

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

September 22, 2020, 7:00 P.M.

Teams Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. O CANADA
3. STRATEGIC PLAN IN ACTION
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. OFFICIAL RECORD
6. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
7. DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
9. PUBLIC INPUT
None.
10. MINUTES OF THE 2020 JUNE 23 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND OF THE SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE BOARD ON 2020 JULY 14, 2020 JULY 21, 2020 AUGUST 12, 2020 AUGUST 25, AND SEPTEMBER 8
 - a. Confirmation of Minutes
 - b. Business Arising from Minutes
11. STUDENT TRUSTEE UPDATE
12. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION
 - a. Return to Learn Update
13. REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES
 - a. Chair's Committee, 2020 September 15
 - b. Audit Committee, 2020 September 15
 - c. Committee of the Whole, In-Camera, 2020 September 22

14. TRUSTEE UPDATES FROM EXTERNAL COMMITTEES
 - a. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
 - b. Thames Valley Education Foundation (TVEF)
15. COMMUNICATIONS
 - a. Autism Ontario - Membership to the Special Education Advisory Committee
16. NOTICE OF MOTION
17. MOTION – NOTICE OF WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN
18. DIRECTOR'S NEWS FROM THE SYSTEM
19. ADJOURNMENT

OFFICIAL RECORD

We regret to record the deaths of the following individuals:

Alison Clare on June 26. Alison was an Educational Assistant at Sir Isaac Brock Public School.

Heidi Werner on July 3. Heidi was a teacher at Westmount Public School.

David Hurry on July 21. David was a Carpenter with the TVDSB.

Aneel Janmohammad on July 26. Aneel was a teacher at South Secondary School.

Jennifer Lefteris on July 26. Jennifer was a teacher at Stoney Creek Public School.

Dale Ferns on August 16. Dale was a Secondary occasional teacher and most recently held a long term assignment at H.B Beal Secondary School.

Justin Bongers on September 2. Justin was a teacher at Masonville Public School.

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

June 23, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

Teams Meeting

TRUSTEES

A. Morell (Chair)
J. Bennett
L. Pizzolato
M. Ruddock
B. Yeoman
C. Rahman
C. Kennedy
S. Chun

B. McKinnon
S. Polhill
B. Smith
J. Skinner
P. Cuddy
C. Antone
S. Hunt
E. Butler

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher
J. Pratt
S. Builder
A. Canham
R. Culhane
C. Lynd
D. Macpherson
T. Testa
P. Skinner
S. Powell
B. Williams
K. Auckland

M. Moynihan
P. Sydor
R. Kuiper
L. Griffith-Jones
C. Giannacopoulos
K. Edgar
L. Nicholls
A. Chahbar
C. Glaser
P. Hicks
S. Smith
C. Thompson
J. Ellefsen

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Morell called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

2. O CANADA

The meeting opened with the playing of O Canada.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on motion by Trustee Bennett, seconded by Trustee Cuddy.

4. OFFICIAL RECORD

B. Williams, Supervisor, Corporate Services, read the following official record into the minutes:

We regret to record the death of Julia Wild on June 18. Julia was a Teacher at A.B. Lucas Secondary School.

5. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING STUDENT TRUSTEES

Superintendent P. Skinner extended appreciation to outgoing Student Trustees Butler, Kennedy and Chun and thanked them for the contributions they made to the Board.

P. Skinner welcomed the incoming Student Trustees T. Rahman, N. Keller and M. Daliwal.

Trustee mentors Pizzolato, Polhill, and Antone each extended appreciation on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

6. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

7. DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Fisher advised on the announcement by the Ministry to re-open schools for the 2020-2021 academic year.

The planning process, actions completed since the announcement and next steps were detailed. It was noted a survey will be sent to families to seek input regarding the re-opening of schools.

Director Fisher provided an update on TVSDB's commitment to identify opportunities within the Valley to eliminate systemic racism. There will be continued focus on strategic opportunities within the Operational Plan.

Director Fisher announced the retirement of Superintendent D. Macpherson and K. Edgar and provided summaries of their professional backgrounds and extended appreciation for their contributions. D. Macpherson and K. Edgar responded in thanks.

Director Fisher congratulated K. Wilkinson as the recipient of the OPSBA Distinguished Leadership Award.

Thames Valley Education Foundation Chair C. Thompson extended appreciation to K. Wilkinson for her generous contribution to the Foundation.

Associate Director Pratt advised on the reopening plan noting one Secondary and Elementary school will pilot the plan. A list of the planned tests that will take place was outlined.

It was noted child care centres will be open 2020 July 6 pending facility modifications. All indoor permits for 2020 July and August are cancelled.

Associate Director Culhane provided updates regarding summer school, High School Here I Come, device deployment/collection, Learn at Home and FNMI studies courses.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding COVID-19 costs.

8. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Morell extended appreciation to the TVDSB community for the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chair Morell extended appreciation to various organizations and individuals for their efforts in recognizing and celebrating the 2020 graduates.

Chair Morell offered best wishes to outgoing Superintendents D. Macpherson and K. Edgar.

9. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

10. MINUTES OF THE 2020 MAY 26 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND THE 2020 JUNE 16 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

a. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the 2020 May 26 Regular Board meeting were approved on motion of Trustee Hunt, seconded by Trustee Pizzolato.

The minutes of the 2020 June 16 Special meeting of the Board were approved on motion of Trustee Polhill, seconded by Trustee Smith.

b. Business Arising from Minutes

Chair Morell introduced the two motions deferred from the 2020 June 16 Special Meeting of the Board.

On request of Trustee Ruddock her motion was withdrawn with no objections.

Following a number of amendments and debate on the second motion deferred from the 2020 June 16 Special Meeting of the Board, the following motion was moved and carried:

Moved by C. Rahman

Seconded by J. Skinner

WHEREAS: We the Board of Trustees have heard from the community through the June 6th 2020, rally in Victoria Park, demonstrations in other TVDSB communities and protests at the Board office that real action is needed on anti-black racism, racism in schools, equitable hiring practices and reflective curriculum.

