

Presentations

Robotics in TLDSB

Superintendent of Early Years and Elementary School Improvement, Andrea Gillespie, introduced a presentation on robotics in TLDSB. This year the elementary curriculum department has been supporting robotics in schools with an emphasis on capacity building so that many more teachers see the benefit of coding and robotics in the classroom.



Denise Jordan, a classroom teacher at Spruce Glen Public School, provided an overview of the TLDSB robotics program. Robotics has been running in TLDSB for over 15 years with consistent improvements year over year. The program consists of building and programming robots using Lego EV3 kits. This year there are 27 schools and 500 students participating. Six to eight students from each of these schools will participate in a RoboFair on Friday, April 29th at Gravenhurst Public School. This year students are building a sumo wrestler-type robot called a “Sumobot.” At the RoboFair, four sumobots will compete at one time to push each other off the table.

The April 29th event will involve elementary and secondary students - tomorrow’s technology leaders. Watch the [TLDSB twitter feed](#) to see how the Sumobots compete!

Administrative Reports

2015-2016 Strategic Action Plan Mid-Year Update

Trustees were updated on the progress to date of reaching the key outcomes outlined in the Trillium Lakelands District School Board Strategic Action Plan. Director of Education Larry Hope highlighted a number of items including career cruising for grade 7 to 12 students, math and literacy supports, skilled trades opportunities, parent fact sheets on exceptionalities, and SchoolConnects training for teachers.

Suspensions and Expulsions Update

Katherine MacIver, Superintendent of Specialized Services and Safe and Accepting Schools, shared with trustees data around suspensions and expulsions in the board from September 2015 to January 2016. The data was compared to the same period in prior years as well as by gender and by panel (elementary and secondary). The suspension and expulsion rate in TLDSB has remained consistent and in line with the provincial rate over the last four years. Schools have been asked to set a Safe and Accepting Schools goal. As a result, schools have requested information and supports around self-regulation. Feed All Four as our way of being ties in very well in helping students to self-regulate in the classroom.

2016-2017 School Year Calendar

The 2016-2017 school year calendar was approved. Various groups throughout the district were given the opportunity to express concerns and suggestions around the proposed calendar. Ninety-five staff members, parents, students, and community members commented with an 81% positive response for the proposed calendar. The calendar will now be submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval. The draft calendar may be found on the [TLDSB website](#).

2015-2016 Pupil Accommodation Long Term Plan

Trustees approved the 2015-2016 Pupil Accommodation Long Term Plan presented by Director of Education Larry Hope and Superintendent of Business Bob Kaye at the February 9, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting.

The Pupil Accommodation Long Term Plan is a road map indicating areas in the board where there is accommodation pressure, where schools are underutilized, where a school consolidation is suggested, and where there are no suggested recommendations. This plan will inform the next steps in the Pupil Accommodation Review and Facility Partnerships processes.

Potential community partnership opportunities are referenced in the long term plan. Community partners will be invited to identify opportunities for partnerships. School board administration will consider all options for schools including boundary changes and community partnerships before presenting a report to the board with a recommendation for a Pupil Accommodation Review. Enrolment projections and the ability to provide educational programming, as well as the cost of maintenance to buildings, are considered when recommending a school or group of schools for Pupil Accommodation Review. Any documents and information relating to Pupil Accommodation Reviews, Facility Partnership opportunities, process, and reports are available on the [board website](#).

Policies and Procedures

The following policies and procedures were approved following review:

BU-3045/3046	Community Use of Schools
HR-4080/4081	Confidentiality of Medical Records
BD-2105/2106	Flag Protocol

Future Meetings:

MEETING	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Regular Board Meeting	March 22, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	April 12, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Bracebridge
Regular Board Meeting	April 26, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	May 10, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Minden
Regular Board Meeting	May 24, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Regular Board Meeting	June 14, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Regular Board Meeting	August 30, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	September 13, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Bracebridge
Regular Board Meeting	September 27, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	October 11, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Minden
Regular Board Meeting	October 25, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	November 8, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Bracebridge
Regular Board Meeting	November 22, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Annual Organizational Meeting	December 13, 2016	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.tlidsb.ca.