



## PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Grimsby-Lincoln Room – Education Centre

### MINUTES

PRESENT: Dave Schaubel (Chair), Helga Campbell, Diane Chase, Linda Crouch, Kevin Maves

ADMINISTRATION: John Dickson, Warren Hoshizaki, Paula MacKinnon, Helen McGregor, Marian Reimer-Friesen, JoAnna Roberto, Michael St. John

GUESTS: Lorraine Giroux, Trustee Cheryl Keddy-Scott, Sue Mabee, Susie Palumbo, Trustee Dale Robinson

REGRETS:

SECRETARY: Nichola Lee

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Schaubel called the meeting of the Program and Planning Committee to order at 6:03 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Linda Crouch, Seconded by Kevin Maves.

CARRIED

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF March 7, 2017

Moved by Kevin Maves, Seconded by Linda Crouch.

CARRIED

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Schaubel asked if there was any business arising from the minutes, and there was none.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Update on School Transitions:

Chair Schaubel invited Superintendent Helen McGregor to share the transition updates for Greater Fort Erie Secondary School (GFESS), and the West Niagara Secondary Schools. The Superintendent reported that the focus of the GFESS transition during the past year was strengthening the relationship between the current school communities. Both Fort Erie Secondary (FESS) and Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School

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(RCBHS) held collaborative activities such as joint parent councils, shared student projects within the Fort Erie community, joint student days, student athletics and student voice events. The Superintendent confirmed that GFESS staff are hired and in place for the new school year. RCBHS staff are making SSTC class visits at FESS to understand this type of class environment. The Superintendent noted that new course offerings were designed with input from the student body, citing a course in healthcare as an example.

The Superintendent reported that the West Niagara Transition was under way. There have been three Transition Committee meetings held at South Lincoln High School (SLHS) that include students, parents and administrators from SLHS, Grimsby Secondary School (GRSS) and E.L. Crossley Secondary School (ELCSS). The minutes from those meetings are posted on the school website.

Activities offered to students to help the transition included organized visits to GRSS and ELCSS to allow students to get a sense of their new schools. Following the visits they chose courses for next year, and once the OPE numbers were developed from their choices, the staffing process took place; all staff were advised of their new locations by mid-May. Preliminary transportation information, including late bussing, was communicated to students and families in May.

At GRSS and ELCSS the students have formed dual student councils to help SLHS students become a part of the new school community. SLHS has more activities for students including more school visits, an alumni student basketball game, Athletics Banquet, Bear Day and a farewell evening.

The Superintendent commended the efforts of staff and schools during this process.

Trustee Chase shared a concern from a family concerning their child's choice of an alternate school and current Ontario Federation of Student Athletics Associations (OFSAA) regulations governing athletics. The Superintendent presented a detailed list of the implications for granting all students leaving SLHS a choice of attending GRSS or ELCSS rather than according to boundaries as established by the Accommodation Review. Superintendent McGregor clarified questions on costs and disruption to the transitions that have already taken place to ready the schools for the new school year. DSBN staff do not recommend changing the school boundaries. She pointed out that the OFSAA rules around exceptions do not fit this student's circumstance.

It was noted that an OFSAA eligibility concern was brought forward by one family. Trustee Maves suggested that the Board could advocate for the student. It was agreed that a letter supporting the request would be sent to OFSAA requesting an exception on this particular case.

Moved by Diane Chase, Seconded by Helga Campbell.

Motion:

That the DSBN Chair and the Director of Education write a letter to OFSAA requesting an exception eligibility to allow a particular DSBN student, impacted by school closure, to attend an alternate school and play athletics.

CARRIED

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Trustee Helga Campbell acknowledged the efforts of so many to make the transition a good experience for students and their community.

Moved by Kevin Maves, Seconded by Linda Crouch.

Motion:

That the Transition updates for Greater Fort Erie Secondary School and the West Niagara Secondary Schools be received.

CARRIED

Mental Health and Well Being Update:

Chair Schaubel invited Superintendent John Dickson to brief the Committee on the DSBN Mental Health Strategy. The Superintendent gave some background on the mental health supports available to DSBN students, and shared data indicating the mental health issues, by type (e.g., anxiety, depression, etc.), that Social Workers are supporting students with. He pointed out that because we have increased our compliment of social workers and therefore built capacity amongst school-based staff, we are better able to intervene earlier to support students with mental health needs.