WHEREAS: The deaths of Black people are a result of a network of oppressive institutions in which the education system plays a role;

WHEREAS: There are a number of policies that focus on equity and inclusion at TVDSB, including the Strategic Plan and the Board is committed to the removal of systemic barriers to improve student learning, close achievement gaps, and to ensure equitable opportunities for students and staff;

WHEREAS: The Minister has the authority to make regulations governing the hiring practices for teachers.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: TVDSB develop an equity action plan that includes anti-black racism/anti-racism strategy. That the board develop this strategy through extensive consultation. That the strategy include specific objectives tied to actions, measurable outcomes and timelines for meeting those objectives include provisions for engaging with students, parents/guardians, and other stakeholders. Include provisions for public reporting on progress towards achieving outcomes in the strategy on a monthly basis. That the board hear all recommendations no later than June 2021;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The board establish an equity and inclusivity advisory committee which includes students, community members, trustees, administration and parents/guardians. The majority of the committee should be community members tasked to help create the equity action plan. That the committee is representative of the demographics and intersectionality's of the Board's student body. That the committee be consulted with, in a meaningful way, on policies, programs and initiatives such as culturally relevant resources, dress codes, disciplinary policies and procedures etc.;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: TVDSB explore the practice of collecting disaggregate data by school, grade, race, language, disability, sex, gender, and socioeconomic status and report back to the board on any issues or concerns with

doing so. Disaggregated data could be used to put a critical lens on suspension, expulsion and graduation rates, representation in academic, applied and locally developed credit courses, representation in special education, credit accumulation and student absenteeism. This data could be used to assess, evaluate and report on progress towards improving outcomes for all students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: TVDSB, commit to exploring equity training including anti-racism and anti-oppression training for Trustees, administrators, teachers, staff and students and all statutory committees of the Board;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Policy working committee, review the Police/School Board Protocol in the 2020/21 School year;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: TVDSB engage in extensive consultation with students, staff, community members, trustees and parents/guardians regarding the School Resource Officers (SROs) program. That the consultation probes the feelings and experiences of students in relationship to SROs and police presence in our schools. That staff prepare an accountability report for Trustees and the community in consultation with Police services across Thames Valley on the nature of the role of School Resource Officers, include the results of the survey and recommendations moving forward by December 2020;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Chair of the Board, in collaboration with the Board of Trustees, the mover and seconder of the motion and staff, send a letter to the Minister requesting the development of the Policy and Program Memorandum (PPM) on equity and diversity in hiring practices as requested by OPSBA. That the Chair communicate in the letter to the Minister support for OBSPA's position to remove Regulation 274/12 as it relates to increasing diversity/inclusivity, credentials and mobility. So that learners can see themselves reflected in the different positions of leadership in our schools;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Chair of the Board, in collaboration with the Board of Trustees, the mover and seconder of the motion and staff, send a letter to the Minister of Education encouraging the revision of the curriculum to better incorporate Black history and Indigenous histories. We ask that the Government honour the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. To collaborate with Survivors, Aboriginal peoples, and educators to continue with curriculum revisions across subjects, grades and courses, to strengthen Indigenous content and learning.

CARRIED

Trustees Rahman, Skinner, and Student Trustees Butler, Chun, and Kennedy each spoke to the motion noting the importance of a continued focus on equity and inclusion at TVDSB through a specific anti-black racism/anti-racism strategy. The Student Trustees shared experienced social bias collected from students throughout Thames Valley.

On motion of Trustee Ruddock, seconded by Trustee Smith the meeting recessed at 8:15 p.m. reconvening at 8:31 p.m.

As a follow up to the previous discussion, Trustee Antone brought forward, for discussion and decision, a motion specific to Indigenous peoples.

Moved by C. Antone

Seconded by B. Smith

WHEREAS Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames and Munsee-Delaware Nation stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement;

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) states in part “*Recognizing in particular the right of indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child...*”

Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.”

WHEREAS the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action states in part “*We call upon the federal government to develop with Aboriginal groups a joint strategy to eliminate education and employment gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.*”

WHEREAS TVDSB and CMO have long standing Tuition/Education Service agreements in place and where the First Nations Advisory Committee has been asking the Board for accountability and data regarding the success of the First Nation Students;

WHEREAS decades of racism endured by Indigenous students and most recently the incident at Saunders Secondary School in the Fall of 2019 involving racial activities was not addressed by way of a formal report to the CMO communities TVDSB.

WHEREAS the TVDSB has autonomy to make regulations governing the hiring practices for teachers.

WHEREAS the CMO communities support a letter to the Minister regarding SRO’s, curriculum and the development of the Policy and Program Memorandum on equity and diversity in hiring practices as requested by OPSBA.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT CMO community representatives, the Indigenous Lead and the Indigenous Trustee need be involved in intentional principal placement in schools with Indigenous populated students and system principal placement through new mechanisms;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the TVDSB establish an Indigenous led task force during the 2020-2021 school year that will be mandated to work on, but not limited to:

Creating an ombudsman for Indigenous families to hear complaints and implement and mentor staff on restorative practices.

An Indigenous Superintendent or someone with extensive knowledge on Indigenous culture, have a seat at decision-making tables per Ministry memorandum dated June 24, 2016.

That the recommendations of the task force will be brought to the TVDSB Board of Trustees for approval.

CARRIED

Questions of clarification regarding the motion were addressed by the mover and Administration.

Trustee Smith spoke to the motion noting the lack of content in the curriculum regarding Indigenous peoples.

11. STUDENT TRUSTEE UPDATE

The Student Trustees expressed appreciation to the Trustees, Administration and staff for their guidance and mentorship. The incoming Student Trustees were welcomed and wished well.

Chair Morell extended appreciation to the outgoing Student Trustees.

12. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

a. Accommodation Plan

C. Kent presented four potential capital planning approaches for the 2020-2021 school year, based on needs identified within the draft Accommodation Plan, for Trustee consideration, selection and approval.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding an area attendance review for Oxford County, the increased need for French Immersion in the Woodstock area, selecting multiple/priority options, the original tier one priority list, staggering options, schools over capacity/under capacity, student distribution, combining options, capital funding submissions and the intent of the motion.

Moved by J. Skinner

Seconded by C. Rahman

That the next attendance area review address the significant student distribution problem in the City of London, pending the capital priorities submission results, as well as the overcapacity accommodation issue at Roch Carrier French Immersion P.S.

CARRIED

A poll vote was recorded.

Yeas: Trustees Bennett, Cuddy, Pizzolato, Polhill, Rahman, Skinner, Smith

Nays: Trustees Hunt, McKinnon, Morell, Ruddock, Yeoman

Abstentions: Trustee Antone

A motion to amend the motion to include attendance area reviews for Woodstock and Elgin was defeated on a poll vote.

Yeas: Trustee Hunt

Nays: Trustees Antone, Bennett, Cuddy, McKinnon, Morell, Pizzolato, Polhill, Rahman, Ruddock, Skinner, Smith, Yeoman

13. REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

a. Special Education Advisory Committee, 2020 May 25

Trustee Pizzolato referred to the written report of the Special Education Advisory Committee provided to Trustees in their agenda package. The Committee met 2020 May 25; highlights of the meeting were shared. There were no recommendations.

b. Special Education Advisory Committee, 2020 June 15

Trustee Pizzolato referred to the written report of the Special Education Advisory Committee provided to Trustees in their agenda package. The Committee met 2020 June 15; highlights of the meeting were shared. There were no recommendations.

c. Policy Working Committee, 2020 June 16

Trustee Ruddock referred to the written report of the Policy Working Committee provided to Trustees in the agenda package. Recommendations of the Committee were outlined.

Moved by M. Ruddock

Seconded by B. McKinnon

THAT the Student Use of Guide Dogs and Service Animals Policy be approved.

THAT the Equitable Recruitment Policy be approved.

THAT the Display of Flags Policy be approved.

