

# KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## **DRAFT PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Roy H. Wilfong Boardroom, Education Centre, Peterborough, ON

### ATTENDANCE

Present: Trustees S. Russell (Committee Chairperson), D. Lloyd (Chairperson of the Board), A. Lloyd (Vice-chairperson of the Board), T. Brown, C. Dickson, and J. Klassen Jeninga.

Also Present: Trustees C. Abraham, S. Bobka, R. Kitney, E. Ojeda; and R. Russo, G. Ingram, G. Tompkins, J. Ford, A. Sadowski, C. Douglas, and L. Haemel.

Due to the current health advisory and public health measures in place provincially, the committee met virtually using the WebEx Platform and livestreamed through the KPR YouTube channel.

Trustee S. Russell, Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order (7:00 p.m.) and welcomed members and guests to the meeting. It was acknowledged that the Committee was meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga First Nations.

### Adoption of Agenda

**MOVED BY D. Lloyd, SECONDED BY J. Klassen Jeninga**  
**That the agenda be adopted as printed.**

**CARRIED**

### Adoption of Minutes

**MOVED BY T. Brown, SECONDED BY R. Kitney**  
**That the Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, be adopted as recorded.**

**CARRIED**

### Youth Leadership in Sustainability (YLS) Program

G. Ingram, Superintendent, reported that the KPRDSB Strategic Plan, 2019-2022 Excellence in Learning, Life and Communities identified the following key priorities in support of student success and engagement:

- Provide a diverse range of learning opportunities through academics, the arts, physical activities, social, cultural and community connections,
- Offer relevant, meaningful curriculum that engages students in becoming well-rounded, critical thinkers,
- Create conditions that meet our students' unique needs, support transitions and open doors to new directions and destinations,

- Value and support all learners, and encourage experiential, life skills development,
- Develop collaborative and strategic partnerships with parents and stakeholders focused on student success,
- Cultivate leadership in our students, staff, schools and communities, particularly in the areas of environmental stewardship, instructional technology and innovation.

It was established that the KPRDSB Essential Practices Framework for Today's Learners defines the desired learning conditions for our students. The Learning Partnerships pillar emphasizes creating learning partnerships to:

- Develop authentic relationships and partnerships in local, national and global communities,
- Enhance student voice and engagement through networking opportunities both in and outside the school community,

It was indicated that there are several KPR programs with an environmental focus such as High Skills Major programs at East Northumberland Secondary School (ENSS), Port Hope High School (PHHS), Courtice Secondary School (CSS), Clarington Central Secondary School (CCSS) and Thomas A Stewart Secondary School (TASSS).

It was stated that in 2017, educator, C. Douglas, approached Senior Administration to discuss the concept of offering an environmental student leadership program at Trent University that would be open to any secondary school student to attend for one semester.

C. Douglas, educator, reported that the Youth Leadership in Sustainability (YLS) program was initially offered through Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute (KCVI) at Trent University beginning in September 2018 with an initial class of 22 students. After the first year, the YLS program was moved to Peterborough Adult and Continuing Education (PACE) at PCVS as the host school. This allows students to continue to participate in extra-curricular programming at their home school while also being enrolled in YLS.

It was indicated that student success and engagement has been very high. Ninety percent of the students in the YLS program are pursuing a university pathway and ten percent a college post-secondary destination. YLS students who achieve marks of 80% in the World Issues and Resource Management courses are granted a credit for Trent University's first year Environmental Science course (ERSC101OH).

It was stated that YLS is taught as an integrated, four credit package of senior level courses that provide students with an opportunity to intensely focus on environmental concepts and issues and leadership at the university setting. Students engage in the course content through classroom instruction, university/college lectures and through project-based learning opportunities on the Trent campus and throughout the area.

It was shared that community partnerships are the backbone of the YLS program. The YLS program seeks out leaders in the community to learn of innovation and best practices, to make career connections for students, to provide leadership mentors, and to ground the YLS program in authentic learning. Many organizations, businesses and individuals have engaged directly with the YLS program either offsite or in the YLS classroom.

