

Avon Maitland Occasional Teacher's Local Executive Meeting
Wednesday, January 23, 2013
Teacher's Local Office
Seaforth, Ontario
4:30pm

Present: Krista Ehgoetz, Wayne Stewart, Kimberly Albers, Kim Finlayson, Jesse Bergmann, Terri Houston, Susan Janmaat

Regrets: Nicole King, Jennifer Kelly

Dinner was provided prior to the meeting.

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Kim called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

2. Reading of the ETFO Harassment Policy, Wayne Stewart

Wayne Stewart read the ETFO harassment policy.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Susan moved to approve the agenda, Terri seconded, motion carried.

4. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting, November 28, 2012.

The previous meetings minutes were approved online by Krista and Jesse. Kimberly will send the November minutes to Jennifer to post on the website.

5. Business arising from the last meeting(s).

Action Items from September Executive Meeting:

Executive

-Need suggestions for a new theme/name for the Charter Dinner and Auction and the mystery gift donation.

This discussion has been tabled to the next executive meeting.

Kim Finlayson

-Ipad was purchased with keyboard, still looking for a case.

Jennifer Kelly

-Update website to include most recent and past minutes.

Jesse Bergmann

-Update on System Calendar usage

6. Health and Safety Report, Susan Janmaat

There will soon be a pop-up on first class to remind teachers to wear appropriate footwear.

7. PL Chair Report, Krista Ehgoetz

Krista is hosting all the PL chairs from other locals on May 22, 2013. She is waiting for a few more presenters to confirm their bookings.

Going to start up the staff room Thursdays soon.

Professional learning was put on hold in November and December as a result of “Work to Rule” Action.

Diana Doctor is going to present about IT items.

8. Communications Officer Report, Jennifer Kelly – no report

9. Grievance Update, Kim Finlayson

Will be provided orally.

10. Social Justice and Equity Report, Kim Finlayson

The Charter Dinner and Auction is coming up on April 18th at the new location - Mitchell Golf and Country Club and with a new format – appetizers and desserts. The event will be held from 4:30 to 7:00/7:30. Only silent auction items and 3, five dollar draws. The occasional teachers’ local is responsible for donating a “Mystery Gift” for one of the \$5 draws. To be discussed in more detail at the next executive meeting.

11. Environmental Committee Report, Wayne Stewart

Wayne didn’t attend the meeting on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 as we were in a legal strike position, but has provided the minutes.

Department Updates – How does your work reflect sustainability and celebration?

IT – Jeff Reaburn

- Purchases are all Energy Star rated electronics.
- Starting to do more with virtualization of repairs where possible, thus avoiding driving to sites in person.
- Having a ‘server’ in every school may become a thing of the past. More efficient to have several schools work off of one server. For example, put a server in a large high school and have other schools run off it – cut back on energy.
- Moved to flat panel monitors – due primarily to market forces.
- Have moved to a five year replacement cycle on desktops from four years. Alternating of replacements by panel i.e. one year replace elementary and secondary the next.
- It was noted that mobile computing is happening a lot more now. This may use less electrical energy, but more batteries used, perhaps.
- Work with a company called Green Tec. They recycle our equipment and we know that when it leaves here it is actually recycled properly.
- Q: Does five year over four year cycle have energy savings or is it merely for cost reasons? And does using these computers one extra year actually raise energy efficiency concerns?

A: Depends on specifics of the equipment: newer models may be more powerful, but likely are more energy efficient compared to the ones they replace; We may not see savings every year, but over time there should be.

- Q: Who is Green Tec?

A: Mostly just do recycling of electronics – free for schools. Importantly, they provide us with *certificate of destruction* for hard drives.

Transportation

- Talked about GPS' on 10% of units.
- Data analysis on idling.
- Route optimization: Reduced fleet by 7 buses this year, but have added more students due to school closures.
- The department is not always traveling to meetings, instead they are increasingly having conference calls.
- Reduce in buses mostly attributed to skill in office and route optimization ie using the programming to full capacity.

Curriculum – Laura Allan and Scott Mitchell

- Ontario Eco schools. Sets parameters for schools for certification based on environmental stewardship.
 - o We have seven schools seeking certification: Bedford PS, Central Perth, Goderich DCI, Listowel Central PS, South Huron DHS, St. Mary's DCVI, Stratford Central.
 - o At the end of January we will be able to tell which schools will proceed to final certification – this process has been impacted by the current political climate
 - o Some schools that were certified last year are still fulfilling their practices.
 - o Some schools that don't seek certification – are still at the top as far as sustainability e.g. Brookside, Exeter, North Woods. Scott mentioned that we have our EcoStar Awards for schools like these to still be recognized annually.

