

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PROGRAM AND SCHOOL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 5, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
London Room

Members: Trustees J. Bennett, B. McKinnon, S. Polhill, J. Skinner, P. Cuddy, B. Yeoman, L. Pizzoalto (+6:20), B. Smith, M. Ruddock, C. Rahman; C. Antone; Student Trustees S. Chun, N. Bajaj

Regrets: A. Morell, S. Hunt; Student Trustee I. Frick

Administration: L. Elliott (Director), R. Culhane (Associate Director), D. Macpherson (Superintendent), C. Giannacopoulos (Superintendent), P. Sydor (Superintendent)(-7:05), A. Wall (Tu Puente Supervisor)(-7:05), C. Wall (Tu Puente Representative)(-7:05), T. Tomico (Tu Puente Representative)(-7:05), 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 2019 February 5 meeting were provided for information.

a. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

None.

4. Tu Puente

P. Sydor introduced A. Wall, T. Tomico and C. Wall to the committee and briefly outlined their professional backgrounds and how they became involved in Tu Puente. P. Sydor provided an overview of Tu Puente noting it translates as "bridging the gap" and explained Tu Puente's purpose within TVDSB, and how it benefits TVDSB students.

A. Wall, T. Tomico and C. wall provided information on the Low German Mennonite Community including it's history, culture and challenges faced by students. The Tu Puente program was outlined. A video was presented highlighting the impact of the program on students and parents. The alignment to the Boards Strategic Priorities was noted.

Questions of clarification were answered by A. Wall.

5. Rethink Secondary Learning Overview

D. Macpherson provided information on the Rethink Secondary Learning Initiative noting it is in the second year of implementation following two years of research, consultation and planning. The program continues to be a major driver of learning in Secondary schools.

Through a power point presentation D. Macpherson described initiatives currently underway including specialized programming, efforts to improve access to all program pathways at each school, improvements to technology equity, enhanced learning spaces and the integration of global competencies into student learning.

S. Polhill spoke to her personal experience with the Rethink program at Beal.

Questions of clarification were answered by Administration.

6. Municipal Joint Meetings

L. Elliott reported on the Municipal Joint Meetings that will be Co-Chaired by the Chairs of the TVDSB and LDCSB with the Municipality in attendance. This year the meetings will be hosted at the Education Centre.

Dates of the meetings may be found in the Chair's reports. T. Levschuk will send a request for agenda items. S. Polhill stressed the importance of having all items on the agenda so each party can properly prepare for the meeting.

L. Elliott encouraged Trustees to attend the meeting scheduled with their Municipality.

7. Community Advisory Committee Updates (Standing Item)

L. Pizzolato noted that 2019 May 6-11 is Community Safety Week.

8. Other Business

B. McKinnon advised the committee regarding the Code of Conduct, noting the Chair is the spokesperson for the Board. No Trustee will speak on behalf of the Board unless explicitly requested to do so by the Chair.

In response to a question L. Elliott reviewed the process for responding to media inquiries.

In response to a question it was noted Chair Morell will attend each Municipal meeting as she is able.

9. Questions and Comments of Members (Standing Item)

S. Polhill gathered feedback from the committee about the change in meeting venue.

10. Future Agenda Items

No discussion.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 2019 April 2.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on motion at 9:01 p.m.

Sheri Polhill
Committee Chair