CARRIED

d. Chair's Committee, 2020 June 17

Trustee Ruddock highlighted items from the written report of the Chair's Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package. Recommendations of the Committee were outlined.

Moved by M. Ruddock

Seconded by B. McKinnon

THAT discussion and decision on the 2020-2021 Board meeting schedule and consideration of video recordings of Advisory Committee meetings be deferred to the 2020 July 14 Special Meeting of the Board, or if necessary, until a Special Meeting of the Board is called to receive the preliminary budget.

CARRIED

Moved by M. Ruddock

Seconded by J. Bennett

THAT Trustees B. McKinnon, C. Rahman, and C. Antone be appointed as mentors to the three incoming Student Trustees.

CARRIED

A motion to sit past 11:00 p.m. to 11:15 p.m was moved by Trustee Skinner, Seconded by Trustee Hunt and carried.

A poll voted was recorded.

Yeas: Trustees Antone, Bennett, Cuddy, Hunt, Morell, Pizzolato, Polhill, Rahman, Ruddock, Skinner, Smith, Yeoman

Nays: Trustee McKinnon

e. Committee of the Whole, In-Camera, 2020 June 23

Trustee Ruddock reported the Committee of the Whole met in-camera from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The committee discussed confidential negotiations, legal and personal matters.

Moved by M. Ruddock

Seconded by B. Yeoman

That the motions at the in-camera session of 2020 June 23 related to negotiation matters be approved.

CARRIED

14. TRUSTEE UPDATES FROM EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

a. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

Trustee Skinner provided an update on OPSBA noting the professional development plan was updated for Trustees. Trustee Skinner provided information on the statements released by OPSBA.

b. Thames Valley Education Foundation (TVEF)

Trustee McKinnon reported on the total funds raised for the Caring Fund and advised the annual report soon will be made available online. The Annual General Meeting of the Foundation takes place tomorrow.

15. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

16. NOTICE OF MOTION

None.

17. MOTION – NOTICE OF WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN

None.

18. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

In response to a question regarding the potential impacts of the Shaw Valley development in St. Thomas, Chair Morell invited Trustee Smith to follow up with Associate Director Pratt.

Trustee Hunt expressed appreciation to Administration for the delivery of the surveys to families in regards to the reopening of schools in the fall and in regards to experiences with distance learning over the last number of months.

19. DIRECTOR'S NEWS FROM THE SYSTEM

Director Fisher reported three TVDSB students were the recipients of the Schulich Leadership STEM Scholarship noting there were over 300,000 applicants. Director Fisher extended congratulations to these students noting only 100 scholarships were awarded.

Director advised 35 schools maintained their EcoSchool Certification helping students develop both ecological literacy and environmental practices to become environmentally responsible citizens.

20. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Trustee Antone, seconded by Trustee McKinnon the meeting adjourned at 11:06 p.m.

Arlene Morell
Chairperson

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING

July 14, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

Teams Meeting

TRUSTEES

A. Morell (Chair)
J. Bennett
L. Pizzolato
M. Ruddock
B. Yeoman
C. Rahman

B. McKinnon
S. Polhill
B. Smith
J. Skinner
P. Cuddy (+6:20)
S. Hunt
E. Butler

REGRETS

C. Antone, S. Chun, C. Kennedy

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher
J. Pratt
S. Builder
A. Canham
R. Culhane
C. Lynd
D. Wright
T. Testa
P. Skinner
S. Powell
B. Williams
K. Auckland
S. Macey (-7:38)

M. Moynihan
P. Sydor
R. Kuiper
L. Griffith-Jones
C. Giannacopoulos
K. Edgar
L. Nicholls
A. Chahbar
C. Glaser
P. Hicks
S. Smith

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Morell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

2. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with the playing of O Canada.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on motion by Trustee Bennett, seconded by Trustee McKinnon.

4. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

5. PRELIMINARY BUDGET PRESENTATION

Chair Morell reviewed the budget process and timeline.

J. Pratt provided introductory remarks recognizing the work of Finance Department.

The Finance team presented the 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget.

J. Pratt advised the preliminary 2020-2021 budget is fully compliant with the Ministry of Education requirements and is aligned to the Thames Valley District School Board 2019-2020 Operational Plan.

Administration responded to Trustee questions of clarification regarding revenues, expenses, projected student enrolment numbers, transportation costs, COVID-19 costs, and staffing.

6. REVISED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2020-2021

K. Edgar presented the revised 2020-2021 school year calendar for information noting the rationale for the changes and alignment with the co-terminus board.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding the change in the scheduled professional development days.

7. 2020-21 BOARD AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

M. Fisher presented for approval the revised 2020-2021 Board meeting schedule.

Discussion occurred regarding the 2020-2021 Board meeting schedule and the decision on the video recording/broadcasting of Advisory Committee meetings that was deferred to the 2020 July 14 Special Meeting of the Board.

M. Fisher noted it is the recommendation of Administration to continue the revised scheduled to the end of 2021 January. The rationale was detailed.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding the return of face to face meetings, Board By-laws and Chair's Committee.

Trustees in favour of the motion, provided their rationale noting the efficiency of two Board meetings.

Trustees speaking against the motion identified concerns noting the length of Board and Special Board meetings.

Moved by S. Hunt

Seconded by B. Smith

THAT the revised 2020-2021 Board meeting schedule be approved (Appendix A).

CARRIED

A poll vote was completed.

YEAS: A. Morell, M. Ruddock, J. Skinner, S. Hunt, B. Smith, B. Yeoman, L. Pizzolato, B. McKinnon, P. Cuddy, J. Bennett

NAYS: C. Rahman, S. Polhill

Abstained: None.

Student Trustees: YEAS: E. Butler

Chair Morell introduced the motion deferred from the 2020 April 28 Meeting of the Board.

Following debate, on motion of Trustee Bennett, seconded by Trustee Rahman the following decision was deferred to the 2021 January 26 Board meeting.

THAT all Program and School Services Advisory Committee meetings and Planning and Priority Advisory Committee meetings be video recorded and broadcast as is done for formal Meetings of the Board.

A poll vote was completed.

YEAS: J. Bennett, C. Rahman, S. Hunt, B. McKinnon, L. Pizzolato, A. Morell, M. Ruddock, B. Yeoman,

NAYS: J. Skinner, P. Cuddy, B. Smith, S. Polhill

Abstained: None.

