



HASTINGS AND PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PROGRAM AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2014

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- Members present:** J. Cobb; T. Goodfellow; M. Hall; D. Inch; L. Kyle, Vice-chair;
D. Patterson; J. Williams, Chair
- Student Trustees:** M. Peckham
- Regrets:** B. Danes
- Guests:** M. Brant
- Resource:** K. Donnell, M. Fisher, T. FitzGibbon, L. Miller, N. Pfeiffer, C. Portt, J. Rogers,
M. Savery-Whiteway
- Minutes:** C. Reid, Administrative Assistant

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Delegations/presentations - None

Approval of agenda

Moved: J. Cobb
Seconded: T. Goodfellow

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

Information – Timed Item

The Hastings and Prince Edward Learning Foundation Update

Director Savery-Whiteway welcomed Maribeth deSnoo, Executive Director of The Hastings and Prince Edward Learning Foundation. She commented that the work of the Learning Foundation provides support for a wide range of enhanced learning opportunities for students. Executive Director deSnoo reviewed Report No. C-2, highlighting the key initiatives of the Learning Foundation.

The Learning Foundation is the lead agency for south east Ontario for Student Nutrition Programs. A Food and Logistics Coordinator has been hired through funding from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS). The Food and Logistics Coordinator will work closely with the lead agency and three community partnership committees to facilitate the efficient sourcing, purchasing, storage, and distribution of food for the south east region's student nutrition programs. This will be accomplished through the improvement or development of regional and local partnerships with local businesses, food services industry, municipalities and non-government organizations. The MCYS also provided the Learning Foundation with one-time funding of \$60,000 to purchase equipment, and new annualized funding of \$70,000 to purchase food for a confidential list of south east Ontario schools in which breakfast and/or morning meal programs have now been organized. One-time grant applications for special projects were requested by the MCYS and the Learning Foundation received \$9,900 through that process. The majority of those funds have been used to renovate the kitchen facilities at Queen Elizabeth School in Picton.

Executive Director deSnoo also reported that Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Best Start Children's Planning Table funding has been provided through the Hastings and Prince Edward Children and Youth Services Network (CYSN), a jointly funded program of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. The Learning Foundation was approved by the network membership as the lead agency through which to flow the Best Start monies. The CYSN is comprised of representatives from over 50 community organizations that serve children, youth and their families across Hastings and Prince Edward counties. Funding for the Children and Youth Services Coordinator is provided as part of the Best Start monies.

The Prom Project campaign has continued to receive incredible community support. Again this year the Learning Foundation canvassed communities for gently used formal wear, to make available to students for their graduation and proms. All eight of the Board's secondary schools are offering Prom Project shopping events and this will help to ensure that all students in our district have access to items. New this year to the campaign is the provision of dress shirts by Tom Lafferty of 'Crossings' menswear from the Quinte Mall, in addition to the ties he already provides. Clutches are provided from Bentley's and free make-up from Shoppers Drug Mart at the Quinte Mall. The Belleville Kiwanis Club and the Rotary Club of Belleville have supported the campaign with monetary donations that will allow the purchase of prom tickets for students who otherwise couldn't afford it.

The Student Emergency Fund received 259 Student Emergency Fund requests as of April 7, 2014 and this surpasses the total number of requests received last year. The majority of requests are for food at home, followed closely by clothing and/or essential hygiene items. The Learning Foundation was very fortunate to have had a major confidential donation of \$10,000 to the Student Emergency Fund in late December. The donor requested that the donation be restricted to assisting students in need of food in Hastings County.

Last school year through the Food for Learning Programs in the Board, there were 154 programs that served 796,487 meals and snacks to 12,340 students with the assistance of 1044 volunteers that gave 22,239 hours of their time. This school year, there has been an 18% growth in the number of meals and snacks served. The annual Food for Learning Auction is being hosted on May 15, 2014. Tickets are available for \$20.

Executive Director deSnoo closed by announcing that approximately \$1.5 million is now being handled through the Learning Foundation on an annual basis. The Learning Foundation was pleased to present a cheque for \$425,000 at its Annual Meeting to the Director of Education. This amount symbolized the financial support provided to HPEDSB students last school year, and did not include the gift in kind support, such as Prom Project items, Food for Learning donations, and personal hygiene items that were received.

Comments were made regarding the need to balance support throughout the board to address the issue of food poverty. It was noted that sometimes donors earmark funds for a specific region. The Learning Foundation is working with all communities to address needs for support. Clarification was sought regarding the collection of data to support the connection between student nutrition and student achievement. It was noted that statistics are available regarding the impact of student nutrition on student learning and student behavior and can be provided to trustees through the Director of Education. The Director of Education commented that research provides the data that healthy nutrition empowers students to be in the best position to learn. The success of the Food for Learning programs is based on the premise that it is an inclusive approach. It is important that the program be accessible to everyone so that there is no stigma attached to it, which bridges the gap for students.

