

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 22, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
Board Room, Education Centre

TRUSTEES

D. Cripps	L. Osbourne
L. Hopkins	L. Pizzolato (+7:13)
M. Larsen	S. Polhill (+7:13)
B. Mai (Chair)	M. Ruddock (-8:32)
G. McGahey	C. Sachs
S. Moore	B. Smith
A. Morell	

STUDENT TRUSTEES

E. Park
S. Vimal
L. Westlake

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

B. Tucker	S. Powell
K. Auckland	P. Skinner
J. Baker	P. Sydor
J. Bruce	G. Vogt
S. Builder	K. Wilkinson
A. Canham	D. Wright
L. Devos	A. Chahbar
C. Giannacopoulos	S. Smith
L. Griffith-Jones	C. Stager (-8:41)
C. Lynd	S. Gingras
	S. Hickson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Mai called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Board Chair Mai acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

3. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with a performance of O Canada by Sir John A. MacDonald Junior and Intermediate Choir.

4. SPECIAL MUSICAL PRESENTATION

Trustee Osbourne welcomed the Sir John A. MacDonald Junior and Intermediate Choir. Trustee Larsen extended appreciation to the Choir for their performance and to Conductor A. McIntosh for leading the playing of O Canada and two musical selections.

The meeting stood at ease while the Choir vacated the Board room.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Without objection, the agenda was approved with the following amendments:

- Add a verbal report from the Chair of the Board Governance and Bylaw Review Committee as item #15.h
- Change the Committee of the Whole Report to item #15.i

a. CONSENT AGENDA

The following motion was adopted as part of the consent agenda:

THAT the minutes of the 2024 September 24 Regular Board meeting be approved.

6. OFFICIAL RECORD

None.

7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

8. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Chair Mai welcomed and introduced newly appointed First Nations Trustee Gina McGahey.

Board Chair Mai discussed the importance of Local Government Week and invited Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) Trustees to share their experiences engaging with their school communities over the course of the week. Board Chair Mai thanked students, schools, Trustees, and the Ontario Public School Boards' Association for their participation.

9. CHAIR'S VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

Board Chair Mai presented her Valedictory Address.

Moved by L. Pizzolato

Seconded by D. Cripps

THAT the Chair's Valedictory Address (Board-1) be included as an appendix to the minutes.

ADOPTED

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Interim Director Tucker advised on the hiring of three new Superintendents and highlighted activities throughout the TVDSB including storytelling through art to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

The TVDSB hosted a Special Education Community Engagement event which hosted over 100 families from across the district who provided feedback and insight into their experiences with special education.

Olympic Gold Medalist and Banting Secondary School alumni Maggie MacNeil visited the school to participate in a pep rally.

Appreciation was extended to all TVDSB's custodians in relation to National Custodial Workers Recognition Day.

11. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

12. MINUTES OF THE 2024 SEPTEMBER 24 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

a. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the 2024 September 24 Regular Board meeting were approved, as printed, as part of agenda item #5.a Consent Agenda.

b. Unfinished Business

None.

13. STUDENT TRUSTEE UPDATE

a. Student Advisory Council, 2024 October 9

Student Trustees Vimal, Park, and Westlake presented highlights of the Student Advisory Council (SAC) Orientation session including a keynote address on inclusivity, working group structures, the use of plastic water bottles on TVDSB properties, and menstrual equity.

Student Trustees shared they will be acting as the emcees for the upcoming TVDSB retirement reception.

14. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

a. School Naming

1. Results of the School Community Poll for the Naming of the new Northwest London Public School

Superintendent Griffith-Jones shared the results of the Naming Selection Committee's recommended name for the new Northwest London Public School. A survey poll was conducted to collect rank order preferences from the list of three names identified by the Naming Selection Committee.

Superintendent Griffith-Jones extended appreciation to the Naming Selection Committee.

There was no debate or questions of clarification.

Moved by S. Moore

Seconded by B. Smith

THAT the Board approve the Naming Selection Committee's recommendation that the new Northwest London public school be named Northwest Public School based on the first-choice naming preference of respondents.

ADOPTED

2. Results of the School Community Poll for the Naming of the new Southwest London Public School

Superintendent Griffith-Jones shared the results of the Naming Selection Committee's recommended name for the new Southwest London Public School. A survey poll was conducted to collect rank order preferences from the list of three names identified by the Naming Selection Committee.

There was no debate or questions of clarification.

Moved by S. Moore

Seconded by L. Pizzolato

THAT the Board approve the Naming Selection Committee's recommendation that the new Southwest London public school be named White Pine Public School based on the first-choice naming preference of respondents.

