

Public Meeting of the Board Agenda

Date: January 28, 2025
Location: Muskoka Education Centre

4:30 p.m. Commencement of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. Call to order

- 1.1 Motion to convene into in-camera Committee of the Whole Meeting
- 1.2 In-camera (private) agenda (for matters that fall under section 207(2) of the Ed Act).

2. Rise and report to the Public Meeting of the Board

6:00 p.m. Commencement of the Public Meeting of the Board

1. Call to order

2. Territory acknowledgement

3. National anthem

4. Roll call

5. Declaration of possible conflict of interest

6. Delegation(s)

7. Approval of agenda

8. Business of the Board

- 8.1 Approval of the minutes of the November 26, 2024 Public Board Meeting (pgs.3-9)
- 8.2 Approval of the minutes of the December 5, 2024 Annual Organizational Meeting (pgs.10-13)
- 8.3 Recommendations from In-camera Committee of the Whole Meeting (Trustee Childs)

9. Administrative updates

9.1 Director's Report on the Strategic Plan (Director Hahn)

- a. Director's Recognition (Director Hahn/ pgs.14)
- b. Director's Update
 - Student Attendance Report (pgs.15-17)
 - Parent/Guardian Survey Results (pgs.18-20)

10. Administrative and committee reports

10.1 For Action - Written

- a. January 2025 SEAC Meeting (Trustee McInerney and SO Train/ pgs.21-25)
- b. December 2024 & January 2025 SAL Meetings (Trustee Childs and SO Fraser/ pgs.26)
- c. January 2025 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting (Trustee Saunders and Director Hahn/ pgs. 27-31)

10.2 For Information- Verbal

- a. Equity Task Force (Trustee Childs/ SO Johnston)

11. Trustee reports

11.1 Student Trustee Reports

- a. G7 Student Senate Report (Student Trustee Maw)
- b. OSTA-AECO Report (Student Trustee McNelly)

11.2 OPSBA Report (Trustee Childs)

11.3 Trustee Community Updates

12. Correspondence

13. Next meeting

Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 6pm at LEC

14. Adjournment



Public Meeting of the Board Minutes

Date: November 26, 2024

Location: Muskoka Education Centre

Present: H. Bradley, E. Childs, L. Clodd, G. Brohman, R. Maw, T. McAlpine, D. McInerney, T. McNelly, B. Reain, J. Saunders, C. Wilcox

Regrets:

Senior team: T. Ellis, T. Fraser, W. Hahn, T. Hubbert, J. Johnston, J. MacJanet, N. Train, K. Williams

Staff Support: J. Andreasen, C. Bull, D. Raglin

4:30 p.m. Commencement of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. Call to order

1.1 Motion to convene into the In-Camera Committee of the Whole Meeting

Motion # 24-11-40

Moved by Trustee Saunders, seconded by Trustee McInerney,

That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole In-Camera session at 4:32 p.m. to deal with matters under section 207(2) of the Education Act.

Carried.

1.2 In-Camera Agenda (for matters that fall under section 207(2) of the Education Act)

2. Rise and report to the Public Meeting of the Board

Motion # 24-11-41

Moved by Trustee, seconded by Trustee,

That Trustees do now rise from the In-Camera Committee of the Whole Meeting at 4:39 p.m. and will report to the Public Meeting of the Board at 6:00 p.m.

Carried.

6 p.m. Commencement of the Public Meeting of the Board

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Territory acknowledgement

Student Trustee McNelly shared the Territory Acknowledgement.

3. National anthem

O Canada was played.

4. Roll call

Chairperson Wilcox advised that:

All nine Trustees (Brohman, Bradley, Childs, Clodd, McAlpine, McNerney, Reain, Saunders, Wilcox) and Student Trustees McNelly and Maw were in person at the Muskoka Education Centre.

5. Declaration of possible conflict of interest

There were no declarations of possible conflict of interest.

6. Delegation(s)

There were no delegations.

7. Approval of agenda

Motion # 24-11-42

Moved by Trustee Reain, seconded by Trustee Clodd,

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

8. Business of the Board

8.1 Approval of the minutes of the October 22, 2024 Public Meeting of the Board

Motion # 24-11-43

Moved by Trustee Saunders, seconded by Trustee McAlpine,

That the minutes of the October 22, 2024 Public Meeting of the Board be approved.

Carried.

8.2 Recommendations from the In-Camera Committee of the Whole Meeting

Vice Chairperson Childs advised that there were no recommendations resulting from the November 26, 2024 In-Camera Committee of the Whole meeting.

8.3 Board Committee Recommendations

Chair Wilcox shared the recommendations for Board Committee Membership for 2024-2025 with Trustees.

Motion # 24-11-44

Moved by Trustee Clodd, seconded by Trustee Bradley,

That Trustees approve the establishment of an Ad Hoc Board Committee related to the School Year Calendar Committee that includes Trustee representatives McAlpine and Reain, and further, that the Committee begin work in fall 2024 and be dissolved once the committee mandate is met, or at the end of the 2024-2025 school year, whichever comes first.

Carried.

9. Administrative updates

9.1 Director's Report on the Strategic Plan

a. Director's Recognition

Director Hahn presented GHS Teacher Dave Gilbert with a Director's Recognition for Innovation and Leadership Award for his work in promoting and supporting mathematics achievement at Gravenhurst High School.

