

## **February 14, 2012**

### **Director's Report**

Congratulations to Farah Shabib, a student at Colonel By Secondary School, winner of an OSSTF Student Achievement Award in the French Prose and Poetry category. Her submission "La voix qui fit changer le monde" won at the provincial level of competition. This writing and creative arts competition is open to all public secondary school students in Ontario and is held annually in memory of Marion Drysdale.

An AODA Leadership Conference focusing on the Integrated Accessibility Standards will be held on Wednesday, May 30 from 8:00 – 11:30 a.m. at Algonquin College, Woodroffe Campus. ~It is being organized by area educational organizations and REACH Canada for trustees, senior staff and other leaders working in Ottawa's broader public sector. The conference will focus on strategies to support the successful implementation of the Accessibility Standards. Further details and registration procedures for the conference will be available in March.

As part of our leadership event series that aims to foster leadership at all levels, a very successful evening -- Lead the Way -- was held last week on February 9 at the Hampton Inn. The next event will be for administrative and support staff, and will be held at Sir Robert Borden High School on February 23. These events serve to motivate and inspire people from all employee groups who may be considering formal leadership in the future and to actively encourage staff who are ready to consider positions of greater responsibility.

Congratulations to Dawn Paxton and her staff in Learning Support Services. The Ministry of Education invited Dawn and her team to present their work on Assessing Achievement in Alternate Areas – A4. Last year, the OCDSB was the lead board for the nine boards in our area. The work of the OCDSB team involved developing a manual, a website, a checklist that links to the I.E.P. and the report card. The Learning Support team will be in Toronto on February 29 to make a presentation to the other lead boards.

As well, Superintendent Dawn Paxton and System Vice-Principal Jennifer Borrel-Benoit will be in Toronto on February 27 and 28 to present at the special education and law seminar.

### **Chair's Report**

Kayla Ackehurst-Richard a student at Elizabeth Wyn Wood Secondary Alternate Program has won the Grand Prize in the Photovoice: See the Bigger Picture contest sponsored by Ottawa Public Health. Kayla's photos were displayed at the PhotoVoice Gala held at the Fall Down Gallery on Bank Street. For her expressive photos on Street Life, Kayla won a new DSLR camera. Excellent work Kayla!

As part of our Speaker's Series, two free information sessions are being held this week for parents. First, the Ottawa Police Services will be speaking about sexting, cyber-bullying, safety, and mental health on Wednesday, February 15th at the Adult High School. Dr. Leonard Sax, will be speaking at Woodroffe High School on the use of Facebook, video games, and about children growing up in virtual worlds, on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Both sessions will begin at 7 p.m.

### **Advisory Committee On The Arts (ACA)**

The ACA is pleased to celebrate this year as the 25th year of its existence (1987-2012). Their celebration includes a rededication of a painting by former Canterbury High School visual arts student Martin Gollard that was originally commissioned as part of the inaugural ceremony for the arts excellence awards, under the umbrella of the Ottawa Board of Education in 1989. They have designed a 25th anniversary banner that will hang periodically throughout the calendar year, 2012, in the main lobby of the Greenbank administration building.

### **Marjorie Loughrey Artists in the Schools Award ( ASA)**

The Marjorie Loughrey Artists in the Schools Award is an annual award of up to \$2,000 for an OCDSB Elementary school. The award is funded by the Marjorie Loughrey Endowment Fund, held at the Community Foundation of Ottawa, and administered by the Education Foundation of Ottawa and the ML Award Association. The ML fund was created in 2005 as a tribute to Marjorie Loughrey's lifelong commitment to arts education. One thousand and six hundred students have benefited from this program thus far. Jane Dobell and Jane Fulton asked the Trustees to review the possibility of offering additional ML arts awards.

### **Organizational Changes at Ottawa Technical Secondary School**

Ottawa Technical Secondary School's will begin school year 2012-2013 with a hybrid semestered/non-semestered system. This will allow students to choose the program delivery model they feel most comfortable with.

### **Organizational Changes at Sir Guy Carleton Secondary School)**

Sir Guy Carleton Secondary School will also implement a new hybrid semestered/non-semestered organization beginning in the 2012-2013 school year be approved.

### **Revisions to P.044.GOV, Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee**

The consultation plan for draft policy P.044.CUR, for Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL), was approved. It is hoped that the provision for part-time study will encourage more students to return to school. The purpose of the consultation is to inform stakeholders about the SAL program and to draft policy and to solicit their input to ensure that the policy is clear and informative. The SAL program provides flexibility to design a solution for students under age of 18 to return to school.

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/14%20Feb%20Board%20Meeting/10d%20Education%2030%20Jan%202012%20App%20D%20Consultation%20Plan%20for%20P.044.GOV%20SALEP.pdf>

### **Pilot Program for Students in Grades 6, 7 and 8 to Encourage Regular Physical Activity Outside of School Hours**

Staff were directed to proceed with a pilot program for students in grades 6, 7 and 8 to encourage regular physical activity outside of school hours. The program will include a tracking template for students to enter the hours spent engaged in physical activity outside of school hours. The pilot program will also include pre and post surveys of participants to determine the impact of their engagement in the pilot program. Three to six schools with intermediate student populations will be invited to participate on a voluntary basis including at least one rural school.

