

THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 19, 2024, 3:10 p.m. – 4:32 p.m.
London Room

MEMBERS

G. McGahey, Chair
M. Larsen, Trustee
L. Pizzolato, Trustee
B. Summers, Oneida Nation of the Thames
O. Correia, Munsee-Delaware
S. Styers, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

L. Westlake, Indigenous Student Trustee
(+3:14)

ABSENT

A. George-Antone, Oneida Nation of the Thames
J. Kennedy, Oneida Nation of the Thames
C. Kechego, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

K. Auckland, Superintendent
M. Keyes, Learning Coordinator, Indigenous Education
S. McGahey-Albert, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Advisor
K. Doxtator, Learning Coordinator, Indigenous Education
C. Breen, Principal, Delaware P.S.
T. Woollings, Principal, H.B. Beal S.S.
P. Atack, Vice Principal, Lambeth P.S.
B. Nielsen, Principal, Saunders S.S.
M. Sanders, Principal, Strathroy D.C.I.
S. Gingras, Communications Specialist
L. Kite, Board Services

1. **Call to Order**

Chair McGahey called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

2. **Confirmation of Agenda**

On motion, the agenda was approved as printed.

3. **Conflicts of Interest**

None declared.

4. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

On motion, the minutes of the 2024 October 16 meeting were approved as printed.

5. **Principal Updates - Information Only (Standing Item)**

Principals and Vice Principals who were in attendance highlighted initiatives, events and programming.

6. Unfinished Business

None.

7. Items Up for Public Input - Information Only (Standing Item)

None.

8. Program Spotlight (Standing Item)

None.

9. Indigenous Student Trustee Announcements (Standing Item)

Indigenous Student Trustee Westlake provided an update from the Ontario Student Trustees' Association - l'Association des élèves conseillers et conseillères de l'Ontario (OSTA-AECO) conference. The TVDSB Indigenous portfolio presented Indigenous Student Trustee Westlake with the medallion.

It was noted that the medallion for Indigenous Student Trustees to wear to meetings and functions was created using the Indigenous Portfolio logo which was designed by a former student.

10. Learning Support Services Update (Standing Item)

a. Indigenous Education Portfolio Update

Administration provided an Indigenous Education Portfolio update highlighting activities and events.

b. Board Action Plan (BAP) Update

Administration indicated that the Indigenous Education Portfolio will be meeting with the Education Officer from the Ministry of Education the week of November 25 to review last year's Board Action Plan (BAP).

It was noted Administration will meet with the Indigenous Working Group to begin work on the next version of the BAP and will bring a financial update to a future FNAC meeting.

c. Alternative Education Site Update

None.

11. School Counselling and Social Work Services Update (Standing Item)

None.

12. Jordan's Principle (Standing Item)

Superintendent Auckland provided an update on Jordan's Principle noting there were minimal requests between 2024 October and November.

Questions of clarification were addressed by Administration regarding funding for Jordan's Principle.

It was noted that a presentation on Jordans' Principle will be provided to FNAC at the 2025 February 19 meeting.

Administration provided clarification on the request for Education Assistant (EAs) support, and the process for parents/families to request Jordan's Principle funding to support students.

13. Community Updates (Standing Item)

a. Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

Committee member Styers provided an update noting a new principal was hired in 2024 September, the hiring of two Knowledge Keepers, sweat lodges have been installed on playgrounds, extra-curricular activities are being planned, the formation of a theatre group, community and parent engagement events were well attended, and upcoming discussions regarding the Education Services Agreement.

b. Munsee-Delaware Nation

Committee member Correia provided an update noting students are attending Delaware Central Public School, and ongoing monthly meetings with Administration from Strathroy District Collegiate Institute.

c. Oneida Nation of the Thames

Committee member Summers provided an update noting the planning of the 50th anniversary of the building of the elementary school, the approval of a new elementary school build, capital projects within the community, a holiday pageant, literacy and numeracy professional development sessions and training for staff, the vacant Intermediate Student Advocate position, and the Education Services Agreement.

Without objection, the meeting was extended until 4:40 p.m.

14. Other Business

a. Board Services Update

Board Services Assistant Kite shared upcoming professional development opportunities hosted by Board Services and encouraged committee

members to attend. Specific event details will be forwarded by Board Services.

15. Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be held 2025 January 21 at Saunders Secondary School.

16. Adjournment

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Recommendations: None.

Gina McGahey
CHAIRPERSON

Recording Secretary: LK