It was stated that the YLS program also has a focus on integrating Indigenous perspectives on the land into sustainability understanding.

The committee was informed that students are required to pay a fee each semester to offset the many off campus opportunities and are required to arrange their own transportation to the university and can also access city transit. Support for students who may struggle to participate due to the cost are supported on an individual basis through donations and/or the Trillium fund.

It was reported that while the course delivery model changed for the current school year in the traditional schools, the YLS program as a single cohort continued at the Trent campus. Off campus opportunities were reduced during this school year but the class was still able to participate in a number of outdoor experiences.

The YLS program is currently recruiting students for the 2021 fall semester and have approximately 20 students already enrolled.

C. Douglas introduced a Grade 11 and a Grade 12 student who have participated in the YLS program. The students expressed that the YLS program changed their lives, inspired them in their post-secondary program selections and future careers. The students also expressed that the YLS program helped them see how they can get involved in the community and politically in an effort to finding solutions.

Questions of clarification were addressed.

**MOVED BY C. Abraham, SECONDED BY R. Kitney**  
**That the Youth Leadership in Sustainability (YLS) Program Report, dated April 6, 2021, be received for information with thanks.**

**CARRIED**

### Virtual Learning K-12

John Ford, Superintendent, reported that the KPRDSB Strategic Plan prioritizes the need for a diverse range of learning opportunities through academics, the arts, physical activities, and social, cultural and community connections, and highlighted the importance of closing opportunity and achievement gaps to support equitable outcomes.

It was stated that as a result of the global pandemic and Ministry of Education directives, KPRDSB offered elementary and secondary students the opportunity to choose virtual learning as a method of program delivery for the 2020/2021 school year.

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Since September 2021, Virtual Elementary School (VES) welcomed 4,200 students from Kindergarten to Grade eight, and 2,200 students in the Virtual High School (VHS).

It was also reported that while KPRDSB believes that an in-person school model with risk mitigation strategies in place is best from an overall health perspective for children of all ages, it is also important to provide a choice for students and families. As such KPRDSB would like to introduce an 'opt in' option to virtual learning for both elementary and secondary students for the 2021/2022 school year. The Elementary and Secondary Learning options are detailed below:

The Elementary Learning Options for 2021/2022 will include:

- All elementary families will be presented with the opportunity to opt out of face-to-face learning and to choose full-time virtual instruction for the 2021/2022 school year,
- Families who choose full-time virtual instruction understand their child will be learning at home through synchronous and asynchronous instruction,
- Entry/exit from full-time virtual learning will occur four times throughout the school year (Beginning of September, Fall Progress Report, Term 1 Final Report, Spring 2022).

The Secondary School Learning Options for 2021/2022 will include:

- All secondary students will be presented with the opportunity to opt out of face-to-face learning and to choose full-time virtual instruction for the 2021/2022 school year,
- To inform this decision, students will be presented with a list of courses available virtually,
- Students who choose full-time virtual learning may edit/revise their course selection in consultation with their secondary school guidance staff,
- Entry/exit from full-time virtual learning will occur at the start of the semester.

Questions of clarification were addressed and the following recommendation was adopted

**MOVED BY D. Lloyd, SECONDED BY C. Dickson**  
**That the Virtual Learning K-12 Report, dated April 6, 2021, be received for information with thanks.**

**CARRIED**

#### Future Meeting Dates

Future meeting dates for the 2020-2021 school year were reviewed. The next meeting of the Program Review Committee will be held in the Roy H. Wilfong Boardroom at the Education Centre, 1994 Fisher Drive, Peterborough, at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021.

#### Adjournment

**MOVED BY J. Klassen Jeninga, SECONDED BY R. Kitney**  
**That the meeting be adjourned (8:03 p.m.).**

**CARRIED**

Steve Russell  
Committee Chairperson