

Chairs' Committee Meeting Notes - November 26, 2008 (7:30 - 10:30 p.m.)

Report by OCASC representative at meeting, Anne Teutsch

Board and Committee Meeting Agenda Distribution

- Starting as a pilot project in January 2009, meeting packages and agendas will be available a week earlier than previous, still on the Friday. This means they will be accessible at least 10 days before any meeting.
- The weeks for SEAC and the Education Committee meetings will be reversed - SEAC will be on the 4th Wednesday of the month, Education will be on the 3rd Tuesday. This will allow for information to be passed from SEAC to the following Education meeting while respecting the earlier package release date.
- A major part of the discussion on this was around delegations. One reason for the change was to allow the public time to react to the agenda package in terms of booking and preparing a delegation. Bylaw changes will be required to allow delegations to book a week after the agenda package comes out. It was generally agreed that delegations need the time to respond to agenda items and reports in the package. Staff will come back to the next Chairs' Committee meeting with possible solutions to this issue.

Provincial School Board Governance Review

- The Minister of Education has announced a governance review between now and the end of the winter.
- The provincial committee will seek input from stakeholders, including trustees and directors of education.

Staff Report on District Goals for 2007/2008

- First cycle (one year) of annual District Goals has been completed.
- Strategic Plan involves a District Improvement Plan (with three parts - Special Education Plan, School Improvement Plans, Annual Learning Plans), an annual budget and financial statements, and annual district goals in the areas of learning, leadership and community - the OCDSB's three pillars of success.
- The OCDSB has an overarching district goal of a 90% graduation rate by 2020.
- Year 1 of the Strategic Plan was for mainly capacity building, research, awareness, planning, reporting processes; Year 2 will focus on SMART goals, Year 3 will increase the emphasis on measurability.
- Accomplishments and Outcomes from last year include:
 - in the Learning Pillar: FSL Review, improved EQAO results, two ARCs completed, increased focus on programme delivery and quality;
 - in the Leadership Pillar: redesign of principal and vice principal intern programmes, changes to principal, vice principal selection process, leadership training;
 - in the Community Pillar: diversity and equity framework, respectful workplace work, outdoor education centres used more as community resources, new partnerships with community (eg. Algonquin, CHEO, OCRI, United Way), breaking down of internal departmental silos.
- Next step is focusing on SMART goals, and refining the definition of the 90% graduation rate goal.

Critical Incident Report

- Staff report was presented showing breakdown of critical incidents from 2007/2008 across the school board, by category, by age, as a comparison to previous years,

Long Range Agendas

- Staff now prepare a 1 page synopsis of the coming month, listing major topics, reports and motions known to be coming to each standing committee, and board meeting. There is also a long range agenda, showing the known items for each committee through to the end of the school year. Both summaries, as of November 26, are available at the following link (or on the OCDSB web site by looking at the Chairs' Committee Agenda package, accessed from the meeting calendar):
- http://www.ocdsb.edu.on.ca/Documents/Board_Meetings/Meetings/2008/November_2008/Chairs_Nov26_2008/11_LRA.pdf