A number of staff members from GHS attended to support Gilbert who attributed the success to all staff at GHS.

b. Director's Update

Director Hahn shared a number of updates related to the achievement of the Strategic Plan goals including emphasizing the importance of continuing to solicit student and staff voice, sharing a brief update on the future plans for Outdoor Education in TLDSB, and connecting the importance of a strong budget to the achievement of strategic plan goals.

The full Annual Report for the 2023-2024 school year will be shared at the December 3, 2024 Annual Organizational Meeting.

c. Superintendent Focus Schools and Department Updates

Superintendents of Learning MacJanet, Johnston, Train, Williams and Fraser highlighted some of the achievements and gains made via targeted work in their focus schools in 2023-2024, and shared a brief overview of their portfolio and department plans for 2024-2025.

Superintendent of Human Resources Services Hubbert and Superintendent of Business Services Ellis provided highlights of departmental achievements for 2023-2024 and directions for 2024-2025.

d. Suspension and Expulsion Data

Associate Superintendent Tanya Fraser shared the suspension and expulsion data for 2023-2024 with Trustees and provided an overview of the supports available to assist students in relation to mental health and alternate programs.

e. Equity Plan Overview

Superintendent Jennifer Johnston presented a review of the work that has been accomplished as part of the 2022-2025 Equity Plan, and provided a highlight of the focus for 2024-2025.

f. Summer Construction Presentation

Superintendent Tim Ellis presented a visual presentation to Trustees showcasing the completed construction projects from work that occurred in summer 2024.

10. Administrative and committee reports**10.1 For Action- Written****a. SEAC Committee Meeting Report**

Trustee McInerney shared an update related to November 5, 2024 SEAC Meeting.

Motion # 24-11-45

Moved by Trustee McInerney, Seconded by Trustee Reain,
That Trustees receive the report related to the November 5, 2024 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting.

Carried.

b. Governance and Policy Committee Meeting

Trustee Saunders reviewed the activities from the most recent Governance and Policy Committee Meeting

Motion #24-11-46

Moved by Trustee Saunders, seconded by Trustee Childs,
that Trustees ratify the Governance and Policy Committee motions to approve the updates and revisions to the OP-6400 Conducting Research Policy and the HR-4200 Health and Safety Policy.
Carried.

Motion #24-11-47

Moved by Trustee Saunders, Seconded by Trustee McInerney,
That Trustees receive the report related to the November 6, 2024 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting.
Carried.

c. DSC-PIC Committee Report

Trustee Clodd shared an update from the November 7, 2024 DSC-PIC Committee Meeting.

Motion # 24-11-48

Moved by Trustee Clodd, Seconded by Trustee McAlpine,
That Trustees receive the report related to the November 7, 2024 meeting of the District School Council - Parent Involvement Committee.
Carried.

d. Finance and Administration Committee Report

Trustee McAlpine shared an overview of the recent activity of the Finance and Administration Committee.

Motion # 24-11-49

Moved by Trustee McAlpine, Seconded by Trustee Bradley,
That Trustees receive the summary report related to the November 12, 2024, Finance and Administration Committee Meeting.
Carried.

e. Audit Committee Report

Trustee Clodd and Superintendent Ellis shared an overview of the November 12, 2024 Audit Committee Meeting.

Superintendent Ellis provided an overview of the Q4 Financial Statements at August 31, 2024, the results of the Financial Audit, as well as the highlights from the Financial Statements from fall 2024 (which include revised estimates). Superintendent Ellis reported that the Board is currently in a surplus position.

Motion # 24-11-50

Moved by Trustee Clodd, Seconded by Trustee McInerney,
That Trustees accept the auditor's report and consolidated financial statements prepared by BDO Canada LLP dated November 12, 2024 as approved by the TLDSB Audit Committee.
Carried.

Motion # 24-11-51

Moved by Trustee Clodd, Seconded by Trustee Saunders,
That Trustees receive the summary report related to the November 12, 2024, Audit Committee Meeting.
Carried.

f. SAL Committee Report

Trustee Childs provided an update related to the November 14, 2024 SAL Meeting.

Motion # 24-11-52

Moved by Trustee Childs, Seconded by Reain,
That Trustees receive the report related to the November 14, 2024 meeting of the Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee.
Carried.

11. Trustee Reports

11.1 Student Trustee Reports

a. G7 Student Senate

Student Trustee Maw shared the G7 Student Senate Report highlighting the most recent activity of the G7 Student Senate; initiatives occurring across all schools under the leadership of the G7 Student Senate include promoting 'Sustainable Season' and planning for exam preparation and mental health support strategies.

The G7 student senate is also focussing on identifying successes and challenges in schools using the 'a rose, a thorn, and a bud' strategy to identify common concerns and celebrations across TLDSB and discuss strategies for support.

b. OSTA-AECO Report

Student Trustee McNelly shared an update related OSTA-AECO including sharing that both TLDSB Student Trustees attended the recent OSTA-AECO meeting which included a number of relevant and effective workshops for Student Trustees from across the province.

11.2 OPSBA Report

Trustee Childs advised Trustees that there is an upcoming OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting at the end of November, and that the OPSBA Public Education Symposium is occurring in January 2025.

11.3 Trustee Community Updates

Trustee McNerney highlighted the Remembrance Day display that Dr. George Hall curated which included photos and biographies of relatives of families in the school community who served in the military.

