

## PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE



**Tuesday, March 3, 2020**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Grimsby Lincoln Room – Education Centre**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Present:**

Trustee Committee Members: Dave Schaubel (Chair), Shannon Mitchell , Kevin Maves, Alex Bradnam for Jonathan Fast, Nancy Beamer

Trustee Guests: Elizabeth Klassen, Student Trustees: Ness Griffin, Keylee Smith and Karina Tavernese

Administration: John Dickson, Supt. of Education, Elementary  
JoAnna Roberto, Supt. of Curriculum and Student Achievement  
Wes Hahn, Supt. of Special Education  
Helen McGregor, Supt. of Curriculum & Student Achievement (9-12)

Recording Secretary: Debra Dinga, Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Trustee Jonathan Fast

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair, Trustee Schaubel called the meeting of the Program and Planning Committee to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Trustee Maves, seconded by Trustee Mitchell

***“That the agenda be approved as presented.”***

**CARRIED**

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **School Year Calendar Report:**

Superintendent Dickson, explained that each year the School Year Calendar is brought forward for approval as per Reg. 304 which requires a minimum of 194 school days. This year, Labour Day is observed on Monday, September 7 which translates into a later start to the school year for students. In order to meet the required number of school days it will be necessary for two PD days to be placed in the week prior to the start of school; September 2 and 3 will be designated as PD days. Therefore, the 2020-2021 school year for students will run from September 8, 2020 until June 30, 2021. The calendar was vetted through the calendar committee and

completely aligns with the coterminous school board's calendar including secondary exam dates. Both the Elementary and Secondary calendars meet all the requirements and regulations of The Ministry of Education.

Moved by Trustee Bradnam, Seconded by Trustee Beamer:

***"That the report of the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars 2020- 2021 be received and approved for submission to the Ministry of Education by May 1, 2020."***

**CARRIED**

#### **DSBN Well-Being Report**

Superintendent Hahn was pleased to present an encouraging Well-Being Report explaining that the report is connected to the school climate report. He highlighted the creation of DSBN's first Well-Being Flag which had been conceptually originated by DSBN Trustees and became a contest for students. The winning flag was designed by a Grimsby Secondary School student to be a representation of our inclusive environment depicting student voice, diversity and equity and was celebrated with a flag raising at Grimsby Secondary School.

Additionally, a Well Being Toolkit has been prepared and has been sent out to DSBN schools to foster positive awareness and promotion of the Well-Being Flag and the iPledge challenge that was co-created with the Niagara Regional Police, Bell Media and DSBN.

DSBN is experiencing positive impact throughout the Niagara Community as we focus on the components of inclusivity, acceptance and kindness.

Moved by Trustee Beamer, seconded by Trustee Mitchell:

***"That the March 2020 DSBN Well-Being Report be received."***

**CARRIED**

#### **Educational Research Committee Report**

Superintendent Roberto presented an overview of the Educational Research Committee's Proposal Report and Summaries from November 14, 2019 and February 13, 2020. Four proposals were highlighted:

On Nov. 14, 2019 the Educational Research Committee reviewed:

- International Students in Ontario K-12: Pedagogical Challenges and Opportunities – the study will review literature on the internationalization of teacher education connected with Well-being and self reflection. Professional Development of educators in classrooms along with strategies and content will be studied involving 12-20 teachers.

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Educational Research Committee reviewed:

- Visualizing Citizenship: Children Reading and Writing Photographs – through photographs and participatory research with primary and junior students in the classroom the researcher will examine how reading and making images is integral to visual and digital citizenship through the use of a photographer and utilizing apps such as PIC collage and Skype.
- Supporting Transition Resilience of Newcomer Groups (STRONG): A School-Based Intervention to Promote Well-Being: The research aligns with board initiatives and a mental health focus that will look at the trauma that newcomer student experiences when arriving into our schools with

no prior school experience. Transition interventions and resilience of newcomers will be studied.

- Engaging Students in STEM: Factors Influencing Motivation and Interest – Researchers will examine how STEM initiatives e.g. Makers, Robotics, projects and camps motivate students to become engaged in STEM post secondary course selections and STEM fields. The quality of programs and discerning the interest of students aged 15-17 will be examined. 25 secondary students will complete a survey, that was vetted through the Research Committee, during their school MSIP time.

Superintendent Roberto confirmed that when research projects are completed, DSBN receives a copy of the researchers report which is shared with the appropriate subject superintendent. Reports are kept on file and some research projects are extended for additional projects. The reports and findings can be shared with educational teams and some research final reports proceed to inclusion at professional conferences. Principals are informed of those research projects that are approved for participation. To-date this year, approximately 18 proposals have been received however not all are approved nor do all meet our criteria. The majority of research proposals are received in the Fall rather than in the Spring.

Moved by Trustee Maves, seconded by Trustee Mitchell:

***“That the Educational Research Committee of November 14, 2019 and February 13, 2020 be received.”***

**CARRIED**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Schaubel suggested to the Program and Planning group that future meetings begin at 5:30pm rather than at 6:00pm. There was general agreement around the table.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Program and Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the Grimsby Lincoln Room at the Education Centre.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Maves, seconded by Trustee Beamer

***“That the meeting of the Program and Planning Committee adjourn.”***

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.