

Presentations

Storybooks for students by students

Grade 12 Writer's Craft students at Fenelon Falls Secondary School have had an ambitious opportunity to each write and publish a children's storybook.

"Writing Buddies" is the brainchild of Teacher Christian Harrington and is,

in part, intended as a way to strengthen ties and develop positive relationships between the high school and the local elementary school. Bringing together the oldest (Grade 12) and the youngest (kindergarten) students has resulted in a positive learning experience for all participants. Two students from the Grade 12 class shared their experience emphasizing their enjoyment in writing for another person and not just for the teacher or a mark for the class.



As part of the course curriculum, the high school students examine their personal experiences with children's literature from an author's perspective. Students are exposed children's literature theory, how it has changed over the years, and what post secondary study in children's literature might look like. Following this initial in-class work, students are paired with a kindergarten student at Langton Public School. The students meet their young partners to get to know each other and then to begin work on a storybook that will focus on the kindergarten child's ideas and interests. The goal of the project is for the high school student to write a story for and about the kindergarten student. Using a website called StoryBird, students are able to create illustrated books with access to artwork by independent artists all over the world.





Kindergarten Teacher Chelsey Clarke highlighted the value in having the older students visit the early years classroom. These visits allowed for excellent conversational skill development for the young children. The experience also fostered a love for reading for many children who may not have a strong literacy focus at home. However, the published personalized book has enhanced literacy in the home as well.

The Grade 12 students are very proud of their accomplishment and particularly enjoyed wrapping their book gifts to present to the kindergarten students just before Christmas.

Travel rate

Superintendent of Business Services Ellis provided an update to trustees the travel rate calculation for staff use of a personal vehicle for board business. Using the established automobile rates set by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), the current rate is 58 cents per kilometre for the first 5000 kilometres driven and 52 cents per kilometre driven thereafter.

2018-2019 revised estimates

Superintendent of Business Services Ellis shared with trustees an update on revised estimates for the 2018-2019 school year. With the new provincial government, there is now new fiscal accountability in the education sector, as well as a change in focus and allocation of grants. These changes have resulted in Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) receiving approximately \$4.8 million less in grants that was anticipated. This variance in revenue largely stems from the Teacher Qualification and Experience Grant (Q&E) and the School Operations Grant. The Q&E grant will adjust due to the number of staff retiring from the system and are replaced with staff placed lower on the Q&E grid. Several education program opportunity grants including funding for Board Leadership, Experiential Learning, Closing the Gap, Mental Health, Special Education Assessment, and French as a Second Language were received by the board recently.

French language instruction considerations

Superintendent of Curriculum Services Maclver shared with trustees the increasing need for French language instructors across the province and in TLDSB. The board has been working to attract and retain French language teachers to provide and maintain



quality language instruction in classrooms. Feedback around this issue has been received resulting in two considerations:

- French language instruction and French immersion at Grade 1 (instruction currently begins in senior kindergarten)
- Math to be taught in English in Grade 3 French immersion classrooms while continuing to keep 80 per cent French instruction across other subject areas.

Consultation around French language Instruction will continue for the next few months. Representatives from the board's curriculum council, school councils in French immersion schools, District School Council - Parent Involvement Committee, and Canadian Parents for French will be invited to participate in this further consultation. A final decision will be made in the spring.

Announcements

Hiring pool appointments

- **Principal hiring pool** - Jeremy Cadeau-Mark, Kevin Ray
- **Vice principal hiring pool** - Lauren Alleway, Katherine Kirkpatrick, Elisa Mulcaster, Andrea O'Leary, Cathy Welch, Jennifer Whiteway

Policies and procedures

HR-4200	Health and Safety Policy
HR-4203	Health and Safety - WHMIS Procedure
HR-4208	Health and Safety - Incident/Accident/Injury Reporting Procedure
BD-2015	Trustee Attendance at Conferences and Seminars Policy
BD-2055	Advocacy Policy
BD-2300	Public Concerns Policy
BD-2010	Trustees' Associations Policy
BD-2080/2081	Accessible Customer Service Policy and Procedure



Future meetings

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
Committee of the Whole	January 8, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Bracebridge
Regular Board Meeting	January 22, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	February 12, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Minden
Regular Board Meeting	February 26, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Regular Board Meeting	March 26, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	April 9, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Bracebridge
Regular Board Meeting	April 23, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Committee of the Whole	May 14, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Minden
Regular Board Meeting	May 28, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay
Regular Board Meeting	June 11, 2019	6:30 p.m.	Lindsay

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