ADOPTED

3. Results of the School Community Poll for the Naming of the new North Woodstock Public School

Superintendent Griffith-Jones shared the results of the Naming Selection Committee's recommended name for the new North Woodstock Public School. A survey poll was conducted to collect rank order preferences from the list of three names identified by the Naming Selection Committee.

There was no debate or questions of clarification.

Moved by D. Cripps
Seconded by L. Hopkins

THAT the Board approve the Naming Selection Committee's recommendation that the new North Woodstock public school be named Turtle Island Public School based on the first-choice naming preference of respondents.

ADOPTED

b. Updated Suspension, Expulsion, and Violent Incident Data

Superintendent Wright and Manager Stager shared updated suspension, expulsion and violent incident data for the TVDSB, the West region and the province. Connections to the TVDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan were outlined.

It was noted that further data will be provided as it becomes available.

Questions of clarification were addressed by Administration regarding pre and post COVID data trends, strategies to achieve suspension and expulsion objectives as compared to provincial averages, and whether demographic data can be provided in the future.

Without objection, the meeting recessed at 8:41 p.m. and reconvened at 8:48 p.m.

15. REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

a. Thames Valley Parent Involvement Committee, 2024 September 18

Trustee Larsen referred to the written report of the Thames Valley Parent Involvement Committee (TVPIC) provided to Trustees in the agenda package.

There were no recommendations or questions of clarification.

b. Audit Committee, 2024 October 1 and 2024 October 9 (Special)

Trustee Hopkins referred to the written reports of the Audit Committee provided to the Trustees in their agenda package.

There were no recommendations or questions of clarification.

c. Chair's Committee, 2024 October 1 (Special) and 2024 October 15

Trustee Cripps referred to the written reports of the Chair's Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package. The recommendation was outlined.

There was no debate or questions of clarification.

Moved by D. Cripps

Seconded by C Sachs

THAT the membership to the Ontario Student Trustee's Association-l'Association des élèves conseillers et conseillères de l'Ontario (OSTA-AECO) in the amount of \$9,651.33 be paid for the 2024-2025 school year.

ADOPTED

d. Program and School Services Advisory Committee, 2024 October 1

Trustee Smith referred to the written report of the Program and School Services Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package.

There were no recommendations or questions of clarification.

e. Special Education Advisory Committee, 2024 October 7

Trustee Pizzolato referred to the written report of the Special Education Advisory Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package.

There were no recommendations or questions of clarification.

f. Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee, 2024 October 8

Trustee Pizzolato referred to the written report of the Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee provided to the Trustees in the agenda package.

The recommendations of the committee were outlined.

There was no debate or questions of clarification.

Moved by L. Pizzolato

Seconded by C. Sachs

THAT Administration proceed with the Southeast London Elementary Panel Attendance Area Review and establish an Attendance Area Review Committee for the purpose of obtaining

public feedback regarding the accommodation options included in the Initial Attendance Area Review Report.

ADOPTED

There was no debate or questions of clarification.

Moved by L. Pizzolato

Seconded by A. Morell

THAT Administration proceed with the Adelaide Metcalfe and Strathroy-Caradoc Elementary Panel Attendance Area Review and establish an Attendance Area Review Committee for the purpose of obtaining public feedback regarding the accommodation options included in the Initial Attendance Area Review Report.

ADOPTED

Trustees in favour of the motion argued a phased approach allows for flexibility in accommodating all students and reflects the sustainability goals and objectives in the Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP).

Questions of clarification were addressed by Trustees regarding the flexibility of the motion.

Questions of clarification were addressed by Administration regarding the wording of the motion.

A point of clarification was well taken by the Board Chair regarding the motion's scope to provide an exception for Indigenous students where required in the phased approach.

Moved by L. Pizzolato

Seconded by M. Larsen

THAT a phased process to end the purchase and sale of single-use water bottles on all TVDSB properties where it doesn't impact student well-being begin in January 2025 with clear and consistent communication and education about single-use plastic bottles be prioritized.

ADOPTED

Amendment:

Moved by D. Cripps

Seconded by S. Moore

TO insert "where it doesn't impact student well-being" after
"properties."

ADOPTED

g. Policy Working Committee, 2024 October 8

Trustee Cripps referred to the written report of the Policy Working Committee provided to Trustees in the agenda package.

There were no recommendations or questions of clarification.

h. Board Governance and Bylaw Review Committee Update

Trustee Cripps provided a verbal report stating that the committee met on October 21, 2024 and discussed aligning all committee Terms of Reference by allowing two meeting extensions for committees and shared that a Committee Self-Assessment Working Group was formed to develop self-assessment survey questions.