Trustee McNerney advised that Mariposa Elementary School is collaborating with the Food Source of Kawartha Lakes are hosting a cooking class to support students and families to learn to cook healthy and simple meals.

Trustee Bradley shared that the Halloween Parade at QVPS was an excellent event and highlighted how nice the new washroom facilities that were completed over the summer are.

Trustee Childs advised that she, along with Trustee Bradley, attended the GSA Conference hosted at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in mid-November. There were a number of excellent workshops and opportunities for attendees. Trustee Childs reiterated how important it is that all students 'see' themselves represented in the school and the board and credited this events for being a fantastic support for students from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

12. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

13. Next meeting- Annual Organizational Meeting

Date: December 3, 2024
Location: Lindsay Education Centre
Time: 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Motion # 24-11-53
Moved by Trustee Brohman, seconded by Trustee Reain,
That the Board of Trustees do now adjourn at 8:17 p.m.
Carried.

Colleen Wilcox, Chairperson of the Board

Wes Hahn, Director of Education

Jen Andreasen, Recording Secretary



Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board

Minutes

Date: December 5, 2024 (date revised)
 Location: Lindsay Education Centre
 Present: H. Bradley, E. Childs, L. Clodd, G. Brohman, T. McAlpine,
 D. McInerney, T. McNelly, B. Reain, J. Saunders, C. Wilcox
 Regrets: Student Trustee Maw
 Senior team: T. Ellis, T. Fraser, W. Hahn, T. Hubbert, J. Johnston,
 J. MacJanet, N. Train, K. Williams
 Staff Support: J. Andreasen, C. Bull, D. Raglin

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Territory acknowledgement

Trustee Wilcox shared the Territory Acknowledgement.

3. National anthem

O Canada was played.

4. Student Presentation

Under the direction of IEWSS Teacher Sheri Brenneman, 3 students from IEWSS, flutist Hailey, guitar player Darcy and a signer, Kyle performed 'A Crazy Little Thing Called Love'.

5. Roll call

Director Hahn advised that:

Seven Trustees (Brohman, Bradley, Clodd, McAlpine, McInerney, Saunders, Wilcox) and Student Trustee McNelly were in person at the Lindsay Education Centre.

Trustees Reain and Childs joined via virtual means.

Student Trustee Maw shared regrets.

6. Declaration of possible conflict of interest

There were no declarations of possible conflict of interest.

7. Elections

Chair of the Board

Trustee Saunders nominated Trustee Wilcox for the position of Chair. Trustee Wilcox accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations for Chair.

Trustee Colleen Wilcox was acclaimed as Chairperson for TLDSB until the next annual organizational meeting of the board.

Vice Chair of the Board

Trustee McInerney nominated Trustee Childs for the position of Vice Chair. Trustee Childs accepted the nomination.

Trustee Reain nominated Trustee Clodd for the position of Vice Chair. Trustee Clodd accepted the nomination.

Following the voting process, Trustee Childs was re-elected as Vice-chairperson of the Board until the next annual organizational meeting of the board.

Past Chair/ Chairs Council Alternate

Trustee Reain remained in the position of Past Chair.

Motion #24-12-53

Moved by Trustee Clodd, seconded by Trustee McAlpine

That the ballots from the 2024 Chair and Vice Chair elections be destroyed.

Carried.

8. Approval of agenda

Motion # 24-12-56

Moved by Trustee McInerney, seconded by Trustee Clodd,

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

9. Administrative Reports

9.1 For Information- Verbal

a. CACE Presentation

Director Hahn shared that Manager of Communications Services Carolynne Bull, Communications Officer Sinead Fegan, and Communications Clerk Lori Pegg were recently recognized at the Canadian Association of Communicators in Education (CACE) with two BRAVO! Awards – an Award of Distinction for their work on the Communications Plan for the Annual Feed All Four Fundraiser Auction, and a Coup De Coeur for the development of the TLDSB Pride Logo.

b. Director's Annual Report

Director Hahn shared the final 2023-2024 Board Student Achievement Plan and Director's Annual Report with Trustees. The content includes a summary of the work completed during the 2023-2024 school year to support the goals of the Strategic Plan.

The report is available online at tldsbc.ca/annual-reports/

9.2 For Information- Written

Director Hahn shared the proposed public meeting of the board schedule for 2025.

Director Hahn noted a correction was required to the proposed October date, which should read as October 28, 2025 (not 2024).

Motion # 24-12-57

Moved by Trustee Clodd, seconded by Trustee Brohman,

That the schedule for the 2025 Public Meetings of the Board be approved.

Carried.

10. Trustee Reports

10.1 Student Trustee Reports

a. G7 Student Senate

Student Trustee McNelly shared an update on the most recent work of the G7 Student Senate on behalf of Student Trustee Maw. Student Trustee McNelly highlighted that the Sustainable Season campaign has started.

The next meeting of the G7 Student Senate is the week of December 9, 2024 and the focus will be on planning for opportunities and strategies for stress management during exam times.

b. OSTA-AECO Report

Student Trustee McNelly shared an update related OSTA-AECO, and shared information related to the working committees that OSTA-AECO members are able to join; Student Trustee McNelly has joined the school curriculum and communities committee and Student Trustee Maw has joined the Well-being. The first meetings of the working committees are occurring virtually next week.

