

Members present: K. Dostaler, T. Elliott, S. Lewis, S. Maracle, K. Niemi, E. Parsons, R. Prinzen, R. Speck, C. Vance (Student Trustee)

Regrets: K. MacIver

Resources: S. Binder, K. Donnell

Minutes: J. McLaren, Executive Assistant, Business Services

1. Call to Order

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands

Superintendent Dostaler offered the Land Acknowledgement.

3. Roll Call

Chair Lewis requested a roll call of committee members.

4. Approval of agenda

Moved: S. Binder

Seconded: S. Maracle

That the agenda for the October 2, 2023 Student Learning, Well-being and Equity Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

6. Approval of Minutes from May 29, 2023 and September 6, 2023 Meetings

Moved: S. Binder

Seconded: S. Maracle

That the minutes of the Monday, May 29, 2023 meeting be approved.

Carried

Moved: R. Prinzen

Seconded: S. Binder

That the revised minutes of the Wednesday, September 6, 2023 meeting be approved with an amendment to Report 6(a)i.

Carried

7. Delegations

None.

8. Staff Reports

(a) Superintendent Update

i. Reculturing of IEPs

Superintendent Dostaler provided a verbal update on reculturing IEPs to better suit the needs of students and to develop plans that close learning gaps. Mike Chambers and Geoff Courneya, Student Services, presented data on the IEP review, which determined there are a significant number of students with IEPs and a significant number of students with modified learning expectations. The outcome of the review was the creation of two new documents: Guiding Questions and Best Practices for IEPs and Modifications Messaging. Discussions, training and communications are ongoing.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- Clarification was sought regarding modifications being banned. It was confirmed it is not banned but should be used as the final option and at a grade level, with the priority to always use the approach best suited to each individual student.
- A question arose whether more accommodation was being provided in earlier years for foundational reading/writing, etc. It was advised that HPEDSB is ahead in terms of evidence-based reading and teachers are noticing reading level improvements from one grade to another.
- A concern was raised regarding the reculturing of IEPs and whether the process affected staffing levels. It was confirmed there is no correlation between staffing and reculturing.

ii. 2022-23 Suspension and Expulsion Summary

Superintendent Niemi referred to Report 8(a)ii., dated October 2, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- A question arose regarding confidentiality and suspension letter removal from the OSR. It was confirmed that a suspension letter cannot be removed from the OSR, particularly if it is a violent incident. Legislation is being reviewed to determine whether suspension letters that are not violent incident-related can be removed.
- There was an inquiry whether disciplinary hearing data would be shared if a parent decides to appeal. It was advised that there is often an opportunity to mediate prior to a full hearing before the review board. Trustee Niemi to confirm additional information that can be shared in a public session.

Trustee Parsons joined the meeting at 4:18 pm.

iii. Math Achievement Action Plan for HPEDSB

Superintendent Elliott and Suzanne Cholasta, System Lead, Curriculum Services referred to Report 8(a)iii, dated October 2, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- Clarification was sought regarding timeline commitments and funding for math achievement. It was confirmed the Ministry of Education has a 3-year commitment to the initiative, but funding is provided year to year.
- A question was raised regarding access to educational level averages in communities to ensure the skillsets of individual students. It was advised that some information can be found on SAS, along with Public Health that potentially can determine risk factors and measure readiness. HPEDSB's goal is to build a strong level of teacher practice to enable consistency across the board.

iv. Student Achievement Plan Consultation Overview

Superintendent Elliott provided a verbal update on moving forward and engaging in opportunities with the parent community. HPEDSB is prepared but waiting for additional Ministry information in order to launch further student improvement initiatives. Once Ministry information is received, it will be brought forward at the first available committee meeting (public Board or SWEL).

Clarification/discussion items included:

- It was asked whether HPEDSB has a sense of the timeline the Ministry would provide details. It was clarified that Directors across Ontario boards are collaborating with Ministry members, but no further information is available at this time.

v. EQAO

Superintendent Elliott provided a verbal update regarding a strategic planning meeting that took place with EQAO to discuss improvement planning and actions taken by leaders. There is an opportunity to work in direct partnership with EQAO and staff. EQAO has publicly released data results; however, HPEDSB is under embargo until October 12, 2023. A full report and result

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analysis of improvement priorities will be brought forward at the public Board meeting on October 23, 2023. Superintendent Elliott shared the dates for writing the EQAO Grades 3, 6, 9, and 10 assessments for the 2023-24 school year. These dates can be found on the [EQAO website](#).

(b) Review of Draft Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes

Trustee Maracle reviewed Report 8(b), dated October 2, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- The 2022-23 Indigenous Education Programs – Speaker Series, has been very well received.
- More professional development training has been offered and people are taking advantage of the opportunities to attend.
- Discussions are underway regarding the funding and partnership with MBQ to develop an outdoor cultural learning space, inclusive to all students.

(c) Review of Draft Equity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee Minutes

Trustee Maracle reviewed Report 8(c), dated October 2, 2023.

Clarification/discussion items included:

- A Working Group was created to review commemorative dates, and they determined that 13 dates in the calendar year have been deemed significant. Schools have been asked to honour/protect these dates. The 13 confirmed dates will be shared with the Committee.

9. Trustee Motions for Consideration (Introduced at Previous Meeting)

None.

10. Trustee Notices of Motion (Discussion for Next Meeting)

None.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, November 6, 2023.