

Presentations

TLDSB Skilled Trades

Superintendent Bruce Barrett introduced Secondary School Improvement and Student Success department staff, Pathways Consultant Tim McAlpine and District Principal of Secondary School Improvement David Sornberger. Trustees were presented with some of the highlights from the 2014-2015 school year such as the Tech It Out skilled trades camp and a visit to the provincial skilled trades competition. There has been very positive feedback from students, staff, and parents about all of the secondary pathways opportunities that are made available in TLDSB schools. Of particular note is the increasing engagement by girls in skilled trades and apprenticeships. Trustees were encouraged to attend an event where motivating and dynamic speaker, Bobby Watt, will be speaking to staff and students at Fenelon Falls Secondary School on October 1, 2015.



An exciting new initiative is a “Best in TLDSB” skills competition that will take place for students this year. Secondary students will be able to qualify for the provincial skilled trades competition in the areas of construction, welding, robotics, and culinary arts. Elementary students will be able to participate by competing in a technology challenge similar to the kind offered at the OTSC competitions in Waterloo.

Administrative Reports:

Strategic Plan

Director of Education Larry Hope highlighted results from the [2014-2015 Strategic Action Plan](#) indicating the key outcomes and impact on student achievement as initiatives relate to student engagement, staff engagement, and parent and community engagement.

Director Hope then took trustees through the [2015-2016 Strategic Action Plan](#). The new action plan outlines the continuation of a number of items as well as the introduction of several new initiatives. Using the 2011-2015 Strategic Directions as a guide, the current plan continues to

focus on student engagement and achievement, staff engagement and development, and parent and community engagement.

Program Enhancement

Each year the board allocates \$160,000 to a Program Enhancement Fund. Educational staff apply to the fund with projects and ideas that encourage student engagement, promote student well-being, support the principles of equity and inclusion, and demonstrate a direct application to curriculum.

Last year, 66 projects were funded to support the work that teacher and support staff wanted to do both within and outside of TLDSB schools. Trustees were provided with an overview of all the 2014-2015 projects.

Over 90 project ideas have been submitted for this year. Trustees will be meeting on Friday to review the applications.

School Climate Survey Results 2015

The Ministry of Education requires school boards to collect school climate data every two years. Superintendent of Specialized Services and Safe and Accepting Schools Katherine MacIver shared the TLDSB May 2015 school climate survey results with trustees. The TLDSB Feed All Four model was used in framing survey questions under the headings body, mind, spirit, and emotions. The results indicated there is a general sense of pride in TLDSB schools and facilities. Individuals feel welcome, connected, and respected. Challenges that were identified include peer inclusion, kindness, and confidence in the support that is available. Schools will receive their own data to help inform their practice in their buildings.

Policies and Procedures

BD-2300/2301 Public Concerns Policy and Procedure

Using the communication steps outlined on the TLDSB website, a new policy and procedure has been developed to stress the importance of addressing any public concerns in a fair, respectful, and timely manner. Recent changes to legislation, including giving oversight of school boards to the Ombudsman of Ontario have precipitated the need for school boards to ensure their procedures for handling public concerns are clearly outlined and well-articulated. The new document may be found soon on the [board website](#).

Future Meetings:

MEETING	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Committee of the Whole	October 13, 2015	6:30 p.m.	Bracebridge
Regular Board Meeting	October 27, 2015	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	November 10, 2015	6:30 p.m.	Minden
Regular Board Meeting	November 24, 2015	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Organizational Meeting	December 8, 2015	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay

All meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. with the In-Camera agenda. The public portion of all meetings begins at approximately 6:30 p.m. Videoconference facilities are available in Minden, Bracebridge, and Lindsay with prior notice to the Communications Department. The live webcast of **Regular Meetings of the Board of Trustees** is found at www.tldsbc.ca.