

Presentations

Supporting English Language Learners in TLDSB

Superintendent of Learning, Andrea Gillespie introduced to trustees Jennifer Murphy, a board consultant with responsibilities for French as a Second Language (FSL) and English Language Learners (ELL), and English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher Salima Boatman who has also been acting as an Arabic translator for family introductions to the school. Jennifer and Salima, together with a newcomer support team, have been welcoming a number of Syrian families to TLDSB schools over the past few months.



There are a growing number of English language learners in TLDSB. Students categorized as ELL students include those who are born in Canada but have lived in communities where a distinct culture and linguistic tradition has been maintained, and those who are newcomers from other countries. In TLDSB, it is typically newcomers from other countries that make up the more than 60 English language learners in the board. Currently 20 of these students are Syrian newcomers who have been privately sponsored by various groups in the district to live in our communities.

The school board newcomer support team works to welcome newcomer families and sponsors. Students are assessed and then helped to learn the curriculum and the English language. Some of the Syrian students have been out of a formal education system for 4 or 5 years. One of the benefits of newcomers in a school is that English literacy programming also positively impacts other students in the schools.

The Ministry of Education [vision for English language learners](#) includes promoting an understanding that students come with many assets and skills. It is important that newcomer students see themselves in their new learning environment. To this end, schools are ensuring that staff and students are able to help newcomers with signs around the school as well as have access to translation of words and phrases.

Administrative Reports

2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements

Superintendent of Business Services, Bob Kaye introduced Auditor Karen Auger who is an audit partner at BDO Canada LLP. Auger presented the 2015-2016 audited financial statements. Trustees approved the audited statements which will be available on the [TLDSB website](#) soon.

International Trips

Superintendent of Learning, Barrett, shared with trustees the international trips that are approved to take place in the 2016-2017 school year. Since the 2011-2012 school year, secondary students have participated in more than 36 international trips. These trips have included visits to over 30 countries and cover all continents on the globe (except for Antarctica). International trips must receive senior administration approval before proceeding. It is mandatory in TLDSB that out of country excursions have trip cancellation in place in case there is rationale to withdraw approval, so that families are covered. The Government of Canada travel advisory website is reviewed as part of the decision making process to determine risk when considering an international trip.

Announcements

Accommodation Review Committees

The Accommodation Review Committee members for the Honey Harbour Public School accommodation review are:

- From Honey Harbour Public School – Linda Foster and Andrea Elgar
- From Glen Orchard Public School - Tricia Fenn and Amy MacDonald

The Accommodation Review Committee members for the Lady Eaton Elementary School accommodation review are:

- From Lady Eaton Elementary School – Krista Newell and Courtney Brideau
- From Scott Young Public School – Dianne Adams and Vickie Dass

Administrative Placement

The following administrative placements will be effective January 1, 2017:

Norah Morrison Principal at Watt Public School

Lori Benton-Mcaughey Vice Principal at Gravenhurst Public School

Future Meetings:

MEETING	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Annual Organizational Meeting	December 13, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay

All meetings begin at 6:00 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.tldsb.ca.