



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PUBLIC REPORT PUBLIC

Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 7:30 pm
Board Room
Administration Building
133 Greenbank Road
Ottawa, Ontario

Trustees Present: Donna Blackburn, Erica Braunovan, Rob Campbell, Chris Ellis, Lyra Evans, Wendy Hough, Jennifer Jennekens, Keith Penny, Sandra Schwartz, Lynn Scott, Isaac Glassman (Student Trustee), and Samantha Lin (Student Trustee).

Staff Present: Jennifer Adams (Director of Education), Camille Williams-Taylor (Director Designate), Brett Reynolds (Associate Director), Dorothy Baker (Superintendent of Curriculum), Mike Carson (Chief Financial Officer), Michele Giroux (Executive Officer, Corporate Services), Olga Grigoriev (Superintendent of Learning Support Services), Shawn Lehman (Superintendent of Instruction), Katrine Mallan (Manager of Board Services), Diane Pernari-Hergert (Manager of Communications & Information Services), Eleanor Heap (Manager of Early Learning), Amanda Rock (Committee Coordinator), Sharlene Hunter (Communications Coordinator), and John MacKinnon (Audio-Visual Technician).

Non-Voting
Representatives: Malaka Hendela (OCASC Alternate), Brian Lesage (ETFO Alternate), Renald Cousineau (OCSSAN).

1. Call to Order - Vice-Chair of the Board

Vice-Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. She acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on unceded Algonquin Territory and thanked the Algonquin Nations for hosting the meeting on their land.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Hough

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

3. Briefing from the Chair

Chair Scott advised that the OPSBA Public Education Symposium, also known as PES, provides professional learning for school board trustees. She noted to anyone planning to attend PES in January that the deadline for hotel reservations is 07 January 2019 and early bird registration ends on 11 January 2019.

Chair Scott advised that there was a delegation from the community group Nyansapo several weeks ago. She noted the delegation raised important questions which could not be fully explored in the structure of a committee delegation. Chair Scott confirmed that there will be a meeting with the Nyansapo delegation, the incoming Director, and herself, to better understand the role of the newly formed community group and to start to build a relationship with them.

4. Briefing from the Director

Director Adams advised that 16 December is the last day to participate in the Building Brighter Futures Together strategic planning initiative. She encouraged all parents, students in grades 7-12, staff and community partners to participate in the initiative as it is important to learning and well-being at the OCDSB for the next four years.

Director Adams advised that children attending school between ages four to seventeen need to be vaccinated against nine diseases including measles, tetanus, whooping cough, and chicken pox, or have a valid exemption. Parents are required to report all immunizations done at a doctor's office to Ottawa Public Health. Students who are not immunized or do not have a valid exemption will be notified on 25 January 2019 that they will be suspended on 20 February 2019 should they not be compliant with this requirement.

In response to a query from Trustee Ellis, Associate Director Reynolds advised that there is a hotline for parents to call that will address their questions with regard to information on the immunization process.

Director Adams also noted that 11 December 2018 is the last meeting of the year for the Committee of the Whole. Schools will be closed for the holidays from 24 December 2018 to 04 January 2019, inclusively.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

6. Reports from Statutory and Other Committees

6.1 Report, Special Education Advisory Committee, 14 November 2018

Moved by Trustee Penny

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee report, dated 14 November 2018, be received.

Carried

6.2 Report, Indigenous Education Advisory Council, 15 November 2018

Moved by Trustee Hough

THAT the Indigenous Education Advisory Council report, dated 15 November 2018, be received.

Carried

6.3 Report, Audit Committee, 19 November 2018

Moved by Trustee Penny

THAT the Audit Committee report, dated 19 November 2018, be received.

Carried

6.4 Report, Parent Involvement Committee, 21 November 2018

Moved by Trustee Hough

THAT the Parent Involvement Committee report, dated 21 November 2018, be received.

Carried

6.5 Report, Advisory Committee on Equity, 29 November 2018

Moved by Trustee Ellis

THAT the Advisory Committee on Equity report, dated 29 November 2018, be received.

Carried

7. Matters for Discussion:

7.1 Report 18-118 Extended Day Program Daily Fee Rate 2019-2020 (O. Grigoriev, ext. 8287)

Your Committee had before it Report 18-118 to discuss the basic daily fee rate and the full-day fee rate for optional days for the Extended Day Program (EDP) operated by the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) for the 2019-2020 school year.

Superintendent Grigoriev advised that school boards are required to charge fees for before and after school care. She noted that there was a need for fees for children with special needs to be incorporated into the EDP budget. The Ottawa-Carleton region, one of the largest providers of before and after school care in Ontario, has a recognized and flexible rate structure. Superintendent Grigoriev added that an EDP program is made available when there is a minimum of three children that require child care

in a school site area. The City of Ottawa provides subsidies for EDP to families who are eligible.

