

## **Board Meeting, 14 June 2011**

### **News brief from the**

#### **Ottawa-Carleton District School Board**

*(This news brief is meant to provide the highlights of the decisions made at the Board meeting for the benefit of our community; the notes do not serve as the official record of the meeting (See Board or Committee minutes).*

#### **Student Trustees 2010 – 2011**

Student Trustees Elizabeth Blight and Eric Chen were thanked for their work on behalf of all students in the District. Both students described their term as something that they will remember for years to come. They encouraged the Trustees to continue to listen to the student voice.

Trustee Curry told those in attendance that Elizabeth has won the Chancellors Scholarship from Queens University in the amount of \$36,000. Student Trustee Blight also won an additional \$13,000 from two other scholarship funds.

The new Student Trustees for school year 2011-2012 will be Kareem Ibrahim from Earl of March Secondary School and Bill Lin from A. Y. Jackson Secondary School.

#### **Director's Report**

David Jackson, who took our photo earlier this evening, is a student at South Carleton High School. David was awarded a Gold Medal in the Skills Canada competition, and was first overall in total points for Technology. This is the first time that an OCDSB student has taken both of these honours. David's excellent work ethic, his passion for photography and commitment to his craft has resulted in a meeting with the Prime Minister's photographer. He also received an honourable mention in a National Sports photography competition. Congratulations David and thank you for helping us out this evening.

Meanwhile, in the Skills Ontario competition held in May, grade 9 students David Pagurek Van Mossel and Luka Lawford won gold medals in the 2D Character Animation category at the 22nd annual Skills Ontario competition. These two students competed against 1,700 elementary, secondary, and post-secondary students at the provincial level, and proceeded to the Skills Canada national competition where they won bronze medals.

Two meetings will be held on June 16 for the Kanata North and South elementary accommodation review committees. The public is invited to the Kanata South meeting at A.Y. Jackson Secondary School (5:30 to 7 p.m.). The Kanata North Accommodation Review Committee will meet at Earl of March Secondary School (7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.) that same evening. The committees are seeking feedback on concepts being considered. Input into these concepts will assist the ARC in generating long-term accommodation options for the schools in Kanata North. These options will then be presented at a public meeting in the fall of 2011.

On June 22, a public meeting will be held at Lisgar Collegiate Institute at 7 p.m. regarding the Centretown, Glebe and Old Ottawa South Accommodation Study. There will be a presentation on the activities of the working committee to date followed by a question and answer and period.

### **Chair's Report**

Cambridge Street Community Public School would like to share the gift of music with the community. The public is welcome to attend the Cambridge Street Community Public School musical: Everybody Has Music Inside on Wednesday, June 22nd, at 1:30 pm or 7:00 pm. The performance is approximately 30 minutes long.

Congratulations to Todd Thompson, Vice-principal of Century Public School. He is the Denis Landry Memorial Award winner for 2010–2011. Todd was selected for the award because of his commitment to students, and leadership in athletics. He has been involved in intramurals at all the schools where he taught. He has been a convenor at both the regional and board level. He has led workshops related to Daily Physical Activity and Dance for the District and for the University of Ottawa. Finally, he was a member of the Ottawa Carleton Elementary Athletic Association (OCEAA) executive for over 10 years (as Chair, Regional Chair, and Treasurer).

Pinecrest Public School was featured on CBC Television this past Sunday. The documentary called Run Run Revolution focused on ten students whose goal was to run in Boston in April. During training, students changed their eating habits, strengthened their balance and coordination and ran up to 3 kilometres at 6 a.m. on wintry mornings. After 12 weeks students went to Boston and won second place in a sprint relay race against other schools. Next day, the students ran individually in a 5 kilometre race with 4,000 other runners. I am happy to say that all the students finished the race in the top half of the field and are a wonderful inspiration to all of us. You can read more about their training on the CBC website under the title: Live Right Now. Excellent work students!

### **Public Question Period**

Linda Barbette on behalf of the Learning Disabilities Association of Ottawa-Carleton asked trustees to make a firm commitment to reduce and if possible eliminate the Jr. Learning Disabilities “wait list”.

Ms. Barbette expressed appreciation to the members of the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the parents of children with a learning disability. She added that addressing the issues of a wait list carries the heartfelt appreciation of many parents. The wait list is one of the many issues that were addressed during the budget deliberations.

