

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS



Quality Daily Physical Activity

Six students from Dr. George Hall Public School brought fitness balls and drumsticks to the board room and demonstrated a Drum Fit routine. Trustees then had the opportunity to demonstrate their own Drum Fit skills. Intermediate students from the school were chosen to model good fitness activities as part of a leadership role in the school. Using the school gym and front foyer, all Dr. George Hall PS students have the opportunity to try Drum Fit.

Two years ago Drum Fit was introduced to Trillium Lakelands

District School board by two teachers at Jack Callaghan Public School. Since that time many schools have tried this new fitness trend and currently there are 3 Drum Fit kits travelling to schools around the board although many schools are choosing to purchase their own set.



Superintendent Andrea Gillespie introduced the school board's newest consultant, Dave Lyons. The TLDSB Healthy Active Living Consultant is the first of its kind in TLDSB and is being supported by trustees through the school board's Surplus Management Plan.

Lyons shared information about mind-body research emphasizing how exercise can get students ready to learn. This year principals are putting healthy schools initiatives into their school improvement plans. The goal is for students to be moving and getting their heart rate up every day. Elementary schools will be asked to aim for 100 minutes in the gym per week per student and at least 20 minutes of quality daily physical classroom activity each day.

Healthy active school representatives will be in place in each school building – these folks will be provided with resources and training including emphasis on outdoor education. “We live in the promise-land of outdoor and environmental education,” stated Lyons who plans to emphasize outdoor education in his school visits. TLDSB has received an outdoor education grant to support classrooms of students spending time out of doors.

Strategic Action Plans

Director of Education, Larry Hope updated trustees on the results of the 2012-2013 Strategic Action Plan. He touched on a number of highlights from the last school year including the school board social media strategy, online homework help, children and youth mental health initiatives, sound-fields in all elementary classrooms, and job-embedded professional development opportunities made available to all staff.

New items in the 2013-2014 Strategic Action Plan include the establishment of a system improvement planning team that will meet once a month to review various types of data as it relates to learning goals, success criteria, and descriptive feedback. Support for good quality daily physical activity for students and resources for teachers is a new focus for this coming year as well. Children’s mental health and well-being is an embedded focus but it is understood that there is a lot more work to do in this area. There will be some technical shop renewal in our secondary schools and a pilot in two secondary schools will see learning commons space utilized by students. Installation of sound-fields in some secondary classrooms, bullying intervention initiatives, a review of the Earn-a-Laptop program, a review of school websites, and community consultation are all components of the upcoming strategic plan. The 2013-2014 Strategic Action Plan may be found on the school board website www.tldsb.ca

Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO results

Andrea Gillespie, Superintendent of Elementary School Improvement and Shelley Woon, Superintendent of Special Education presented results from Grade 3 and Grade 6 Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) assessments

“EQAO is not the destination – it is the start of the conversation in the school. EQAO is a piece of data,” began Gillespie who presented results over all for Grade 3 and 6 students, while Woon provided results and context for students with special needs. Comparisons were shared including results by gender, by number of students who participated in the assessments, and comparisons with the province. Reading and writing primary results in TLDSB are our best ever this year but are concerns in the primary math area. Although students with special needs are performing much higher than the provincial averages in reading, writing, and mathematics, there is always room for improvement. TLDSB has achieved the highest ever results in junior level writing, second highest in junior level reading, but there is a disappointing dip in junior level math.

Elementary curriculum and special education staff will be looking closely at students that are not meeting the standard – that is students who are working at a level 2. There will be a review of classroom assessments, numeracy resources so that a plan to intervene and close the gap between these students and those working at a higher level can be closed. The goal this year will be for every teacher and

principal to know who these students are. There will be a continued focus on professional learning in math.

Community Consultations

The Ministry of Education has asked school boards across the province to join them in community consultations to form the basis for moving Ontario's education system from "Great to Excellent." Trillium Lakelands District School Board will be hosting 3 community consultations across the district: October 24th in Haliburton, October 30th in Muskoka, and November 6th in Lindsay. Individual school councils across the district are currently reviewing the seven questions posed by the ministry and continued conversation will take place at the October 17th District School Council meeting. For more information please visit <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/about/excellent.html>

Future Meetings:

2013		
September 24, 2013	Regular Board Meeting	Lindsay
October 8, 2013	Committee of the Whole Board	Bracebridge
October 22, 2013	Regular Board Meeting	Lindsay
November 12, 2013	Committee of the Whole Board	Minden
November 26, 2013	Regular Board Meeting	Lindsay
December 10, 2013	Regular Board Meeting	Lindsay

All meetings begin at 6 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.