Student Trustees: YEAS: E. Butler

8. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

The value of providing training for Administrator on managing school budgets and for sharing school budgets with school councils was expressed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Yeoman the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Arlene Morell
Chairperson

**Recommended Board and Advisory Meeting Schedule
2020 September 1 to 2021 June 30**

DATE		TIME	BOARD/COMMITTEE
2020			
September	8	6:00 p.m.	Special Meeting of the Board
	22	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
October	13	6:00 p.m.	Special Meeting of the Board
	27	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
November	10	6:00 p.m.	Special Meeting of the Board
	24	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
December	1	6:00 p.m.	Special Board Meeting-Board Elections
	8	7:00 p.m.	Inaugural Meeting
	15	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
2021			
January	12	6:00 p.m.	Special Meeting of the Board
	26	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
February	2	6:00 p.m.	Program and School Services Advisory
	9	6:00 p.m.	Planning and Priorities Advisory
	23	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
March	2	6:00 p.m.	Program and School Services Advisory
	9	6:00 p.m.	Planning and Priorities Advisory
	23	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
April	6	6:00 p.m.	Program and School Services Advisory
	13	6:00 p.m.	Planning and Priorities Advisory
	27	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
May	4	6:00 p.m.	Program and School Services Advisory
	11	6:00 p.m.	Planning and Priorities Advisory
	25	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings
June	1	6:00 p.m.	Program and School Services Advisory
	8	6:00 p.m.	Planning and Priorities Advisory
	22	5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	In-Camera and Regular Board Meetings

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING

July 21, 2020, 6:00 P.M.
Teams Meeting

TRUSTEES

A. Morell (Chair)
J. Bennett
L. Pizzolato
M. Ruddock
B. Yeoman
C. Rahman
C. Kennedy
S. Chun

B. McKinnon
S. Polhill
B. Smith
J. Skinner
P. Cuddy
C. Antone
S. Hunt
E. Butler

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher
J. Pratt
S. Builder
A. Canham
R. Culhane
C. Lynd
D. Wright
T. Testa
P. Skinner
S. Powell
B. Williams
K. Auckland

M. Moynihan
P. Sydor
R. Kuiper
L. Griffith-Jones
C. Giannacopoulos
K. Edgar
L. Nicholls
A. Chahbar
C. Glaser
P. Hicks
S. Smith
S. Macey

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Morell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

2. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with the playing of O Canada.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on motion by Trustee Skinner, seconded by Trustee Smith.

4. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

5. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Director Fisher provided an update on Thames Valley District School Board's (TVDSB) response to the Covid-19 pandemic noting Administration is focusing on a plan to safely reopen schools.

Director Fisher advised on the School Reopening Plan released by the Ministry on 2020 June 29 outlining the three potential reopening models. Director Fisher detailed the factors for consideration, guidelines, costs and concerns. It was noted transportation planning will be coordinated with STS, the Health Unit and the co-terminus Board. TVDSB's plan will be presented to the Ministry for approval.

Director Fisher provided an update on the two test sites, noting TVDSB is currently the only Board in the Province testing school reopening protocols on site.

Director Fisher provided an update on health and safety related to school cleaning, hand-washing, student/staff illness, COVID-19 screening/testing/outbreaks, mental health and plans for social distancing.

Director Fisher advised on the High School Here I Come program noting registration opens on 2020 August 12. As part of Phase 3, all TVDSB playgrounds are open.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding school reopening daily schedules, the impact on part time/casual staff, staffing, transportation and a full-time return to school.

6. PUBLIC INPUT - BUDGET

Public input was received; there was one individual delegation and one written submission.

Trustees asked questions of the presenter.

7. SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN

a. Special Education Advisory Committee Report, 2020 July 13

Trustee Pizzolato referred to the written report of the Special Education Advisory Committee provided to Trustees in their agenda package. The Committee met 2020 July 13; highlights of the meeting were shared. There were no recommendations.

Questions of clarification pertaining to the meeting, the Special Education Plan, and back to school plans for Special Education students were addressed.

In response to a question, A. Canham detailed concerns discussed at the SEAC meeting regarding the Special Education Plan.

In response to a question, R. Culhane advised TVDSB will be reaching out to Special Education students at the end of August to offer transitional support for returning to school.

b. Special Education Plan

A. Canham presented for approval the updated Thames Valley District School Board Special Education Plan 2020-2021. A copy was provided to the Trustees prior to the meeting.

It was noted the revised Special Education Plan 2020-2021 was endorsed by the Special Education Advisory Committee at their 2020 July 13 Special meeting.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding the minority reports, staffing, Provincial categorizations for exceptionalities and advocating for an additional exceptionality.

In response to a question, A. Canham advised that it is the responsibility of Administration to respond to the Minority reports.

Moved by L. Pizzolato

Seconded by C. Rahman

THAT a gifted program review be established by Administration to review data, research and information with input from the gifted subcommittee at SEAC.

CARRIED

There was a stated expectation that a report with recommendations would be submitted to SEAC.

A poll vote was requested.

YEAS: L. Pizzolato, C. Rahman, P. Cuddy, C. Antone, J. Skinner, S. Hunt, B. Smith

NAYS: B. Yeoman, B. McKinnon, J. Bennett, A. Morell, M. Ruddock, S. Polhill

Student Trustees: YEAS: S. Chun, E. Butler, C. Kennedy

Moved by J. Bennett
Seconded by B. Yeoman

THAT the Thames Valley District School Board Special Education Plan 2020-2021 be approved.

CARRIED

A poll vote was requested.

YEAS: C. Rahman, S. Polhill, P. Cuddy, C. Antone, B. Yeoman, B. McKinnon, J. Bennett, A. Morell, J. Skinner, S. Hunt, B. Smith, M. Ruddock

NAYS: L. Pizzolato

Student Trustees: YEAS: S. Chun, E. Butler, C. Kennedy

A motion to recess was moved by Trustee McKinnon, seconded by Trustee Ruddock at 8:06 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:16 p.m.

Moved by J. Skinner
Seconded by B. Smith

THAT the TVDSB Board of Trustees send a letter to the Minister of Education advocating that Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) be recognized as an exceptionality category with the appropriate funding. The letter is to be distributed to OPSBA and the other Boards in the province.

CARRIED

8. BUDGET DEBATE AND APPROVAL

The Finance team presented for approval the 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget.

C. Lynd highlighted decreases to revenues and increases to expenses contributing to the overall deficit. The in-year deficit elimination plan was reviewed.

In response to a question, L. Nicholls advised professional development funding is guided by the collective agreement. R. Culhane detailed the professional development opportunities available for teachers and advised on funds available through school funding. The new teacher induction program was detailed noting capacity building to provide support for Principal and Vice- Principals will be a focus.

Moved by B. Yeoman
Seconded by B. McKinnon

THAT the Chair write a letter on behalf of the Board of Trustees to the Minister of Education expressing concerns related to unfunded expenses attributed to COVID-19 and the utmost importance of keeping our students and staff safe & healthy during the pandemic.

CARRIED

Suggested content to include in the letter was captured by Chair Morell.

Moved by B. Yeoman
Seconded by B. McKinnon

That the Chair write a letter on behalf of the Board of Trustees to the Minister of Education regarding increased flexibility in balancing the budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021 through Regulation 280.

To change the requirement for a compliant in-year deficit by 1% to a 2% total. The additional 1% year-in deficit (2020-2021 fiscal year), is a one-time stop gap measure to only fund COVID-related expenses from accumulated surplus, providing the in-year deficit is less than 50% of the Board's accumulated surplus. This will ensure deficit recovery as a one-time expense in the 2020-2021 fiscal year and financial stewardship.

