox Hollow West and Sunningdale North families currently attending the school formerly know as Ryerson Public School and their siblings be allowed to remain at Ryerson Public School until such time as the new Northwest London elementary school opens.

CARRIED

Trustee Rahman provided the rationale for the recommendation.

Amendment: **Moved by** C. Rahman
Seconded by P. Cuddy

THAT "University Height P.S." be removed, and the addition of "siblings of existing students attend Sir Arthur Currie P.S." and the addition of " be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine if the school can accommodate the student. If space is currently unavailable, they will be allowed to return for the 2022-23 school year."

THAT "enrollment at Sir Arthur Currie PS be reviewed annually, with consideration given to allow for future enrollment of students residing in the catchment area should space become available" and the addition of "the Fox Hollow West holding zone attend Wilfrid Jury P.S." be added.

THAT "all Fox Hollow West and Sunningdale North families currently attending the school formerly know as Ryerson PS and their siblings be allowed to remain at Ryerson PS until such time as the new Northwest London elementary school opens" be added.

CARRIED

A motion to recess at 9:01 p.m. and reconvene at 9:10 p.m. was moved and CARRIED.

e. Initial Attendance Area Review for the City of London Elementary Panel

Associate Director Pratt provided the rationale for the deferral of the Initial Attendance Area Review for the City of London Elementary Panel to the 2022 January 25 meeting of the Board.

Board Chair Pizzolato stepped down momentarily from the Board Chair role, replaced by Trustee M. Ruddock and moved the following motion:

Moved by L. Pizzolato
Seconded by S. Polhill

To defer the London Area Attendance Report to the 2022 January 25, Board meeting in order to reflect any new potential capital investments that TVDSB may receive. Additionally, to request that Administration include the following three French Immersion schools, including but not limited to enrolment data, school boundaries, and other pertinent information in the scope of the London review:

- Louise Arbour
- Lord Roberts
- Jeanne Sauvé

CARRIED

Trustee Pizzolato stepped back into the Board Chair position.

13. DIRECTOR'S NEWS FROM THE SYSTEM

Director Fisher showcased the Strategic Plan in action with a slideshow demonstrating each of the Strategic Priorities in action at a TVDSB school.

14. REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

a. Rural Education Task Force Report, 2021 October 4

Trustee Morell referred to an interim progress report of the Rural Education Task Force Committee provided to Trustees in their agenda package. The Committee met on 2021 October 4; highlights of the Rural Task Force mandate and progress work were shared. Recommendations of the Committee were outlined.

Trustee Yeoman advised on her resignation from this committee in 2021 August stating she believed the mandate had been reached.

Questions of clarification were addressed by committee members regarding community consultations, costs to the Board including time and staff resources.

Moved by A. Morell
Seconded by P. Cuddy

THAT the Rural Education Task Force be supported with an extension until March 2022.

CARRIED

Amendment: **Moved by** C. Antone
Seconded by B. Yeoman

THAT the Rural Education Task Force be supported until 2022 January 25 at which time a final report will be brought back to the Board.

DEFEATED

A recorded vote was completed.

Yeas: Trustees Antone, Rahman, Yeoman
Nays: Trustees Cuddy, Hunt, Morell, Pizzolato, Polhill, Smith, Ruddock, Skinner
Abstain: Trustee Hart
Student Trustees: Yeas: White-Eye, Abstain: Satheeskumar, Subhani

b. Special Education Advisory Committee, 2021 November 2

Trustee Yeoman referred to the written report of the Special Education Advisory Committee provided to Trustees in their agenda package. The Committee met on 2021 November 2; highlights of the meeting were shared. There were no recommendations.

c. Program and School Services Advisory Committee, 2021 November 2

Trustee Rahman highlighted items from the written report of the Program and School Services Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package. The Committee met on 2021 November 2; highlights of the meeting were shared. There were no recommendations.

d. Audit Committee Report, 2021 November 9

Trustee Morell highlighted items from the written report of the Audit Committee provided to the Trustees in advance of the meeting. The Committee met on 2021 November 9; Superintendent Lynd presented the 2020-2021 audited financial statements. Recommendations of the Committee were outlined.

Moved by A. Morell
Seconded by M. Ruddock

> THAT the 2020-2021 internal appropriations of accumulated surplus in the amount of $4,864,449 for the TVDSB and $166,554 for the Thames Valley Education Foundation (as outlined in Chart 1) be approved.

CARRIED

Moved by A. Morell
Seconded by M. Ruddock

> THAT the 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements be approved.

CARRIED

e. Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee, 2021 November 9

Trustee Cuddy highlighted items from the written report of the Program and School Services Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package. The Committee met on 2021 November 9; highlights of the meeting were shared. There were no recommendations.

f. Chair's Committee Report, 2021 November 16

Board Chair Pizzolato stepped down momentarily from the Board Chair role, replaced by Trustee Ruddock.

Trustee Pizzolato highlighted items from the written report of the Chair's Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package. The Committee met on 2021 November 16; highlights of the meeting were shared. Recommendations of the Committee were outlined.

Moved by L. Pizzolato
Seconded by S. Polhill

> THAT Trustees A. Morell and M. Ruddock be appointed to the Trustee Recognition Ad Hoc Committee.

CARRIED

> Superintendent L. Nicholls provided clarification on the importance of developing a standardized interview grid.

Moved by L. Pizzolato
Seconded by S. Polhill

That a Filling Trustee Vacancy Ad Hoc Committee be created and fully authorized to develop a final standardized interview grid that will be used with all candidates without further Board approval.