Recommendations from the committee will be brought to the November 2024 Board meeting regarding adopting the Ontario Public School Board's Association Trustee Code of Conduct.

There were no recommendations or questions of clarification.

i. Committee of the Whole, In-Camera, 2024 October 1 (Special), 2024 October 8 (Special) and 2024 October 22

Trustee Cripps reported the Committee of the Whole met in-camera on 2024 October 1 from 9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. There were no conflicts of interest declared. The committee discussed confidential personnel matters.

Trustee Cripps reported the Committee of the Whole met in-camera on 2024 October 8 from 5:37 p.m. to 6:12 p.m. There were no conflicts of interest declared. The committee discussed confidential legal and personnel matters.

Trustee Cripps reported the Committee of the Whole met in-camera on 2024 October 22 from 5:02 p.m. to 6:18 p.m. There were no conflicts of interest declared. The committee discussed confidential legal, negotiation, and personnel matters.

Moved by D. Cripps
Seconded by S. Moore

THAT the motion at the in-camera session of 2024 October 1
related to personnel matters be approved.

ADOPTED

Moved by D. Cripps
Seconded by S. Moore

THAT the motions at the in-camera session of 2024 October 22
related to personnel matters be approved.

ADOPTED

16. TRUSTEE UPDATES FROM EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

a. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

Trustee Moore provided an update from the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPBSA), noting a recent joint regional meeting in Stratford, Ontario with school boards from the Central West region.

b. Thames Valley Education Foundation (TVEF)

Trustee Cripps provided highlights from the Thames Valley Education Foundation (TVEF), noting 4,200 backpacks with school supplies were distributed throughout the TVDSB region in support of the Best First Day program. In September, Caring Fund requests totalling \$12,000 were supported.

Other highlights included the upcoming Journey Beneath the Waves fundraiser taking place February 8, 2025 and the launch of the TVEF's Food Security Fund.

Trustee Cripps extended appreciation to all staff for their support through the payroll deduction program.

c. Thames Valley Council of Home and School Associations

Trustee Sachs provided an update on the Thames Valley Council of Home and School Associations, noting that lottery licenses will be discussed at the next meeting.

d. Active and Safe Routes to School

Trustee Larsen provided an update on the Active and Safe Routes to School Committee, noting that October was International Walk to School Month. In recognition, a contest was organized for students to tell their story about how their journey to school keeps them safe and active.

Additionally, the committee has been involved in the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) Safety Patrols, where students are trained to be "safety patrollers."

17. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

18. NOTICE OF MOTION

None.

19. MOTION – NOTICE OF WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN

Trustee Cripps provided the rationale for the motion.

Trustees in favour of the motion argued the demonstrated benefits of a Student Trustee serving a second term.

Trustees against the motion argued that extending the Student Trustee term length could have unintended implications such as limiting access to the role.

Questions of clarification were addressed by Trustees regarding the flexibility of the motion to allow for other ideas such as the creation of a Past Student Trustee role, the possible limitations of including the words "term length" in the motion, and the intent and purpose of the motion.

Moved by D. Cripps

Seconded by C. Sachs

THAT the Policy Working Committee, working with the Student Advisory Council, review the Student Trustees on the Board Policy (2010) and make recommendations to the Board.

ADOPTED

Amendment:

Moved by D. Cripps

Seconded by S. Moore

TO strike "the term length for Student Trustees as outlined" after "review."

ADOPTED

20. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

Questions of clarification were addressed by Administration regarding school nutrition programs and the potential impact to the TVDSB resulting from the City of London's boundary changes.

A question was raised about the possibility of a motion to bring information on TVDSB priority schools to a future Program and School Services Advisory Committee meeting noting consensus from the Board would be required. The process for adding agenda items to an Advisory Committee meeting was clarified.

Appreciation was extended to Interim Director Tucker for his work and dedication to the TVDSB community.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Beth Mai
Chairperson

Recording Secretary: SH

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

November 19, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Board Room, Education Centre

TRUSTEES

D. Cripps	L. Osbourne
M. Larsen	L. Pizzolato
B. Mai	S. Polhill
G. McGahey	M. Ruddock
S. Moore	C. Sachs
A. Morell	B. Smith

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

B. Tucker	P. Skinner
K. Auckland	G. Vogt
J. Bruce	K. Wilkinson
S. Builder	D. Wright
A. Canham	A. Chahbar
L. De Vos	M. Young
C. Giannacopoulos	S. Smith
L. Griffith-Jones	S. Hickson
C. Lynd	J. Meyer
	K. Rea

STUDENT TRUSTEES

S. Vimal

REGRETS

L. Hopkins

ABSENT

E. Park
L. Westlake

1. CALL TO ORDER

Interim Director Tucker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Interim Director Tucker acknowledged the traditional territory on which the Board meeting is held.