CARRIED

Moved by C. Rahman
Seconded by B. Smith

Recognizing that there will be additional costs, unknown to the Board at this time, related to COVID-19, the Board include in its budget a COVID-19 allocation of \$1.8M (the remainder of the allowable in year deficit of 1%) as an expense for the 2020-21 school year.

CARRIED

Trustees in favour of the motion spoke to the importance of preparation and utilizing all the available resources to support staff and students for reopening.

Questions of clarification regarding the remainder of the allowable deficit were addressed.

Trustees against the motion spoke to the need for restraint, with the unknown costs ahead for school reopening resulting from the pandemic.

A poll vote was completed.

YEAS: M. Ruddock, P. Cuddy, L. Pizzolato, S. Polhill, C. Rahman, J. Skinner, B. Smith

NAYS: B. McKinnon, B. Yeoman, S. Hunt, J. Bennett, A. Morell

ABSTAINED: C. Antone

Student Trustees: YEAS: E. Butler, S. Chun, C. Kennedy

Discussion considered the use of the budget to fully fund the purchase and installation of the remaining AEDs required for all schools in Thames Valley. Through discussion it was agreed to fund the purchase and installation of the remaining AEDs through OSBIE's Human Element Loss Prevention credits.

Moved by B. McKinnon
Seconded by M. Ruddock

THAT the 2020-2021 revenue budget of \$1,022,410,397 and the 2020-2021 expense budget of \$1,031,609,438 be approved.

CARRIED

Moved by B. Smith
Seconded by P. Cuddy

THAT the projected 2020-21 deficit for compliance purposes of \$(9,316,423), be funded from the August 31, 2020 accumulated surplus through the following appropriations:

**Unappropriated Accumulated Surplus (1,782,370)
Other Operating Appropriations (75,281)
IT Technology and Infrastructure (5,381,135)
Amount for Future Internally Supported Capital Projects (718,460)
Future Amortization of Internally Supported Capital Projects (1,359,177)
Operating Deficit for Compliance Purposes (9,316,423)
Items Unavailable for Compliance (Accrued Interest) 117,382
Operating Deficit (9,199,041)**

CARRIED

**Moved by J. Bennett
Seconded by S. Polhill**

THAT whereas the Ministry requires the 2020-2021 in-year deficit elimination plan be approved, the expenses will be addressed in 2021-2022 through the following measures:

**One time project expenses that do not continue in 2021-2022 \$7.2 m
Additional allocation of Secondary Teachers to support programming to be addressed (approx. 4 FTE) 0.4 m Total \$7.6 m**

CARRIED

9. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

Plans were discussed for the Trustee tour of the school reopening test sites. A communication plan will be created regarding school reopening, this may include scheduling a Special Meeting of the Board.

In response to a question, Director Fisher advised on an upcoming meeting with the City Manager (London) to review potential concerns regarding student drop off/pick up plans for school reopening.

A request for established protocols for consultation during emergency situations, was referred to the Policy Working Committee for consideration. The current Emergency Response Plan was outlined by Associate Director Pratt.

In response to a question, Director Fisher confirmed working collaborations with outside organizations are reviewed as required.

There was a request for the Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee to reconvene in August/September.

10. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Trustee Ruddock, seconded by Trustee McKinnon the meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Arlene Morell
Chairperson

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING

August 12, 2020, 5:00 P.M.

Teams Meeting

A. Morell (Chair)
J. Bennett
L. Pizzolato
M. Ruddock
C. Rahman
T. Rahman
M. Dhaliwal (+7:15)

B. McKinnon
S. Polhill
B. Smith
J. Skinner
P. Cuddy
S. Hunt
C. Antone

M. Fisher
J. Pratt
S. Builder
A. Canham
R. Culhane
C. Lynd
D. Wright
T. Testa
P. Skinner
S. Powell
B. Williams
K. Auckland
C. Mackie (-6:46)
A. Koning (-6:46)
J. Lock (-6:46)

M. Moynihan
P. Sydor
R. Kuiper
L. Griffith-Jones
C. Giannacopoulos
K. Edgar
L. Nicholls
A. Chahbar
C. Glaser
J. Davies
S. Smith
C. St. John (-6:46)
D. Smith (-6:46)
M. Cosyn- Heath

REGRETS

B. Yeoman, N. Keller

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Morell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

2. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with the playing of O Canada.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on motion by Trustee Cuddy, seconded by Trustee Ruddock.

4. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

5. RETURN TO LEARN PLAN

Director Fisher presented for information the Return to Learn Plan. Guiding principles, timelines, plan development, learning partners and the mandated learning models were detailed.

Associate Director Culhane detailed the in-person models for Elementary and Secondary learning. Benefits, confirmation deadlines and plans for Special Education students were outlined. Plans to focus on mental health and well being, and equity were shared.

Associate Director Pratt provided information regarding supportive technology, before and after school programs, transportation and school building access. Enhanced health and safety measures were detailed including the screening and outbreak protocol/confirmed case process.

Director Fisher detailed the Return to Learn Plan Communication Plan and clarified the difference between synchronous and asynchronous learning.

Associate Director Pratt introduced Dr. J. Lock, Southwestern Public Health Unit and Dr. C. Mackie, Middlesex-London Health Unit and explained their roles within the process.

Dr. Lock expressed support for the Board's Return to Learn plan noting it is impossible to create a risk free plan. She reviewed the various controls that were considered when creating the plan. The Southwestern Public Health Unit will continue to provide support to schools noting prevention is the key focus.

Dr. Mackie addressed key concerns regarding potential out breaks in schools, mitigating risk in small spaces, the outbreak protocol, symptom awareness and the risks to mask use for younger children.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding transportation, the screening process, Ministry guidance documents, mask use, the outbreak protocol, mitigating risk and class sizes.

Director Fisher extended appreciation to Dr. Lock, and Dr. Mackie, for their collaboration and support.

Associate Director Pratt introduced M. Cosyn-Heath, Student Transportation Services (STS) and identified her role within the process.

M. Cosyn-Heath outlined the preparations that STS is working on for the upcoming academic year. Plans for physical distancing, prevention, travel time, bus stop locations, bus cleanliness, transporting students with special needs, bus drivers/attendants, the registration system, seating plans and active travel/safety zones were detailed.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding capacity, relocated students, choice of school transportation, opting in/out, bus runs times and active registration.

A motion to recess was moved by Trustee McKinnon, seconded by Trustee Ruddock at 7:15 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:26 p.m.

Questions of clarification regarding class sizes, social distancing expectations, transportation, EQAO testing, opting in/out, ventilation/air conditioning, improving school climate, parental/staff attestations, distanced learning, technology/devices, graduation requirements, the Chromebook pilot project, Special Education, additional teacher funding, staffing and updating the FAQ page were addressed by Administration.

In response to a question, Associate Director Culhane advised EQAO testing will occur in grades 9 and 10.

In response to a question, A. Chahbar advised the Ministry of Education guide to reopening schools is a directive that must be followed.