CFO Carson advised that the only major change to the fee structure is that a different daily rate will be made available to maintain payment flexibility for parents. He noted that the program will continue to be monitored to understand the cost implications of providing the best possible services to the District's families.

In response to a queries from trustees, the following information was provided:

- An EDP management system is required for registration as the District continues to have staff manually register children for EDP;
- Early learning assistants (ELAs) are an integral part of the EDP staff;
- Costs for children with special needs are being incorporated into the EDP budget and will be a separate line item going forward; and
- The supports required for children with special needs will be clearly articulated in the budget.

In response to queries during the ensuing discussion, the following information was provided:

- All eligible ELAs are receiving benefits;
- The Ministry has approved the combination of two streams of funding for the Infant, Toddler, Preschool program (ITP) and EDP to mirror third-party operator programs;
- The supports provided to special education students are primarily in the form of ELAs;
- There are no additional costs for EDP to parents who have children with special needs;
- Incremental fee increases to EDP were discussed and staff determined that the operational costs can be met by the current fees;
- A separate report on the ITP will be provided in the New Year;
- Long-term projections for the EDP are challenging and based on enrolment projections;
- The plan to implement EDP management software is projected to be implemented within a year; and
- There are currently no waitlists for any EDP programs.

Trustee Blackburn assumed the Chair.

In response to queries from Vice-Chair Braunovan, the following information was provided:

- The funds for special education child care have always been available;

- The District is trying to provide more skilled staff in the EDP to address the needs of special education students;
- Children's Integration Support Services (CISS) provide supports and suggestions to third-party operators on how to manage special education students' behavioural issues; and
- Many third party operators support special education students during their school day.

Vice-Chair Braunovan resumed the Chair.

The following points were noted during the ensuing discussion:

- The demand for early childcare educators has increased across the District;
- The 2017-2018 EDP fee rate reports will be circulated to provide context on the childcare services market in the region;
- EDP is available to all students at Elgin Street Public School; and
- The City of Ottawa determines subsidy eligibility.

7.2 Report 18-124 Update on the 2019-2023 Strategic Planning Process & Consultations (M. Giroux, ext. 8310)

Executive Officer Giroux and Strategic Analyst Halcian Joseph-Clost provided an update on the OCDSB strategic planning process and an update on consultations for the 2019-2023 strategic plan development.

Executive Officer Giroux encouraged trustees to remind their zone's school principals about the extension to participate. She also noted that there is an increase in student participation in the ThoughtExchange.

The following information was provided with regard to the status of the ThoughtExchange:

- The deadline to participate in the ThoughtExchange has been extended to 15 December 2018;
- The next stage of the strategic planning process is developing strategies and actions through focus groups and forums; and
- The proposed timeline aims to have the approval of the draft strategic plan by June 2019.

In response to trustee queries, the following information was provided:

- Approximately 5000 thoughts have been shared on the ThoughtExchange to date;
- The last strategic planning process had a total of 13,000 thoughts shared on the ThoughtExchange;
- Participants may answer one question an unlimited number of times; and

- The "starring" exercise is useful to provide an indication of what the community is thinking about most and what the priorities could be for the next strategic plan.

8. Information Items:

8.1 Report from OPSBA

Trustee Penny noted that trustees were provided with a written OPSPA report and encouraged them to review it.

Trustee Penny highlighted the following updates from Minister Lisa Thompson's appearance at the OPSBA meeting:

- The new Health and Physical Education curriculum will be ready for the 2019-2020 school year;
- The Ministry of Education's audit of their expenses is complete; and
- Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grants will be available to parents in the near future.

Trustee Scott thanked Trustees Penny and Boothby for their detailed OPSBA report.

8.2 New Ministry Initiatives Update

There were was one Ministry update.

a. 2019-2020 Education Funding Consultation

Director Adams advised that staff received a memorandum providing an invitation to respond to the Ministry's consultation on education funding.

In response to a query from Trustee Penny, CFO Carson confirmed that the Board's decision to not submit feedback was discussed at the agenda planning meeting.

Trustees expressed frustration at the short period of time provided for feedback. CFO Carson will be submitting comments, from a staff perspective, prior to the deadline of 14 December 2018.

8.3 OSTA Update

Trustee Scott advised that the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) had its Annual General Meeting on 10 December 2018. The new Chair and Vice-Chair are Trustee John Curry, from the Ottawa Catholic School Board, and Trustee Donna Blackburn.

Trustee Penny advised that there was a recent transportation arbitration ruling at Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB) that caused their transportation budget to increase by \$20,000,000. He queried whether the District was at risk for a similar type of arbitration ruling. Trustee Scott and

CFO Carson advised that the UCDSB's arbitration ruling will not affect the District. CFO Carson noted that there have been increased transportation costs within the District as OSTA reviews contracts due to a driver shortage. He added that retroactive costs are another factor causing the arbitration rulings in other school boards.

9. New Business - Information and Inquiries

There was no new business.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Erica Braunovan, Chair