



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

Monday, April 20, 2009

Members Present: T. Goodfellow, M. Hall, D. Inch, H. Marissen, C. Pitman,
M. Walker, J. Williams

Regrets: None

Guests: None

Resource: T. FitzGibbon, R. McGall, J. Montgomery, J. Rogers,
D. Rutherford, K. Soule

Minutes: C. Reid, Administrative Assistant

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Delegations/presentations - None

Approval of agenda

Moved: M. Walker

Seconded: C. Pitman

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

Approval of minutes

Moved: T. Goodfellow

Seconded: M. Hall

That the minutes of the regular meeting of March 9, 2009 be approved.

Carried

Business arising from minutes

Director Soule responded to a trustee inquiry relating to comments made in the media regarding the school year calendar.

Information

Progressive Discipline, Alternative Suspension and Expulsion Program

Superintendent FitzGibbon and System Principal, Cathy Portt introduced the Safe Schools Team members: Todd Reid, Dave Reynolds, Shelley Steele and Wendy Sutherland. An overview of progressive discipline was provided by D. Reynolds, including preventative measures and the various supports in place for staff and students.

T. Reid provided information regarding the Student Engagement Rooms located in all secondary schools that are staffed by an Educational Assistant trained by the Safe Schools Team. These rooms provide an alternative to suspension for students who require progressive discipline due to inappropriate behavior, support to complete school work, support to re-gain self control and learning strategies for returning to the classroom. It was noted that throughout the progressive discipline and safe schools programs, a team approach is taken that provides back up in the event of staff absences. An overview of the alternative suspension programs was provided including Belleville PASS, Trenton PASS and onsite programs at CHSS, PECL and NHHS. These programs offer support from Child and Youth Counsellors and Educational Assistants to assist with completing school work while on suspension. Last semester, 107 students took advantage of the programs. Thirty-nine were elementary students and 68 were secondary. It was noted that if students decide not to participate in the program, homework is provided for completion at home. The enhanced support provided by central support staff includes assistance with student action plans, restorative practices, engagement for students, families and school teams and support for students with ODD, In addition, community connections are made, school refuser assessments are done and treatment options identified. Various success stories were shared with committee members. The expulsion program components were reviewed, including a counseling support plan, academic work support plan and parent support development. It was noted that 12-14 students were engaged in the expulsion program in the first semester and received 22 credits, while some students have been successfully transferred back into schools in second semester. It was noted that students from the entire district are supported by this team.

Committee members commented on the benefit of hearing the many successes of these programs, especially for those trustees who have actively participated in the expulsion hearings and suspension appeals.

Recommendations - None

Information

2008-2009 Other Provincial Grants

Superintendent Rutherford noted that the Ministry of Education has been providing substantial funding outside of the regular Grants for Student Needs to target specific initiatives. In 2008-2009 the provincial allocation was \$220 Million and the projection for 2009-2010 is an increase to \$260 Million.

The appendix attached to the report was reviewed which summarizes grants received during the course of this year. It was noted that some programs are funded on a one-time only basis, some are multi-year initiatives and some are renewed on a year by year basis subject to Ministry funding and priorities. All of these grants have reporting and accountability components that are the responsibility of the supervisory officers responsible for each of the initiatives.

Specific details were provided regarding OFIP tutoring, MISA funding, School Effectiveness funding, the Elementary School Library Staffing project, the First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework and Aboriginal Self-Identification. It was noted that the Leader-to-Leader funding, specifically for Earl Prentice Public School is an initiative supported by the Premier of Ontario to engage a small number of elementary

principals in discussions about best practices. Only twenty-two schools in total across the province were selected. Eleven are “Schools on the Move” and eleven are similar in demographics but facing challenges in moving forward.

Funding allocations for 2009-2010 are beginning to be communicated with school boards. To date \$43 Million has been announced with the Board’s share being \$571,000. Further allocations in the amount of \$142 Million are to be announced by the end of April with remaining allocations released over the course of next year.

Correspondence – None

At 7:55 p.m. the Program and Human Resources Committee moved into closed session.