Moved by J. Bennett

Seconded by B. McKinnon

THAT the Chair write a letter to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Education to grant resources such as sufficient funding for School Boards to effectively ensure staff and student safety and well being to be resourced. In addition that the letter advocate for the reduction of class sizes to reflect current social distancing guidelines. That the Director continue to work alongside the Ministry of Education to provide full funding to achieve lower Elementary class sizes.

CARRIED

There was a request to extend an invitation to the representatives from the respective Health Units to a future meeting of the Board to address questions concerning the Ministry's breakout protocols once they are available.

6. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Trustee Bennett, seconded by Trustee Cuddy the meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Arlene Morell
Chairperson

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING

August 25, 2020, 6:00 P.M.
Teams Meeting

TRUSTEES

A. Morell (Chair)
J. Bennett (+6:10)
L. Pizzolato
M. Ruddock
B. Yeoman
C. Rahman (-11:02)
T. Rahman
N. Keller

B. McKinnon
S. Polhill
B. Smith
J. Skinner
P. Cuddy
C. Antone
S. Hunt
M. Dhaliwal

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher
J. Pratt
S. Builder
A. Canham
R. Culhane
C. Lynd
D. Wright
T. Testa
P. Skinner
S. Powell
B. Williams
C. Henriquez
K. Auckland

M. Moynihan
P. Sydor
R. Kuiper
L. Griffith-Jones
C. Giannacopoulos
K. Edgar
L. Nicholls
A. Chahbar
C. Glaser
P. Hicks
S. Smith
J. Davies
M. Kreiger

REGRETS

C. Antone

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Morell called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

2. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with the playing of O Canada.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on motion by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Rahman.

4. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

5. RETURN TO LEARN UPDATE

Director Fisher provided an update on Return to Learn advising on the recent meeting with the Ministry of Education concerning plans for Secondary school students.

Associate Director Culhane provided an update on the changes to the Secondary model based on recommendations by the Ministry of Education. The revisions to the model were detailed. Full remote learning expectations and capabilities were outlined.

Associate Director Culhane reported the deadline to complete the Student Health Agreement is 2020 September 14. It was noted this will be mandatory for each student.

Associate Director Culhane provided an update on the High School Here I Come program.

The professional learning planned for staff prior to the start of the school year was reviewed.

Associate Director Pratt provided an update on enhanced health and safety measures, staffing, transportation and masking/face coverings.

Director Fisher advised on masking/face coverings, the Return to Learn communication plan and where to locate answers to frequently ask questions and access additional information.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding HVAC, students going home for lunch, COVID-19 contact tracing, transportation, before/after school programs, the student health agreement, the Secondary model, alignment with the co-terminus Board, opting in/out, staggered start dates, class sizes, social distancing expectations, masking/face coverings, exam schedules, COVID-19 self screening, staffing, technology/devices, Grad Coach support, opening windows in classrooms/portables, the outbreak protocol, course selection for remote learning and health and safety guidelines for administrative/support staff.

In response to a question, C. Henriquez advised on HVAC maintenance performed in schools.

In response to a question, A. Chahbar advised mandating masks in kindergarten to grade 3 is not enforceable.

A motion to recess was moved by Trustee McKinnon, seconded by Trustee Ruddock at 8:38 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:51 p.m.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding Grants for Student Needs (GSN) allocations, student co-op, November/February entry points, class sizes, staffing, creating classrooms off site and transportation.

Moved by L. Pizzolato

Seconded by C. Rahman

BE IT RESOLVED THAT masks shall be mandatory in all TVDSB buildings and on student transportation for all students JK-3, staff and visitors where 2m (6ft) of physical distancing is not possible until such time as masks are no longer required or recommended in the general population to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT individuals may be exempt based on medical conditions or otherwise. Alternatives are explored for staff and students that are medically exempt from wearing face masks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Staff will work towards mask compliance with students compassionately with no disciplinary actions for students who have difficulty complying.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that frequent mask breaks will be available.

CARRIED

Trustees in favour of the motion spoke to the importance of creating a safe environment for all students and staff.

Trustees against the motion expressed concerns regarding the inability to enforce the motion.

A poll vote was requested.

YEAS: S. Hunt, B. McKinnon, L. Pizzolato, S. Polhill, C. Rahman, M. Ruddock, J. Skinner, B. Smith, P. Cuddy

NAYS: J. Bennett, B. Yeoman

Abstained: A. Morell

Absent: C. Antone

Student Trustees: YEAS: T. Rahman, N. Keller, M. Dhaliwal

6. 2020-2021 BUDGET AUTHORIZATION

J. Pratt presented for approval the use of \$9,395,781 from the unappropriated accumulated surplus to fund COVID-19 related expenses in 2020-21.

The use of funds from the unappropriated accumulated surplus is a result of the change in the requirement for a compliant in-year deficit by one percent to a two percent total. By Board motion at the 2020 July 21 meeting, Trustees authorized the Chair to write the Ministry to request this change. In response, the Ministry announced on 2020 August 14 that school boards would be allowed to incur an in-year deficit up to 2 per cent of their operating allocation, for this year only.

Plans for use of the funds to address funding shortfalls in COVID-19 related expenses were outlined.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding staffing, unfunded liabilities, custodial allocations, and IT support.

It was noted updates will be provided to the Board of Trustees related to COVID-19 as expenses are actualized. Revised estimates will reflect all anticipated costs as determined by 2020 November 30.

On motion of Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Skinner a motion to sit to 11:15 p.m. was CARRIED.

Moved by B. Smith

Seconded by B. McKinnon

THAT an amount up to an additional 1% of the 2020-2021 TVDSB projected operating revenues, totaling \$9,395,781, may be used from the unappropriated accumulated surplus balance to fund COVID-19 related expenses in 2020-2021.

CARRIED

A poll vote was requested.

YEAS: S. Hunt, B. McKinnon, M. Ruddock, J. Skinner, B. Smith, P. Cuddy, J. Bennett, B. Yeoman, A. Morell

NAYS: L. Pizzolato, S. Polhill, C. Rahman

Absent: C. Antone

Student Trustees: YEAS: T. Rahman, N. Keller, M. Dhaliwal

Moved by B. Yeoman

Seconded by B. Smith

That the Chair write a letter to Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Education regarding standardization of mask wearing protocols in schools and public places in Ontario.

CARRIED

7. REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, IN-CAMERA, 2020 AUGUST 25

Trustee Ruddock reported the Committee of the Whole met in-camera from 5:37 p.m. to 5:57 p.m. The committee discussed legal matters. There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Moved by M. Ruddock
Seconded by B. McKinnon

THAT the motions at the in-camera session of 2020 August 25 related to legal matters be approved.