11.2 OPSBA Report

Trustee Childs summarized for Trustees of the topics discussed at the most recent OPSBA Board of Directors meeting.

11.3 Trustee Community Updates

Trustee McInerney shared that there was recently a fantastic awards assembly at Woodville Elementary School where students who have persevered with personal goals were presented with 'wolf howl' awards (Woodville's mascot in the Wolves).

Trustee Saunders shared that along with Trustee Wilcox she recently attended the IEWSS Awards Assembly where there were many outstanding achievements celebrated.

Trustee Brohman shared that in speaking to a number of parents recently he is hearing positive feedback regarding student achievement and safety. Trustee Brohman thanked TLDSB staff for their commitment and dedication and stated what honour it is to be working in education.

12. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

13. Next meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025
 Location: Muskoka Education Centre
 Time: 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Motion # 24-12-58

Moved by Trustee Clodd, seconded by Trustee Brohman,
 That the Board of Trustees do now adjourn at 4:02 p.m.
 Carried.

Colleen Wilcox, Chairperson of the Board

Wes Hahn, Director of Education

Jen Andreasen, Recording Secretary



Director's Recognition Award

Extraordinary contributions to TLDSB by staff members, students, school volunteers, or community members are recognized each Board meeting by the Director of Education. The following individuals were nominated in recognition of outstanding commitment and dedication to TLDSB.

Recipients:

Garry Thompson, Campbell Bus Lines Route M241 Driver

Huntsville Public School Students Kennedy and Corbyn

Huntsville High School Student Aspen

On January 13, 2025 bus driver Garry Thompson detected that there was something wrong with the bus he was driving during his morning route. Even though he was close to the next school drop-off location, he immediately recognized that there was a potential risk to student safety and pulled the bus over. Garry acted calmly and decisively in selecting three reliable student riders to help him to implement the evacuation protocol and to move all riders to a safe location.

Students Kennedy, Corbyn, and Aspen assisted without hesitation, followed directions from the driver, and remained calm while helping to evacuate the other student riders and ensure that everyone remained a safe distance from the bus. The driver re-boarded the bus to call dispatch to request that they contact emergency services and send a recovery bus. The driver then conducted a third check of the bus to ensure that every student rider had evacuated. When the recovery bus arrived, the three volunteer students demonstrated leadership and care in assisting the other riders to board the new bus to continue their rides to school.

After the recovery bus left the scene with the students, a fire did start in the engine area, eventually engulfing the bus. Mr. Thompson's instincts, his calm, decisive actions, and the assistance of the students are the reasons that no one suffered any injuries and the damage was contained to the bus and did not impact any other structures in the community.

TLDSB would like to formally recognize and thank driver Garry Thompson, Huntsville High School Student Aspen, and Huntsville Public School Students Corbyn and Kennedy for remaining calm in a crisis, and for demonstrating outstanding leadership, quick-thinking, and dedication to student safety. We are grateful that you were on bus route M241 that day; your responses ensured that this incident had the best possible outcome.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Administrative Report

Date: January 9, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
Origin: Director Hahn
Subject: Student Attendance Report
Reference: Public Board Meeting – January 28, 2025

Purpose

To provide Trustees with an update on strategies and supports to promote student attendance.

Context

TLDSB's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan goals include supporting meaningful learning and success for all.

TLDSB is working to create safe, caring, and inclusive learning environments, and to foster mentally healthy schools where all students feel that they belong. Educators can best support students with academic achievement and well-being when they regularly attend school.

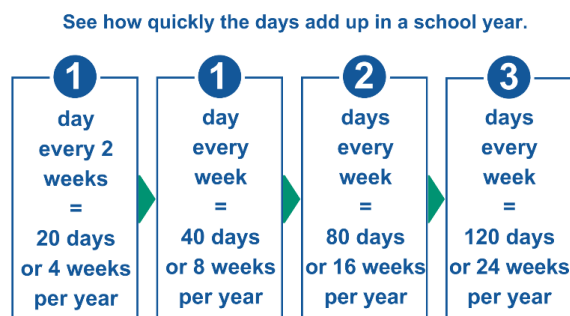
TLDSB staff are actively monitoring student attendance rates, promoting the importance of student attendance through a year-long attendance campaign, and supporting daily attendance via a number of programs and initiatives. The goal is to increase public understanding that positive student attendance and engagement is an indicator of long-term student success, and to reiterate that regular school attendance should not be seen as optional (with the understanding that there are occasional unavoidable reasons that it is necessary that a student is absent such as due to illnesses or appointments etc.).

Content

The TLDSB Senior Team is focussed on two main facets of student attendance:

- 1) Promoting and supporting daily attendance for *all* students, and,
- 2) Providing supports through the Re-Engagement Counsellors to improve attendance for students who struggle with persistent absenteeism.

The informational graphic below is an example of the impact of regularly missing school



Below is an outline of a number of targeted ways that TLDSB is promoting and supporting student attendance at school.

Community consultation and involvement

In May of 2024, the Director of Education hosted a Director's Forum on Student Attendance as an opportunity for a cross-section of community- including educators, administrators, community partners, Trustees, and parents/guardians- to discuss some of the factors that may be contributing to poor student attendance and engagement, to discuss potential barriers to attendance, and to brainstorm ways in which TLDSB and the community can encourage, support, and promote regular school attendance.

Recommendations from the meeting helped to inform planning for 2024-2025.

