

Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 25, 2012

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

LEAD Summer Study Program

Superintendent Dianna Scates introduced Virtual Learning Centre teacher, Kathy Pick and four of the students who participated in the LEAD Summer Study program. LEAD is an acronym for Learn Experience Achieve and Develop. The program offers a blended or hybrid program of face-to-face and online learning to earn a senior level English credit during a 10-day July trip to England, Wales, and Ireland. Students attested to LEAD being an amazing experience, making learning so much more enjoyable. All participants highly recommend LEAD to any students wishing to consider a similar summer experience while earning a senior level secondary school credit.



Power to Change Camp



Superintendent Shelley Woon introduced the staff who developed and attended the Power to Change Camp. In May of both 2011 and 2012, 25 students from grades 7 to 9 or 10 attended this camp at the Me to We Leadership Centre in Bethany, Ontario.

TLDSB educators, including Special Programs Consultant, Heather Truscott, worked with partners from Free the Children to develop a program that would assist students to channel their leadership skills to make a difference in their own life, the life of their school and the life of their community. Principals of schools throughout the board were asked to recommend students who had demonstrated relational aggression in their school.

Jamieson Voisin, Associate director of Programming at Me to We spoke to trustees about the value in the Power to Change Camp in helping students to see their own potential not just by being a leader in their school community but also becoming a leader in life.

Dunsford District Elementary School principal, Darin Parish as well Huntsville High School Principal, Kim Williams and teacher, Vanessa Taylor provided anecdotal information about specific students who were positively impacted by their experience at the Power to Change Camp. Student, Josh Cheyne, shared with trustees how his camp experience has changed his outlook and experience at school.

Strategic Action Plan

Director of Education, Larry Hope, highlighted achievements from all departments from the 2011-2012 strategic action plan. He noted excellent alignment between board and school improvement plans – the best alignment we have ever seen. Also noted were items that have become embedded in the system so it might not appear in the 2012-2013 school year strategic action plan.

In presenting the 2012-2013 strategic action plan Director Hope again emphasized the importance of ensuring alignment between board improvement and school improvement plans. The 2012-2013 strategic action plan has an emphasis on the greatest area of student need which includes following the curriculum more closely in all of classrooms.

To review the full 2012-2013 TLDSB Strategic Action Plan, please visit www.tldsb.ca

EQAO Results

Superintendent Andrea Gillespie reminded trustees that the EQAO results are only one piece of data that can be used to assess student achievement. Gillespie shared some of the trends for elementary reading, writing, and math, emphasizing that this is the beginning of the story, not the end of the story. The focus for elementary students over the past five years has been on literacy indicating steady improvement over time. It is apparent that focus and attention needs to occur around math.

Ontario secondary school literacy test (OSSLT) and math results were presented by Superintendent Bruce Barrett. In both OSSLT and grade 10 math, TLDSB has consistently scored at or higher than the provincial average. The focus for secondary staff includes the learning goal “We will share best practice related to OSSLT and EQAO Math with the goal of increasing student achievement in all schools.” Superintendent Barrett emphasized that there will be continued focus on helping applied level students.

Superintendent Woon shared trends for students with special needs. Typically TLDSB students with special needs have outperformed provincial averages.

Future Meetings:

October 9, 2012	Committee of the Whole Board	Minden
October 23, 2012	Regular Meeting of the Board	Lindsay
November 13, 2012	Committee of the Whole Board	Bracebridge
November 27, 2012	Regular Meeting of the Board	Lindsay
December 11, 2012	Annual Organizational Meeting	Lindsay

All meetings begin at 6 p.m. with the In-Camera agenda. The public portion of all meetings begin 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.