CARRIED

8. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Trustee McKinnon, seconded by Trustee Ruddock the meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Arlene Morell
Chairperson

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING

September 8, 2020, 6:00 P.M.
Teams Meeting

TRUSTEES

A. Morell (Chair)
J. Bennett
L. Pizzolato
M. Ruddock
B. Yeoman
C. Rahman
T. Rahman
N. Keller

B. McKinnon
S. Polhill
B. Smith
J. Skinner
P. Cuddy
C. Antone
S. Hunt
M. Dhaliwal

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher
J. Pratt
S. Builder
A. Canham
R. Culhane
C. Lynd
D. Wright
T. Testa
P. Skinner
S. Powell
B. Williams
K. Auckland

M. Moynihan
P. Sydor
R. Kuiper
L. Griffith-Jones
C. Giannacopoulos
L. Nicholls
A. Chahbar
S. Smith
D. Smith
A. Summers
J. Lock

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Morell called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

2. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with the playing of O Canada.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on motion by Trustee Cuddy, seconded by Trustee Ruddock.

4. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

5. RETURN TO LEARN UPDATE

Administration provided an update on the Return to Learn plan highlighting recent Ministry funding, transportation, class sizes, school reopening/remote learning, PPE, professional development, staffing, timetables and the communication plan.

Questions of clarification were addressed by Administration.

6. LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT: OUTBREAK PROTOCOL

Associate Director Pratt introduced Dr. J. Lock, Southwestern Public Health Unit and Dr. A. Summers, Middlesex-London Health Unit and explained their roles within the process.

Dr. Lock advised on the protocol noting the ongoing collaboration within the community.

Dr. Summers addressed concerns relevant to COVID-19 response and the necessity for the community to understand the principals for prevention.

Dr. Lock and Dr. Summers answered questions of clarification regarding the location of public health nurses in schools, surveillance testing, contact tracing for children, student screening, screening tools, reporting outbreaks to the public, the testing process and mask usage.

Chair Morell extended appreciation to Dr. Lock, and Dr. Summers, for their collaboration and support.

7. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, IN-CAMERA, 2020 SEPTEMBER 8

Trustee Ruddock reported the Committee of the Whole met in-camera from 5:00 p.m. to 5:34 p.m. The committee discussed confidential legal matters. There were no conflicts of interest declared. There were no recommendations.

J. Pratt advised Masonville Public School passed the city inspection today; staff are able to enter the build effective tomorrow. A detailed report will be provided at a future meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Trustee Ruddock, seconded by Trustee Bennett the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Arlene Morell
Chairperson

REPORT OF THE CHAIR'S COMMITTEE

2020 September 15
12:00 p.m. – 1:07 p.m.

MEMBERS

A. Morell (Chair) J. Bennett
M. Ruddock B. Yeoman
C. Rahman

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher B. Williams

The Chair's Committee met virtually using the TEAMS platform.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by motion.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – none declared

3. REVIEW UPCOMING BOARD MEETING AGENDAS

The in-camera and public Board meetings agendas for 2020 September 22 were reviewed and discussed.

4. PUBLIC INPUT REQUEST

Supervisor B. Williams reported on a public input application received noting the concerns were addressed through Administration to the satisfaction of the requestor.

5. ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FEE

The invoice and related correspondence regarding the 2020-2021 OPSBA membership was received (CC-1).

The following recommendation was moved and CARRIED:

That membership to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association be renewed.

The membership to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association will be paid in the amount of \$133,873.00 plus applicable taxes.

6. DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Chair Morell referred to the Director of Education Performance Review policy and procedure. Through discussion it was determined to forgo the formal process this year in light of the COVID-19 impacts on the board and to engage the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) to assist with the approach to take this year.

Director Fisher offered to reach out through CODE to determine how other Boards are approaching Director reviews in the current year.

It was agreed to confirm with the facilitator how they will engage Trustees in the process. Discussion considered tools that may be helpful in carrying out the process. It was noted OPSBA has been piloting a Director's Performance Assessment template tool.

Chair Morell offered to find potential dates for OESC to facilitate a process with the Board.

Director Fisher advised an update on the implementation of the operation plan will be provided at the 2020 October 13 Special Meeting of the Board.

In response to a question, it was clarified the review process is confidential. It was suggested that once the process has been carried out this year a review of the policy and procedure may be necessary.

7. BOARD MEETING DEBRIEF AND ETIQUETTE (STANDING ITEM)

The committee debriefed the last number of Board meetings with a view of improving meetings.

The return to the Boardroom in a hybrid model including both onsite and virtual participation was identified as positive.

The committee discussed areas for improvement and how best to move those improvements forward.

8. CHAIR'S COMMITTEE OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

A. Morell reported on the professional development activities that the Chair's Committee had identified previously. She will follow up with Trustee Antone regarding the indigenous learning opportunities identified and with the Ontario Education Services Corporation regarding Board self-assessment and team building.

9. TRUSTEES' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUESTS

None.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Through discussion it was agreed to host a virtual meetings with local MPPs. A date in November was suggested.

11. UPCOMING EVENTS/INITIATIVES

It was noted Orange Shirt day is on September 30.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for 2020 October 20, 12:00 p.m.

Discussion considered the timing of meetings noting not all members may be able to attend at noon.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m. by motion.

RECOMMENDATION:

That membership to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association be renewed.

ARLENE MORELL
CHAIR



ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates

Ontario Public School Boards' Association
439 University Avenue, 18th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8
Tel: (416) 340-2540
Fax: (416) 340-7571
webmaster@opsba.org
www.opsba.org

Invoice to:		Thames Valley District School Board P.O. Box 5888, Station B 1250 Dundas Street London, Ontario N6A 5L1	
Invoice#	35-20/21	Date:	September 01, 2020
		HST #10780 0344 RT 0001	
QTY	DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
	<p align="center">2020-2021 Membership Fee September 01, 2020 to August 31, 2021</p> <p>* Final Billing</p>		\$133,873.00
Please make cheque payable to:		Subtotal	\$133,873.00
Ontario Public School Boards' Association		HST @ 13%	\$17,403.49
Terms of Payment : Due upon receipt		Total	\$151,276.49

Copy 1 - Customer

Copy 2 - Accounting

Copy 3 - File



Leading Education's Advocates

Ontario Public School Boards' Association
439 University Avenue, 18th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8
Tel: (416) 340-2540
Fax: (416) 340-7571
webmaster@opsba.org
www.opsba.org

Cathy Abraham
President

W.R. (Rusty) Hick
Executive Director

August 18, 2020

TO: Arlene Morell, Board Chair and Mark Fisher, Director of Education
CC: Jeff Pratt, Associate Director and Treasurer

THAMES VALLEY DSB

This past year has been a school year like no other, with the COVID-19 pandemic and school closures starting in March, collective bargaining, and of course the opportunities and challenges of working with a government that is now halfway through their mandate.

That's why we've increased our efforts to ensure our multi-year priorities continue to guide the work of the Association as we advocate for outstanding programs, pedagogy and resources as well as a social and educational environment that nurtures the values of universality, inclusion, human rights, respect and kindness. Similar to other jurisdictions throughout the country and the world, we have been and are adjusting to a new normal that includes providing remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. While this transition has been the focus of much of OPSBA's recent work, it does not mean our advocacy has stopped. For example, we recently convened our consultative working groups to meet and discuss important factors and conditions that must be taken into account for a safe return to school. From that, our best advice was relayed to the Ministry of Education in a public submission and we were encouraged to see that most of our concerns were addressed in the government's framework. We will continue to work with our member boards to monitor implementation challenges and concerns and ensure these are shared with the ministry.