Promoting positive attendance for all students

In partnership with the Communications Department, the Director of Education and the Senior Team began a 'Attendance Matters' campaign in 2023-24 that will continue throughout the 2024-25 school year.



This campaign includes direct-to-home letters to families, social media posts, and the provision of informational graphics and data related to absenteeism (e.g., the impact of missing even one day of school per month). Links to resources and recommendations for strategies and routines to support regular attendance are also promoted via the campaign.

In addition, families are receiving regular reminders on inclement weather days that staff continue to be in schools and available to provide academic supports for students if parents/guardians are able to arrange safe transport for their child(ren) to and from school.

Proactive strategies and targeted interventions to support all students

All schools in TLDSB engage in regular, ongoing, actions and strategies to support student wellness and to promote attendance and engagement for all students. Examples include but are not limited to:

- ongoing school-to-home communication;
- parent/guardian engagement opportunities;
- school nutrition programs;
- social and extracurricular opportunities;
- opportunities for support for personal needs via the Feed All Four Fund;
- social emotional learning and learning about healthy habits;
- a focus on belonging and fostering mentally health school environments.

In addition, school staff regularly discuss attendance support strategies, monitor data at staff meetings and on Professional Development Days, review classroom and student profiles, and endeavour to ensure that all students have made a connection with at least one caring and trusted adult in the school whom they feel that they can approach with any academic, social, or other concerns.

Ongoing interventions for students with chronic or persistent absenteeism:

TLDSB maintains ongoing additional support for students who are struggling with persistent/ chronic absenteeism, including but not limited to:

- working with students, staff, and community to better understand the root causes of absenteeism and barriers to attendance;
- tracking and reviewing attendance data at in-school team meetings on a regular basis;
- increasing school-to-home communication;
- working on targeted strategies at school (e.g., developing strategies to manage stress, understand and name emotions, problem solve, and support social skills);
- interventions such as referrals to Re-Engagement and Mental Health Counsellors;
- encouraging connections to community programs and support;
- offering alternate academic programs when appropriate (e.g., Supervised Alternative Learning program).

Ongoing monitoring of attendance rates

The Director of Education and the Senior Team regularly monitor the overall attendance rates at all of the elementary schools, and the attendance rates by grade in secondary schools.

The Ministry of Education has set a goal as part of the Student Achievement Plan Framework that all school boards should be working towards improvement of student participation in class time and learning, and has asked Boards to monitor the % of students in grades 1-8 whose individual attendance rate is equal to or greater than 90%.

- As of Spring 2024, the cumulative attendance data for TLDSB demonstrated that 68% of elementary students were in attendance 90% (or more) of their school year and 47% of secondary students were in attendance 90% (or more) of the school year.
- Data as of December 19, 2024 (for September-December of the 2024-2025 school year) showed that 67% of elementary students and 48% of secondary students had attended 90% (or more) of the school days to date.

The data tracked includes absences for illness, truancy, excused absences and unexcused absences, but does not count absences for inclement weather days, sports, or educational field trips.

Attendance pilot projects for target schools

In follow-up to the Director's Forum on attendance held in spring 2024, under the leadership of Associate Superintendent Tanya Fraser and the TLDSB Re-Engagement Counsellors, 4 Elementary Schools and 1 Secondary School were identified as part of a pilot project for targeted attendance interventions.

The goal of the project is to improve student attendance by identifying students with persistent absences, assessing reasons for absenteeism, and implementing site-specific solutions. The pilot was launched in September 2024. Key strategies in place at pilot schools include:

- attendance champion team established who meet regularly to evaluate data and progress;
- attendance goal setting that includes voice from students and parents;
- staff learning (lunch and learns/staff meetings) to deepen staff understanding of barriers and reasons for absenteeism;
- collaboration with Re-engagement Counsellors, Mental Health Counsellors and In-school/student success team.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Administrative Report

Date: January 9, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
Origin: Director Hahn
Subject: Parent/Guardian Survey Results
Reference: Public Board Meeting – January 28, 2025

Purpose

To provide Trustees with an update regarding the feedback and input received in the most recent Parent/Guardians Feedback Surveys.

Context

TLDSB's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan goals include the following in relation to commitments to the TLDSB Community:

1.9 Learn from families, trustees, community agencies, and businesses about what constitutes meaningful learning and success for all students.

2.13 Learn from the wisdom of families and community members, particularly those who have been historically and are presently marginalized, and thoughtfully act upon what we hear to ensure they feel heard and valued as important partners in student achievement and success.

To support these goals, TLDSB strives to:

- provide effective, meaningful, and timely communication to families and the community;
- offer relevant parent/guardian engagement opportunities through panels, speakers' series, committees, and board and school-based events, and,
- seek input and feedback from parent/guardians in relation to student achievement and well-being on a regular and ongoing basis.

Content

The Director of Education, in partnership with the Communications Department, has released four surveys since fall of 2022 requesting input from parents/guardians related to how they feel about the school year, and asking for recommendations on how TLDSB can support students in having the best possible school year.

Survey participation:

- October 2022 1615 responses
- October 2023 3896 responses
- June 2024 1441 responses
- October 2024 586 responses

The survey questions were similar across surveys to allow TLDSB to compare trends across time.

Data was analyzed and summarized by the TLDSB Research and Data Officer. A number of trends were identified where the same (or similar) questions were asked across more than one survey.