3. O CANADA

The meeting was opened with the playing of O Canada by the H.B. Beal Secondary School Band.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion, the agenda was approved as printed.

Moved by A. Morell
Seconded by M. Ruddock

ADOPTED

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

6. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

6.a Election of Chair of the Board 2024-2025

Interim Director Tucker presided over the election of the 2024-2025 Chair of the Board and called for nominations.

Moved by D. Cripps
Seconded by S. Polhill

THAT nominations for the election of Chair of the Board be closed.

ADOPTED

Moved by C. Sachs
Seconded by M. Ruddock

THAT the nomination ballots for the election of Chair of the Board be destroyed.

ADOPTED

Trustees Cripps, Mai, and Morell were nominated. Following a confidential vote, Trustees Cripps and Mai declared their acceptance of the nomination and spoke to the nomination in random order.

Trustee Morell thanked the nominator and declined the nomination.

Trustee Mai was elected to the office of the Chair of the Board and assumed the Chair.

6.b Election of Vice Chair of the Board 2024-2025

Board Chair Mai called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Board for 2024-2025.

Moved by C. Sachs
Seconded by S. Moore

THAT nominations for the election of Vice Chair be closed.

ADOPTED

Moved by M. Ruddock
Seconded by A. Morell

THAT the nomination ballots for the election of Vice Chair be destroyed.

ADOPTED

Trustees Cripps and Pizzolato were nominated. Following a confidential vote, Trustee Cripps declared acceptance of the nomination.

Trustee Pizzolato thanked the nominator and declined the nomination.

Trustee Cripps was acclaimed to the office of the Vice Chair of the Board.

7. ELECTIONS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRS

7.a Election of Program and School Services Advisory Committee Chair for 2024-2025

Board Chair Mai called for nominations for the position of Program and School Services Advisory Committee Chair for 2024-2025.

Moved by S. Moore
Seconded by D. Cripps

THAT nominations for the election of Program and School Services Advisory Committee Chair be closed.

ADOPTED

Moved by L. Pizzolato
Seconded by C. Sachs

THAT the ballots for election of Program and School Services Advisory Committee Chair be destroyed.

ADOPTED

Trustees Smith, Larsen and Sachs were nominated. Following a confidential vote, Trustee Smith declared his acceptance of the nomination.

Trustees Larsen and Sachs thanked their nominators and declined the nomination.

Trustee Smith was acclaimed to the office of the Chair of the Program and School Services Advisory Committee.

7.b Election of Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee Chair for 2024-2025

Board Chair Mai called for nominations for the position of Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee Chair for 2024-2025.

Moved by S. Moore

Seconded by A. Morell

THAT nominations for the election of Planning and Priorities Committee Chair be closed.

ADOPTED

Moved by M. Ruddock

Seconded by B. Smith

THAT the nomination ballots for the election of Planning and Priorities Committee Chair be destroyed.

ADOPTED

Trustees Pizzolato, Larsen, Sachs, Polhill, and Morell were nominated. Following a confidential vote, Trustees Sachs and Morell declared their acceptance of the nominations.

Trustees Pizzolato, Larsen, and Polhill thanked their nominators and declined the nomination.

Trustee Morell spoke to the nomination. Trustee Sachs declined to speak to the nomination.

Trustee Morell was elected to the office of the Chair of the Program and Planning Advisory Committee.

8. OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

Superintendent Lynd presented the report to appoint by name the Officers of the Board, who shall be the Interim Director of Education and Treasurer both of whom, along with the Chair and Vice Chair, shall have signing authority on behalf of the Board for the period November 19, 2024 to November 18, 2025.

In accordance with the Thames Valley District School Board Bylaws, Meetings (6.2.1), as follows:

An Organizational Meeting shall be held before the Inaugural Meeting to elect the Chair and Vice Chair as outlined in Article 5 – Election of Executive Members and to appoint the signing officers of the Board who shall be the Board Chair and Vice Chair; Director of Education; and Associate Director, Organizational Support Services; and Treasurer.

Moved by B. Smith

Seconded by M. Ruddock

THAT the following persons be appointed bank signing officers on behalf of the Board for the period November 19, 2024 to November 18, 2025:

Beth Mai, Chair of the Board

David Cripps, Vice Chair of the Board

Bill Tucker, Interim Director of Education

Cathy Lynd, Superintendent of Business and Treasurer

ADOPTED

9. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Beth Mai
Chairperson

Recording Secretary: JM