Susie Palumbo, Student Achievement Leader for Wellbeing, presented the evidenced-based classroom-based programs that have been implemented in both Elementary and Secondary schools. She discussed the multi-disciplinary team approach that provides schools with more resources to support student mental health and well-being.

Superintendent Dickson reported that workshops organized by the Family of Schools brought guest speaker Dr. Stan Kutcher to A.N. Myer and Laura Secord Secondary Schools. He provided parents with information that helped them to understand better the difference between stress and anxiety and offered some strategies to support students with these issues.

Moved by Diane Chase, Seconded by Helga Campbell.

Motion:

That the Mental Health and Well Being update be received.

CARRIED

“Big Sister Kate” Book Launch

Superintendent JoAnna Roberto presented the “Big Sister Kate” book launch, which will provide a resource to support the Healthy Living section of the Health and Physical Education curriculum for grade one. She explained that the book has been created in both French and English versions by a team at DSBN, and is currently being piloted in some schools. Student Achievement Leader Lorraine Giroux reported that the teachers participating in the pilot gave feedback, which was used to refine the lesson

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plans. The book will be launched in the Fall of 2017 to all grade one teachers in the French and English track schools.

Moved by Helga Campbell, Seconded by Diane Chase.

Motion:

That the report of 'Big Sister, Kate!' be received and approved and that the launch of the book and supporting lessons will be distributed to all schools in the Fall of 2017.

CAR

RIED

Educational Research Committee:

Superintendent Paula MacKinnon updated the Committee on four research proposals.

Proposal #1: Supporting Drama in Education: Developing a Professional Resource

Principal Investigator(s): Susan Reichheld, Master's Student, Brock University; Dr. Kari-Lynn Winters, Faculty of Education, Brock University.

The research will be conducted to develop a drama resource handbook that can be used by DSBN staff as a classroom teaching support. They will work with elementary teachers, through interviews and a questionnaire, to put together the resources. There will be no student involvement.

Proposal #2: Collaboration to Support ESL Instruction

Principal Investigator(s): Ana Vintan, Master of Education Student/Researcher, Brock University; Tiffany L. Gallagher, Ph.D., Faculty of Education, Department of Teacher Education, Brock University.

This is a collaboration project between Brock University and the DSBN. The researchers will work with ESL and classroom teachers to document the resources being used to integrate oral and written language to help ELLs acquire language skills. They will use classroom observation and accompany ESL teachers to their meetings to minimize disruption in the classroom.

Proposal #3: First Generation Students and Programming that Addresses Barriers to Postsecondary Achievement DSBN Academy

Principal Investigator(s): Dawn Zinga, Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Child and Youth Studies.

The goal of this project is to study the experiences of DSBN Academy students at the school and show how it impacts their future goals and readiness post-graduation.

Proposal #4: The Potential Role of Technology (Dreambox) in Supporting Mathematics Teaching and Learning

Principal Investigator(s): Dr. Christine Suurtamm, Full Professor, Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa; Dr. David Trumpower Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa

The researchers will work mostly with teachers and will take data from Dreambox usage to find out what impact the program has on learners, and how it should be used to be effective.

Moved by Helga Campbell, Seconded by Linda Crouch.

Motion:

That the reports of the Educational Research Committee of April 20, 2017 and May 25, 2017 be received.

CARRIED

Proposed Accommodation Review Report

Superintendent Michael St. John presented a proposal for an Accommodation Review for four Niagara Falls area schools: John Marshall PS, Martha Cullimore PS, Prince Philip PS and Victoria PS. A consolidation of schools would address enrolment and programming challenges, as well as facilities utilization.

It was explained that the DSBN would work with the Capital Request timelines.

Moved by Diane chase; Seconded by Kevin Maves.

Motion:

That the Board direct Senior Administration to begin to prepare an Initial Staff Report and School Information Profile Reports for the group of schools that includes John Marshall PS, Martha Cullimore PS, Prince Philip PS, and Victoria PS, for presentation at a future Program and Planning Committee meeting.

CARRIED

Chair Schaubel asked if there was any other business and there was none.

NEXT MEETING

The next Program and Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Grimsby-Lincoln Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Diane Chase, Seconded by Linda Crouch

That the meeting of the Program and Planning Committee adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.