Assessing a general feeling about the school year:

All surveys posed a question asking parent/ guardians to use a 1-5 scale to rate how they felt the beginning of the school year (October surveys) or the school year in general (for the June survey) had been for their children and family.

Results showed that overall parents have a positive impression of the school year at the beginning of the school year. The responses became more neutral by the Spring.

- Fall surveys show more positive ratings (4 or 5);
- Nearly half of parents gave a neutral rating (3) on the Spring 2024 survey.

Reflection on learning and well-being:

The three surveys administered in 2023 and 2024 asked parents/guardians to reply to prompts about whether they felt their child's previous learning had prepared them for the current school year, and whether they were aware of the mental health supports available for students.

- Most respondents agree that their children's learning in previous grades has prepared them to succeed in their next grade or in post-secondary pursuits.
 - This trend was relatively stable across time;
 - Over half of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their children were prepared for success across all of the surveys.
- Across the three surveys there was an increase over time in the number of parents/guardians who indicated that they were aware of the mental health supports and services available to support student well-being.

How TLDSB can support families:

All four surveys offered the opportunity for parents/guardians to provide suggestions related to actions the Board could take to further support families to have the best school year possible.

This was an open-ended question. The results netted the following recurring themes:

- Across all surveys, learning and achievement of students was the most common theme in parent/guardian open-ended responses.
 - Over one third of responses in the Fall 2023 and 2024 surveys and nearly one half of responses from the Spring 2024 survey address learning and achievement
 - Across all surveys, parents/guardians expressed the need for higher expectations for students' learning, a need for more support for special education, and suggestions related to learning content.

- Communication was the second most addressed theme in both the Fall 2023 and 2024 surveys, indicating that communication is important to parents/guardians- especially at the start of the school year:
 - Many respondents indicated that they would like increased school-level communication with respect to what their children are learning in the classroom, how their children are progressing, and more information on the events and activities occurring at school.

Next steps:

TLDSB actively seeks opportunities to engage parents/guardians through parent/guardian surveys, during TLDSB Committees that include parent/guardian/community membership (District School Council/ Parent Engagement Committee, Special Education Advisory Committee, Indigenous Education Advisory Committee), at board or school events, at community partner breakfasts, and via anecdotal feedback received through Trustees, Board, and/or school staff.

TLDSB will continue to regularly seek out feedback from parents/guardians to assist the Board to make informed decisions and direct system action regarding the improvement of student achievement and well-being, and to provide support and communication for families.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Special Education Advisory Committee

Administrative Report

Date: January 8, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
Origin: Trustee Deb McInerney/ Superintendent Train
Subject: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report
Reference: Regular Meeting of the Board – January 28, 2025

Purpose

To share an update with Trustees related to the January 7, 2025 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Context

SEAC is a statutory advisory committee that meets ten times per year, as per section 57.1(1) of the Education Act and Ontario Regulation 464/97.

The committee membership includes community partner agency representatives, community members, and trustees. The meeting is chaired by Janice Balfour, with the support of Superintendent Nikki Train and the Department of Special Education Services staff.

The purpose of the committee is to provide feedback and suggestions to Board staff regarding special education programming and initiatives for students.

Content

The Special Education Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at the Lindsay Education Centre and the Muskoka Education Centre.

Highlights from this meeting:

- Data on the types of exceptionalities represented across the Board was shared, along with secondary EQAO exemption rates and the number of students with IEPs.
- A permanent communication disorders assistant has been hired, bringing the CDA team up to its full complement, and a posting for a district manager of special education services is up. The position is intended to manage the assessment team.
- For the January 31st professional development day, educational assistant training will be focused on the practical application of supporting students with autism.
- Registration is open for the After Schools Skills Development Program for students with autism and interviews for the instructor and tutor positions are taking place. Once again, the Board has teamed up with LearnStyle to host a virtual coding workshop for Grades 4 to 12. Social skills learning for students in Kindergarten to Grade 2 and Grades 3 to 5 will take place through LEGO clubs and board game clubs respectively.
- The special education consultant team has been working on scripts for educational videos about universal design for learning, accommodations versus modifications, and the discontinuation of IEPs.

The November 5, 2024 minutes that were approved at this meeting are attached. The minutes from the January 7, 2024 meeting will be posted on the TLDSB Committees website following ratifications at the next committee meeting. The December 2, 2024 meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Action

Recommendation that Trustees receive the report related to the January 7, 2025 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting.



Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: November 5, 2024
 Location: Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre
 Time: 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to order

2. Roll call

Chair J. Balfour called roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

3. Approval of agenda

Moved by B. Reain that the agenda be approved.
 Carried.

4. Committee action items

4.1 Approval of the minutes of the October 1, 2024, meeting

Moved by K. Irons, seconded by S. Bullock that the minutes dated October 1, 2024 be approved.
 Carried.

5. Administrative updates

5.1 System updates

W. Hahn shared the following updates:

- W. Hahn shared that he is happy to report that TLDSB has had significant increases in student achievement with EQAO over the last three years, and this has been highlighted by the Ontario Human Rights Commission for TLDSB's work in early screening for primary reading. He also reported on the continued focus on student attendance which has included messaging to families, implementing the attendance tracking of secondary students, and increasing communications with families who are having difficulty with

attendance. W. Hahn informed the committee of the newly implemented PPM 170 which provides direction to school boards on communication with parents/guardians. TLDSB developed a procedure to reflect PPM 170 which establishes a communication protocol for responding to parent inquiries and is now available on the TLDSB website.