CARRIED

Amendment: **Moved by** L. Pizzolato
Seconded by S. Polhill

That "fully authorized", "if required" and "without further Board approval" be added.

CARRIED

A poll vote was recorded.

Yeas: Trustees Antone, Cuddy, Hart, Pizzolato, Polhill, Rahman, Smith, Yeoman
Nays: Trustees Hunt, Morell, Ruddock, Skinner
Student Trustees: Yeas: Satheeskumar, White-Eye, Abstain: Subhani

Amendment: **Moved by** B. Yeoman
Seconded by S. Polhill

THAT "Filling Trustee Vacancy" be added to provide clarification.

CARRIED

Legal Council Chahbar provided clarification relevant to candidate requirements as per the Education Act.

Amendment: **Moved by** S. Polhill
Seconded by S. Hunt

THAT "develop criteria for a shortlisting candidate if required" be removed.

CARRIED

Moved by L. Pizzolato
Seconded by B. Yeoman

THAT Trustees G. Hart, S. Polhill, L. Pizzolato, B. Smith, be appointed to the Filling Trustee Vacancy Ad Hoc Committee and the committee reports no later than January 25, 2022.

CARRIED

Amendment: **Moved by** L. Pizzolato
Seconded by S. Polhill

THAT "to include all Trustees be included"

DEFEATED

A recorded vote was conducted.

Yeas: Trustees Polhill, Skinner

Nays: Trustees Antone, Cuddy, Hart, Hunt, Morell, Pizzolato, Rahman, Ruddock
Abstain: Trustees Smith, Yeoman
Student Trustees: Nays: Satheeskumar, White-Eye, Abstain: Subhani

Amendment: **Moved by** L. Pizzolato
Seconded by S. Polhill

THAT Trustee Hunt be removed, and Trustee Smith be added.

CARRIED

Moved by L. Pizzolato
Seconded by S. Polhill

THAT the Board of Trustees sit until 11:15 p.m.

A recorded vote was conducted.

Yeas: Trustees Antone, Hart, Pizzolato, Polhill, Rahman, Skinner, Smith, Ruddock, Yeoman
Nays: Trustees Cuddy, Hunt, Morell
Student Trustees: Yeas: Satheeskumar, Subhani, White-Eye

Amendment: **Moved by** L. Pizzolato
Seconded by B. Yeoman

THAT "to include a report no later than 2021 December 14" be added.

CARRIED

Amendment: **Moved by** L. Pizzolato
Seconded by B. Yeoman

To strike the 2021 December 14 date and replace it with 2022 January 25.

CARRIED

g. Board Governance and Bylaw Review Committee, 2021 November 16

Trustee Polhill highlighted items from the written report of the Board Governance and Bylaw Review Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package. The committee met on 2021 November 12; highlights of the meeting were shared. Recommendations of the Committee were outlined.

Moved by A. Morell
Seconded by S. Polhill

THAT the amendments to Section 15.2.2 and 15.2.8 of the TVDSB Bylaws be approved.

DEFERRED

Moved by C. Rahman
Seconded by S. Polhill

To defer to the 2021 December 14 board meeting to allow time for debate.

CARRIED

h. Committee of the Whole, In-Camera, 2021 November 23

No Committee of the Whole report was received from the 2021 November 23 In-Camera meeting as the public session was adjourned pre-emptively resulting in an incomplete meeting due to lack of quorum.

This report will be presented at the 2021 December 14 Board meeting.

i. Policy Working Committee Report, 2021 November 23

This item has been moved to the 2021 December 14 Regular Board meeting agenda.

15. TRUSTEE UPDATES FROM EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

a. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

Trustee Rahman provided an update on the Western Region Project Compass work and shared upcoming meeting dates.

b. Thames Valley Education Foundation (TVEF)

Trustee Skinner reported on requests received and funds granted so far and shared details about 1 day campaign Giving Tuesday 2021 November 30.

16. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION

TO request that the chair send a letter to the Ministry of Education asking for the amendment of the Education Act to give Student Trustees the right to move and second motions.

WHEREAS per section 55(5) of the Ontario Education Act student trustees have the right to partake in certain in-camera sessions closed to the public, demonstrating the high standing and trustworthiness of student trustees, and;

WHEREAS the student voice is most effectively communicated by granting student trustees equal opportunities to participate in Board functions as other Board trustees, and;

WHEREAS per section 55(7) of the Ontario Education Act student trustees receive equal opportunities to Board trustees, including access to professional development, resources and training, and;

WHEREAS student trustees are elected representatives, and are to be held accountable to the student body, and;

WHEREAS the student voice must be articulated fairly and expressively for the benefit of the school board, and;

WHEREAS the student voice must be represented fairly and articulated expressively for the benefit of the school board and to accurately reflect the students' in decision-making, and;

WHEREAS student trustees further desire the right to move and second motions, to incite discussion:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Chair of the Board send a letter to the Ministry of Education on behalf of the Thames Valley District School Board with copies to local MPPs and other school boards, requesting the Ministry of Education to push for the recommendation in allowing student trustees the right to independently move and second motions during board meetings. Doing so furthers the dynamic and effectiveness of student representation across Ontario, as students can begin the discussions surrounding items they feel are most pertinent to their constituency without the need to request for support.

18. MOTION – NOTICE OF WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN

None.

19. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

In response to a question, Director Fisher provided clarification on establishing which correspondence is deemed appropriate for public forum.

20. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Board Trustee Polhill, seconded by Trustee Ruddock the meeting adjourned at 11:13 p.m.

Lori-Ann Pizzolato
Chairperson