Staff will report back to the Education Committee on the final design of the pilot program by June 2012.

### **Religious Practice in Schools**

## **"MOTION A" FAILED ON A VOTE OF 8-4**

A. THAT staff be directed to prepare a report for the May 2012 Strategic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting detailing policy and procedure(s) currently in place which addresses the subject of religious services within schools, during school hours and ensure all schools adhere to applicable law; - **THIS FAILED**

# "MOTION B" PASSED ON A VOTE OF 9-2-1 OBSTENTION

B. THAT staff be directed to review the Pastoral Care Program with the report to come forward to the October 2012 meeting of the Strategic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting. – **THIS PASSED**

## **Revisions to Policy P.100.IT: Acceptable Use of Information/Communication Technology**

Proposed revisions to Policy P 100.IT "Acceptable Use of Information/ Communication Technology" (Appendix A) were approved **as amended**.

The goal of the revisions is to continue to promote and encourage thoughtful and responsible use of District or personal technology and electronic devices throughout the curriculum with students, through staff development sessions with employees, and public information campaigns with other members of the school community, and to provide guidance, support and instruction to students in their use.

## **Submission to the Ontario Pre-budget Consultation**

Trustees approved a Submission to Pre-budget Consultation, as the basis for the Board's advocacy work. The submission will be sent to the province to outline concerns regarding a proposed 1% increase in funding. Trustees believe that an increase of just 1% will not cover the anticipated increase in expenditures over the next year. Even with a 1% increase in funding, school boards will be forced to reallocate resources and consider possible reductions to programs and services.

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/14%20Feb%20Board%20Meeting/11e%20App%20D%20Pre%20Budget%20Consultation.pdf>

## **Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) Policies – Proposed Harmonization**

The Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) is advised:

A. THAT the OCDSB supports the proposed approach to transportation funding strategies as explained in Report 12-035;

B. THAT the OCDSB supports changes to Transportation Services T14-Travel Time, the guideline which expressed the current practice for a majority of OCDSB students;

C. THAT the OCDSB supports the proposed changes to the eligibility criteria subject to clarification that transfer applications will be considered independently and will conform to the policy and procedure of member boards and that transportation may be provided to elementary school students from a childcare within catchments of the receiving school that meets all other eligibility criteria;

D. THAT prior to said change being adopted, the OCDSB expects that OSTA will coordinate and liaise with the OCDSB to ensure that required amendments to the OCDSB Transfer Policy P.077.PLG and Student Transportation Policy P.068.TRA reflecting these approaches are made coincidentally; and

E. THAT the OCDSB supports changes to and harmonization of the criteria for determining hazards; however, prior to adopting any changes, a public consultation by OSTA is strongly encouraged.

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/14%20Feb%20Board%20Meeting/13%20Business%20Services%208%20Feb%202012%20Report%203.pdf>

**Referral from Board Meeting of 24 January 2012: Direct Staff re Concepts for Steering Committee for Extended Day and Full-Day Kindergarten Programs**

**Agree in Principle re the establishment of an Advisory Committee on Early Learning and Child Care**

A. The Board agreed in principle to establish an Advisory Committee on Early Learning and Child Care taking into account Policy P.065.GOV in order to provide a forum to connect stakeholders with interests in full-day learning, in particular parents, the education sector and the child care sector, and to provide advice on issues relating to the development of policies, procedures and programs required for the successful delivery of the full-day kindergarten and extended day initiatives; and

B. That Staff be directed to submit a report to the May meeting of the Business Services Committee with recommendations on a mandate and Terms of Reference for a new Advisory Committee after consulting with key stakeholders, which would include, but not limited to, OCASC, the parent community, and the child care community.

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%20DOCS/2012%20DOCS/14%20Feb%20Board%20Meeting/13%20Business%20Services%208%20Feb%202012%20Report%203>. <http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA DOCS/2012 DOCS/14 Feb Board Meeting/13 Business Services 8 Feb 2012 Report 3.pdf>

**Board Transportation Financing Strategy**

A. The Board approved in principle a multi-year transportation services budget direction requiring temporary increases in unfunded OCDSB transportation services expenditures leading to increased OCDSB student transportation services and 100% funding of all such services; and

B. That the Board directs that an over-arching public multi-year plan laying out the stage-wise pathway through E&E reviews, extraordinary OCDSB budget investments, Board-Board policy harmonization and internal OSTA improvements, be provided to the Board in a timely manner, along with subsequent regular public updates as to collective progress against this plan.

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA DOCS/2012 DOCS/14 Feb Board Meeting/13 Business Services 8 Feb 2012 Report 3.pdf>

**Trustee Appointment re Evaluation Committee for the Legal Services Request for Proposal**

Trustees Campbell, Scott, Blackburn and McKenzie were appointed to the evaluation committee for the Legal Services Request for Proposal.

**Trustee Appointment to Parent Involvement Committee**

Trustee Scott was appointed to the Parent Involvement Committee. Trustee Curry will be the alternate.

**The meeting ended at 10:45 p.m.**