N. Train shared the following updates:

- N. Train presented the 2023-2024 EQAO results for TLDSB students with special needs which indicated that these scores have room for improvement but most are in line with the province levels. N. Train also presented the results of the 2024-2024 IEP feedback survey which was sent to parents of students with special needs from kindergarten to grade 12, and was sent to students with special needs from grade 7-12. The feedback indicated that students and families were satisfied overall with the development of the IEP. However, students and families reported that they are not receiving regular communication from the classroom teacher regarding the progress of IEP goals. The feedback will be used to increase communication strategies between families and their classroom teachers.

5.2 Department updates

M. Lefler shared the following updates:

- The Special Education department is collaborating with the Curriculum department when planning professional development and recently hosted the Special Education Resource Teachers, Special Education Department Heads, and Administrators for in person learning. Staff looked at their school's special education data and completed a school portrait which included best approaches to support all students at their school. M. Lefler also shared that the Educational Assistants (EAs) are receiving professional development regarding the topic of Trauma Response Care, and are learning about practices and strategies that will support students who have experienced trauma.

6. SEAC projects

6.1 Low enrollment class information cards

N. Train proposed the idea to create class specific information cards for the special education low enrollment classes to explain to students and families what the anticipated goals of each class are to assist families to understand what supports are in place for each class. The committee was in agreement of this idea.

7. Other business

7.3 Association and community news

Community Living Huntsville reported that they attended a panel discussion at the Huntsville High School staff meeting along with other community agencies (OPP, YMCA, etc) and each community agency provided brief description of their services and the teachers were able to ask questions. Community Living Huntsville were also present at the National Day of the Child event at the Bracebridge fairgrounds to provide information and resources on local services for families. HANDS (theFamilyHelpNetwork.ca) hosted a free webinar for parents on school refusal where strategies were presented to parents and caregivers to help their child return to attending school on a more regular basis.

Community Living South Muskoka reported that they were also in attendance at the National Day of the Child in Bracebridge. They were invited to participate in the career's classes at the Gravenhurst High School and talked to the students about the company and how they are a large employer in Muskoka. Community Living South Muskoka also reported that their staff will be participating in upcoming Behaviour Management System training at the Muskoka Education Centre.

FASD ONE reported they are working with CanFASD and Public Health of Canada on developing a training course for early childhood education on FASD to enforce the need to diagnose and identify FASD and how to guide families into making that disclosure and what the next steps are following that disclosure. FASD ONE has joined the Ontario Alcohol Strategy Coalition since the release of alcohol in convenience stores, to ask the Ontario Government to create an alcohol strategy with considerations on whether the increased access to alcohol will result in a reported increase in consumption in younger people or an increase of drivers under the influence of alcohol.

PAC on SEAC informed the committee that they are producing tip sheets on what is happening across the province and how PAC on SEAC can support SEAC's.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9. Next meeting

Date: December 2, 2024
 Location: Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre
 Time: 5:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Moved by S. Bullock, the meeting was adjourned.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Administrative Report

Date: January 22, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
Origin: Trustee Esther Childs/ Associate Superintendent of Learning Tanya Fraser
Subject: Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL) Report
Reference: Regular Meeting of the Board - January 28, 2025

Purpose

To share an update with Trustees related to the activities on Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) meeting on December 11, 2024 and January 22, 2025.

Context

Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) is a statutory Committee that meets minimum every 20 school days per regulation 374/10.

The committee membership includes Trustee Esther Childs, Associate Superintendent Tanya Fraser, AAEC Principal Lisa Uldriks, Community Representative Lynda Nydam, Mental Health District Manager Allison Jones, Re-engagement Counsellor Stephanie Harvey, Re-engagement Counsellor Lauren Thompson, Executive Assistant Naomi Shipley.

The chair of the committee is Esther Childs, with the support of associate superintendent of learning, Tanya Fraser.

The purpose of the committee is to provide alternative learning opportunities for students having difficulty attending or succeeding in a regular school program in order to increase achievement and thereby increase the likelihood of re-engagement in an in-school program.

Content

SAL committee meeting on December 11, 2024

The Committee discussed the following:

- 7 students were admitted to a Supervised Alternative Learning Plan
- 1 students were demitted from a Supervised Alternative Learning Plan
- 4 students were admitted to a R.E.A.L Supervised Alternative Learning Plan
- 8 students were demitted from a R.E.A.L Supervised Alternative Learning Plan

SAL committee meeting on January 22nd, 2025

The Committee discussed the following:

- 4 students were admitted to a Supervised Alternative Learning Plan
- 2 students were demitted from a Supervised Alternative Learning Plan
- 1 students were admitted to a R.E.A.L Supervised Alternative Learning Plan
- 6 students were demitted from a R.E.A.L Supervised Alternative Learning Plan

Action

Recommendation that Trustees receive the report related to the December 11, 2024 and the January 22, 2025 meetings of the Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board Administrative Report Governance and Policy Committee

Date: January 9, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
Origin: Trustee Saunders/ Director Hahn
Subject: Governance and Policy Committee Meeting January 9, 2025
Reference: Public Board Meeting – January 28, 2025

Purpose

To provide Trustees with an overview of the January 9, 2025 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting, and to share recommendations resulting from the meeting.