As we plan for next year, we will be looking closely at our conferences and events, and seeking to bring in appropriate speakers, have discussions, provide professional development and more to ensure we are doing everything we can to fight all forms of racism. We must also examine our operational activities to see what changes may be necessary, and whether there are additional policy or advocacy positions we can take in support of the fight against racism. We want to find ways to increase the representation of Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) running for Trustee or OPSBA positions, and look to provide the ability for these critical voices to be heard more easily by our Board of Directors, Executive Council and work teams. As an Association, we are also looking to enhance our professional development in this area and to establish more community connections with marginalized groups. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with your ideas.

As a non-partisan organization, we have a 32-year history of building positive and mutually respectful working relationships with politicians and staff from all parties represented in the Ontario Legislature. These relationships allow us to successfully represent the voice of our members on the many issues that affect our students and communities.

Minister of Education Stephen Lecce attended our Public Education Symposium (PES) in January and also addressed our Board of Directors in September 2019 and May 2020. Our second Advocacy Day at Queen's Park in November brought more than 50 public school board trustees and student trustees to Toronto to meet with MPPs and political staff, reinforcing OPSBA's advocacy position on key issues, such as the importance of investment in public education, Indigenous Education, curriculum, mental health supports and the value of democratic, locally elected trustees. The day began with a news conference that released the results of [polling and research](#) done in partnership with Nanos Research. This type of work has been reinforced by our Board of Directors, who directed the Association to plan more strategic government relations and public affairs activities.

OPSBA represents over 1.3 million students, or nearly 70% of the entire K-12 student population, including all 31 English public school boards as well as 10 school authorities. Collectively, this makes our organization the number one stakeholder voice for education in Ontario. Your school board is clearly a very big part of who we are and what we do. We advocate for public education every day, and the government knows that we have the weight of all of our members behind us.

Our experienced [Labour Relations](#) team successfully concluded and ratified central agreements with all education bargaining units. We are fortunate to have strong staff with outstanding expertise and credibility working to ensure student achievement and well-being are at forefront of all discussions and decisions. School boards continue to work toward implementation with the support of OPSBA Labour Relations staff.

While much of the advocacy work can be seen in our public submissions and meetings with key stakeholders, there is a great amount of day-to-day work that is done behind the scenes. OPSBA staff have direct and constant access to both the bureaucracy and political staff in the government as well as in the opposition parties. These relationships allow for conversations and the sharing of information to further support our common priorities.

OPSBA continues to be represented on a number of key government working tables and our work has resulted in a number of successful outcomes. Here are some additional highlights:

- ***Legislative Submissions and Government Consultations*** – OPSBA has engaged in a wide range of advocacy work related to the provincial government's legislative and regulatory agenda, including [submissions and letters](#) regarding:
 - [Ontario's Plan to Reopen Schools](#)
 - [2020-21 Education Funding](#)
 - [Bullying in schools and anti-bullying initiatives](#)
 - [Northern Ontario concerns](#)
 - [Education Development Charges](#)
- ***Mental Health and Well-Being*** – OPSBA continues in its role as a founding member of the [Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health](#). OPSBA and the Coalition's advocacy has led to the maintenance of mental health investments in the public education system for 2020-21 and beyond.
- ***Indigenous Education*** – OPSBA's [Indigenous Trustees' Council](#) continues to support the educational needs of Indigenous students, and to ensure all students are educated about the history and culture of Indigenous peoples. OPSBA continues to be a leading advocate in education in this area.

- **The Role of Trustee** – OPSBA updated a [series of resources](#) to support trustees and school boards for Local Government Week 2019. We also worked with OSTA-AECO to promote and award two new scholarships for graduates – the [Ontario Public Student Trustee Scholarship](#) and the [Public Property Assessment Network Scholarship](#). In addition, as part of OESC, we have shared and promoted the new and revised [Trustee Professional Development Program](#), which now includes a Certificate of Completion.
- **French as a Second Language** – OPSBA continues to lead a three-year Ontario Labour Market Partnership project with the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development entitled [Meeting Labour Market Needs for French as a Second Language Instruction in Ontario](#).

Our programs and services are highly cost effective. The financial benefits of membership far exceed not only the membership fee itself, but the outcomes that could be achieved by boards acting individually. Our collective voice is a strong one. Working with our partners at the [OESC](#), our interventions on copyright tariffs, natural gas rates and electricity rates have continued to create significant savings for all school boards and cover membership fees many times over. When this is combined with the other benefits created through our coordination and advocacy, the real value of board membership is clear.

Examples of 2019-20 savings realized for:

THAMES VALLEY DSB

Savings in Copyright Fees: \$ 190,050

Savings in Energy Costs: \$ 926,700

Please note: For the third year in a row, the OPSBA Board of Directors has approved a 0% increase for total membership fees. We have therefore kept the total membership fee (31 school boards and 10 school authorities combined) the same for four consecutive years. There may however be a slight change, up or down, to your individual board membership fee based on the fee model which is composed of a base amount and a percentage of your Board Administration and Governance Grant.

The 2020-21 OPSBA membership fee for your board is \$ 133,873.

Thank you for your continued support as a member of OPSBA and for your dedication to public education. You can learn more about the valuable services OPSBA offers your board by visiting www.opsba.org.

Sincerely,



Cathy Abraham
President



W.R. (Rusty) Hick
Executive Director

Attachment: Invoice for the 2020-21 OPSBA membership fee

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

AUDIT COMMITTEE

September 15, 2020

Teams Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

S. Hunt M. Nusink
A. Morell M. King
B. Smith

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

C. Lynd M. Fisher
J. Pratt S. Macey
J. Knight B. Williams

1. Call to Order

On motion the meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

On motion, the agenda was approved.

3. Conflicts of Interest - None declared.

4. Minutes of 2020 June 23 Meeting

The report of the 2020 June 23 meeting was provided for information.

5. Election of Chair

The following motion was moved and carried:

That A. Morell be appointed to the position of Chair, Audit Committee.

6. Audit Committee Declaration re: Conflict of Interest

The annual written declaration regarding conflicts of interest was provided. Members were asked to complete, take a photo and send to C. Lynd.

7. Evaluation of the Regional Internal Audit

C. Lynd advised a survey is to be completed by audit members as a means of evaluating Regional Internal Audit. C. Lynd provided a brief review of the role of the Regional Internal Audit services provided through PwC.

The committee completed the survey together. C. Lynd recorded the comments from Committee members.

8. Future Meeting Dates

Meetings are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday November 10, 2020, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday June 8, 2021, 3:30 p.m.

C. Lynd outlined the agenda items for November 10. Additional meetings may be called as needed.

9. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

ARLENE MORELL
Committee Chair