It was noted that the Student Emergency Fund is accessed more by the secondary panel than the elementary panel and more in Belleville than in north and south Hastings. Secondary requests have always outpaced elementary, specifically for food at home, clothing and essential hygiene items. Concern was raised regarding the need to communicate the supports available throughout all schools in the district.

Approval of minutes

Moved: D. Patterson
Seconded: T. Goodfellow

That the minutes of the March 17, 2014 regular meeting be approved.

Carried

Business arising from the minutes

None

Recommendations

Charter of Commitment on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education

Director Savery-Whiteway referred to Report No. B-1 and stated that on November 30, 2013, the OPSBA Board of Directors unanimously adopted the Charter of Commitment on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education developed by the First Nation Trustees Council. The Charter of Commitment is consistent with Ontario's First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework and puts forward a strengths-based set of values to promote success in First Nation, Métis and Inuit education in the K-12 sector. A bi-annual survey is planned to collect information on work school boards have undertaken to advance the goals for First Nation, Métis and Inuit education described in the Charter. The Canadian School Boards' Association (CSBA) Board of Directors also adopted the Draft Charter of Commitment and to date it has been adopted by the provincial associations and many of their member boards in British Columbia, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The intent of the Charter is to articulate the support by school boards for:

- First Nation, Métis and Inuit knowledge systems and learning models;
- The central value of culture, language and knowledge of history in contributing to the well-being of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students, families and communities;
- A holistic approach that addresses spiritual, emotional, physical and intellectual development in relation to oneself, family, community and environment; and
- Ensure that there is a mechanism for school boards to periodically report on their progress towards achieving the goals of the Charter.

The Charter of Commitment and the recommendation from OPSBA were reviewed at the Executive Committee meeting held on April 7, 2014. A recommendation is now coming forward for the Board to endorse the charter. Director Savery-Whiteway stated that she believes that the Board has already made a commitment to those principals although not yet in a formal way.

Trustee Brant stated that it is exciting time in Aboriginal education. He has been a part of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte for over 40 years and has supported Aboriginal education throughout those years. Over the last 10 years there has been more of a focus on Aboriginal education throughout the Board, the province and the Ministry of Education. The Aboriginal Education Framework has provided opportunities for boards to become more focused in the delivery of service to Aboriginal students. The intent of the Charter is not new to the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory or the Board but this will formalize the intent throughout the province and Canada. Hastings and Prince Edward counties value the partnership represented by the Charter and continue to have support and a good working relationship with the Chief and Band Council.

Moved: J. Cobb
Seconded: M. Hall

That the Program and Human Resources Committee recommends that Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board endorse the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Charter of Commitment on First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education, as contained in Program and Human Resources Committee Report No. B-1, dated April 14, 2014.

Trustees recognize and appreciate this affirmation of the relationship between the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and the Board and importance of Aboriginal education being embedded in education throughout the province as it benefits all students and breaks down barriers. This is an important first step to getting federal government support.

Carried

Information

2013-2014 Board Policy Review Part B

Director Savery-Whitway reviewed Report No. C-1, stating that board policies are reviewed every three years to ensure they are still relevant and have been implemented effectively. Eighteen policies required review or revisions during 2013-14. Nine of the 18 revised policies were approved in January.

The following Board policy amendments will be brought forward to the April 28, 2014 Board meeting for approval:

- Board Policy No. 7 Board Policy Development and Review
- Board Policy No. 11-B Program and Human Resources Committee
- Board Policy No. 11-C Operations and Finance Committee
- Board Policy No. 11-E Budget Committee
- Board Policy No. 11-F Student Enrolment/School Capacity Committee
- Board Policy No. 11-H Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee
- Board Policy No. 11-I Audit Committee
- Board Policy No. 11-L Student Discipline Committee
- Board Policy No. 14 Hearings on Termination of Teacher Employment

The proposed changes to these policies were reviewed by staff, administration and the Executive Committee at meetings held on February 3 and April 7. Further changes suggested through an ongoing consultation with trustees have been incorporated into the revised policies being brought forward for approval. Director Savery-Whitway highlighted key changes that include School Climate and Student Well-Bring being included in policies as well as an update to meeting schedules and chair/vice-chair absences from meetings. Because the government will be updating the ARC process, no changes are being made to the Student Enrolment/School Capacity policy at this time. The Audit Committee policy requires significant changes to align with current legislation and practices. Policy 14 also had some significant revisions in order to update language to reflect current practices and legal requirements.

Trustee proposals and queries

None

The Chair welcomed Nick Pfeiffer and congratulated him on his appointment to the position of Controller of Facility Services.

Correspondence – None

The Program and Human Resources Committee moved into closed session at 6:13 p.m.