### **PUBLIC MOTIONS**

#### **Naming of the New Stittsville Public School**

The new Stittsville elementary school at 111 Hartsmere Drive will be named Westwind Public School. The school's library will be named the Daisey Jinkinson Library - after a beloved Stittsville area teacher.

#### **Board and Committee Meeting Calendar for 2011-2012**

The Board and Committee Meeting calendar for the period of September 2011 to June 2012 was approved. Board Meetings will continue to be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month unless otherwise advertised. The calendar is available on the Board website.

#### **Extended Day Program September 2011 Locations and Fees**

The Board approved the 2011-2012 Extended Day fee at the basic rate of \$20 per day. Staff were directed to develop a communications plan to inform the parent community of the new cost structure associated with the Extended Day programming.

#### **Annual Accessibility Plan 2011-2012**

The Annual Accessibility Plan for 2011-2012 was approved and it will be posted to the District's website.

#### **Purchase of New Portable Classrooms**

The Board approved the purchase of 8 new portable classrooms in the amount of \$940,000 to be funded from Capital Reserves; and 12 new portable classrooms in the amount of \$1,410,000 to be funded from the District's Full-Day Kindergarten capital allocation, subject to any necessary Ministry approvals.

#### **Approval of the OCDSB Strategic Plan - "Schools for the Future"**

The Board approved the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan as outlined in the Strategy Map. The strategy map provides a one-page overview of the vision, mission, and key areas of focus for the district. Vision 2015 outlines where we want the organization to be at the end of the four year plan. Objective 2015 explains how we will know if we have achieved our vision at the end of the plan. The Mission is an expression of our values and a statement of the work that we will do to achieve that vision. The four Key Priority Areas are well-being, engagement, leadership, and learning. Trustees also requested staff to provide regular updates regarding how the Strategic Plan is being implemented throughout the District.

#### **Board Governance Task Force -Adoption of Objectives for the Board Governance Task Force**

The Board will adopt the following objectives for the Board Governance Task Force:

- 1)To focus the work of the Board on the promotion of student achievement and well-being;
- 2)To improve the effectiveness of Board and Committee meetings; and
- 3)To create a culture in Board and Committee meetings where members are respectful of each other, of staff, and of the public

#### **Facilitating the Organization of an Education-Oriented All Candidates Meeting**

A. The OCDSB will offer at least one reasonable school facility venue, if needed, in each provincial riding of the jurisdiction free of charge to any OCDSB school council or other recognized OCDSB stakeholder group, or any co-sponsoring association of same, wishing to run either a local, regional, or city-wide public education themed all-candidates meeting on 20 September 2011;

B. The OCDSB will inform all of its school councils and recognized stakeholder groups of this offer and encourage their joint association and their organization of such events, and;

C. The OCDSB will advertise, with appropriate disclaimers, each such all-candidates debate on its website, and issue a media release to this effect in advance of 20 September 2011, should any such events be organized and confirmed.

### **Consultation Plan Re: Canterbury High School and Hillcrest High School Boundary Amendment Proposal**

The Board deferred the motion for consideration until the June 28 Board Meeting but only after consideration of any recommendation from Education Committee on the secondary school review.

This is a Consultation Plan designed to receive input regarding a proposal to amend the current Canterbury High School Regular English boundary. The objective of the consultation plan is to create an optional attendance area boundary for Canterbury High School and or Hillcrest High School.

### **Full-Day Kindergarten – Year 3 Capital Approval**

The Board approved the capital projects required to address the facility needs related to the implementation of Year 3 of Full-Day Kindergarten, in the amount of \$7,526,827. Staff were directed to start the detailed design work and procurement process necessary for the Full-Day Kindergarten Year 3 program capital work, subject to any necessary Ministry approvals.

### **Motion to Amend Previous Motion regarding Full Day Early Learning Kindergarten Classes**

The Board amended the motion adopted on 06 May 2010 to add parts E and F as follows:

E) That where enrolment projections for full day kindergarten classes indicate larger class sizes which may adversely impact student learning, the Director of Education may request the Board consider the creation and funding of classes beyond the total provincial funding; and

F) That the Board authorize the use of the designated reserve fund of \$600,000 in the 2011-2012 budget to fund an additional 4.0 full-day kindergarten classes and related program costs.

**The meeting adjourned at 11 p.m. A special meeting will be called to finish the time sensitive items in the next few days.**