The January 9, 2025 meeting was a rescheduled meeting from December 11, 2024 (postponed due to inclement weather).

Context

The Governance and Policy Committee mandate is to provide input and leadership into governance matters related to the Board and the role of the Trustee.

The Committee is also responsible for development and review of Board policies to be advanced to the Board for ratification.

Content

At the January 9, 2025 meeting, the Governance and Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes to the *BD-2020 Communications Policy*, the *BU-3035 Appropriate Use of Technology and Technology Services Policy*, and *BD-2080 Accessible Customer Service Policy*.

Motions were passed by the Governance and Policy Committee to accept all of the recommended changes to the policies and to advance them to the public meeting of the Board for ratification. The policies, with the proposed changes outlined, are attached to this report.

In addition, the Committee:

- reviewed an initial draft of the new *BD-2050 Trustee attendance at Board Meetings, Standing Committee Meetings, Committee of the Whole Meetings Policy* that was developed to align with the release of *O. Reg 463/97 Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance*, and recommended a number of changes and additions to the policy. The policy will undergo further review at future meetings prior to a being ratified in August 2025;
- reviewed a first draft of recommended changes to the *BD-2051 Board Roles and Responsibilities Policy* in follow up to discussion at the November Governance and Policy Committee Meeting. An updated draft with a motion to approve the Policy will be shared at the February 2025 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting;

- discussed the proposed draft of the Board of Trustees Self-Assessment. Recommendations were made regarding the questions for the assessment. Trustee self-assessment is a good governance practice recommended by the Ontario Public School Board's Association (OPSBA). TLDSB Trustees will complete the self-assessment in January 2025.

At the meeting Committee Members approved the minutes of the November 6, 2024 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting.

The minutes from the January 9, 2025 Governance and Policy Committee meeting will be posted on the Governance and Policy Committee page on the Board's website following ratifications at the next committee meeting on February 5, 2025.

Action

Recommendation 1: that Trustees ratify the Governance and Policy Committee motions to approve the updates and revisions to the BD-2020 Communications Policy, inclusive of changing the name to Communications and Publishing Standards Policy, the BU-3036 Appropriate Use of Technology and Technology Services Policy, and the BD-2080 Accessible Customer Service Policy, inclusive of changing the name to Accessibility Policy.

Recommendation 2: that Trustees receive the report related to the January 9, 2025 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting.



BD-2020 Communications and Publishing Standards Policy

Approval date: ~~2019~~ 2025

Review date: ~~2024~~ 2030

Policy

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) is committed to **delivering** proactive, effective, and open communication ~~among stakeholders~~ to enhance **awareness, knowledge, and instill** public confidence in support of student achievement and well-being.

The development and effective execution of communications supports clear, regular, and concise messaging to all stakeholders, which are distributed through a variety of methods and/or channels. TLDSB will deliver communications in a variety of accessible formats to meet the needs of all stakeholders, which includes direct electronic and paper communications with parents/guardians, staff and student intranet, social media messaging, website content, advertising, and media relations. Communication will evolve to include new and innovative channels over time.

In addition to the delivery of communication, TLDSB will provide opportunities to solicit feedback as it relates to communications through various forms of collection including, but not limited to, surveys, focus groups, and/or email.



BU-3035 Appropriate Use of Technology and Technology Services Policy

Approval Date: ~~2023~~ 2025

Review Date: ~~2025~~ 2027

Purpose

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) is committed to providing access to technology and technology services to enrich educational opportunities ~~and board business functions. for everyone in the boardschool~~ ~~community.~~ Board technology and technology services shall be used in a responsible, respectful and ethical manner while on Board property, in a virtual learning environment, on school transportation, ~~on~~ electronic media, at school authorized events, within learning environments, in before and after school programs, during co-curricular activities and educational excursions, and any other circumstances that may have an impact on the school or work climate.

This procedure applies to all TLDSB students, staff members, trustees, school council members, volunteers and other authorized individuals who are provided access to the Board's technology and technology services. This includes but is not limited to TLDSB provided electronic devices, cloud-based resources/applications, digital learning tools, and any other personal devices or technologies.

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact Communications Services at info@tldsbn.ca.



BD-2080 Accessibility ~~Customer Service~~ Policy

Approval date: 202419

Review date: 20294

Purpose

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) supports the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in its **educational programs, learning and working environments**, policies, procedures, ~~practices,~~ and services. We welcome all members of the school and broader community to our facilities by committing our staff and volunteers to providing an environment that **ensures equal access and participation for people** ~~respects the independence and dignity of persons~~ with disabilities.

TLDSB is committed to **the four core principles of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA): integration, equality of opportunity, dignity, and independence. This commitment is demonstrated by** providing people with disabilities the same opportunity of access to our services in the same location and in a similar way as these services are available to all others we serve. **We are committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities in a timely manner by removing and preventing barriers to accessibility and meeting accessibility requirements under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and Ontario's accessibility laws.**

TLDSB is committed to meeting its current and ongoing obligations under the Ontario Human Rights Code respecting non-discrimination. We understand that obligations under the AODA and its accessibility standards do not substitute or limit its obligations under the Ontario Human Rights Code or obligations to people with disabilities under any other law. TLDSB is committed to excellence in serving and providing services and facilities to all people.

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact Communications Services at info@tldsbc.on.ca.