

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PROGRAM AND SCHOOL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 6, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
Board Room, Education Centre

Members: Trustees J. Bennett, R. Campbell, P. Jaffe, B. McKinnon, S. Polhill, M. Reid, R. G. Hart, A. Morell, J. Todd, J. Skinner

Regrets: P. Schuyler, R. Tisdale, C. Goodall; Student Trustee N. Bajaj, S. Chun, I. Frick

Administration: L. Elliott (Director), R. Culhane (Associate Director), D. Macpherson (Superintendent), S. Builder (Superintendent), M. Moynihan (Superintendent), M. Stanley (Learning Supervisor)(-6:57), A. Roth (Learning Coordinator) (-6:57), M. Roes (Learning Supervisor)(-7:51), C. Stager (Manager, Research & Assessment) (-7:51), L. Kirkpatrick(Research Associate, Research and Assessment) (-7:51), S. Smith (Corporate Services)

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved on motion.

2. Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the 2018 October 2 meeting were provided for information.

a. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

None.

4. Elementary Guidance Lead Initiative

D. Macpherson, M. Stanley and A. Roth presented information on the development of the Elementary Guidance Leads Initiative, noting feedback has been obtained from staff and parents over the last few weeks.

A package was presented to the committee containing key points from Ministry research, Global Competencies, a sample of the Student Learning Individual Profile (SLIP), a description of the Elementary Guidance Lead position and a potential newsletter drafted for elementary schools to be sent out 2018 December.

An interactive demonstration of Plickers was performed with the Trustees to demonstrate how it would be applied in the classroom.

The committee was asked to reflect on their own "Hopes for Secondary School" and what they were "awesome at" as they transitioned into secondary school by filling out these two boxes on the Student Learning Individual Profile to put themselves in the student's shoes. These boxes on

the Student Learning Individual Profile will be used to help engage students in extracurricular activities.

Questions of clarification were addressed by M. Stanley and D. Macpherson.

It was noted the initiative currently aligns with the TVDSB 2018-2019 Operational Plan.

5. Chromebook Outcomes/Learning

S. Builder, M. Roes. C. Stager and L. Kirkpartick reported on the Chromebook Pilot Project.

An update was provided on the status of the pilot project, noting the pilot is in year two of the initiative. The seven participating schools currently have Chromebooks for students in grades nine and ten.

The focus group and survey results of students and teachers was shared.

Questions of clarification were address by S. Builder and L. Kirkpatrick and M. Moynihan. It was noted repair/replacement costs have been lower than anticipated.

Trustees raised concerns regarding the overuse of technology and the importance of putting limitations on use; and the equitable access to the internet across the system.

6. Cursive Writing Curriculum Expectations

S. Builder provided a verbal report outlining the references to cursive writing in the Ontario Language Curriculum, noting it is no longer part of the grade 1-8 curriculum.

Some trustees noted concerns regarding the declining skills of students to read and/or use cursive writing.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Questions and Comments by Members

Concerns were raised regarding the use of apps for school to home communication.

9. Community Advisory Updates (Standing Item)

B. McKinnon reported on the Safe and Active Healthy Schools Committee, it was noted that there are still issues with people parking in the No Stopping and No Parking Zones. The next meeting will be held 2018 December 5.

10. Future Agenda Items

No discussion.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 2019 January 8.

The meeting was adjourned on motion at 8:16 p.m.

Committee Chair