Sustainability

- a couple of elementary schools attended 3M's LSF (Learning for a Sustainable Future) Forum again this fall. Student in grade 4-6 becomes the trainer/leaders for their school in environmental initiatives. They pay for supply for the teacher; we pay for travel for teacher and students.
- Elementary Eco leads were invited to the Ed Centre on November 29 to share what is going on in their schools.
 - o It always proves to be a most useful way to learn for teachers as they get to share. Much of the sharing is done electronically ie paperless.
 - o Teacher Eco-Leads take pride in what they are doing in their schools in this "show-off and share" format. Well supported by colleagues. Inspiring.
 - o Conserve Canada <http://conservecanada.ca/> was introduced as a new partner. Their mission is to promote sound conservation practices with respect to energy. They have created a grade 5 curriculum workshop and will come free of charge to a class for a half-day to instruct students on energy conservation. They will

leave materials for teachers to use in grade 5 science unit. All Huron and Perth schools can take part.

- Steve Boles of Kazuka LTD. provided PD for teachers in attendance with respect to sustainability *outside of the classroom*. Steve's presentation put a 'face' on sustainability by showing what it looks like in action in the world at large. This can be a challenge for teachers to teach as a concept only. Steve showed what governments and corporations are doing e.g. Huron County, Wal-Mart/McDonalds. Steve indicated that because this is a BIG IDEAS that creating a common understanding is worthwhile. He focused on his talk on the 3 pillars: economics, society, environment. Teachers saw this as a validation of their work.
- We are continuing with planting trees 2013 by 2013. Some schools want big trees, our focus however is on volume. The second of four tree-planting opportunities have now passed. We have until end of next year to complete the numbers. We could perhaps extend to 2014 given the labour climate. Schools can ask for \$250 from Scott Mitchell for this purpose.

Celebration

- shared with teachers the stickers and certificates – Six R's rethink, reflect, respond, reduce, reuse, recycle
- Eco Star awards – 16 schools represented with 40 winners – students/teachers/parents/community members. Clarification of the selection process was sought. Currently the principal selects an adult Eco Star and then may consult the adult to select a worthy student or two. Wes: Ideal Supply fund to the Foundation for \$3000 has stopped – still looking to confirm funding to aid with EcoStar Awards.

Facilities – no one present to update

- Q: Do schools receive reports on their energy consumptions? And then put strategies in place to react to this?
A: Hugh reports usually on this. Last word (from Scott) was that he was in the process of installing monitors in secondary schools to be used by eco-lead, teachers, and principal in school to use as a teaching tool and to give feedback to teachers/students about consumption.

Operations – no one present to update

Purchasing – no one present to update

ITEM 7 - AP 216:

First page of AP needs no revision, wording is same as ministry document *Acting Today, Shaping Tomorrow*.

- Kim Black: Environment AP comes up as midpoint check, all depts. Should be made aware of midpoint check, from minutes, review and analyze where your dept comes in and how they can assist with AP, take the information back to your dept and prioritize. Ideally it should impact your actions for the next year or so.
- 4.0 – Scott made notes on where in the Board we are doing some of these things – should we be changing some of the other pieces, other docs would go to teachers
- More often than not, people tend to add items that distracts from items already there. Priorities are likely still priorities. Therefore please take these docs to your team for review and bring back to next meeting or email Scott when completed.
- Took 10 minutes to review the documents while we were all present.

- Is there something you could add or subtract from your column:
Changes mentioned

Transportation:

– David mentioned a few possible initiatives but there are no means to measure at this point:

- Green Driver program was in place 5 years ago, through Ministry of Environment, reduce idling, give drivers more initiative, reduce negative practices – will be bringing this back
- Operators using bio-diesel in some vehicles now – encouraging that to continue to expand
- Province will not give specific bar to reach in terms of efficiency rating – but transportation works to fill the buses as best they can – work towards good efficiency rating

IT :

– Jeff: mentioned

will add that they are working toward single server sites, one network, working to do things that are network based – can control how systems are used by teachers vs. students – not there yet, but working towards it.

- Need to work toward more remote management of computers – not easy way for user to login the network tech and say what is wrong with my computer? Network technicians working towards doing that and not actually going to the site.
- Questioned the Web-based resources – more of a library thing than IT.
- Do not have choice about energy efficient equipment – due to market changes
- Way too many printers are purchased – especially in Ed Centre – is it a problem with cost? Maintenance? Energy? Most efficient printing is to photocopiers.

Curriculum

Outdoor Education – schools are choosing environment-based activities to use their funding – mostly science based activities, not just physical activities

Foundation

Wes: fundraising efforts to support environmental activities could have a question that forces teachers applying to reflect on their request. Is it sustainable? Could add another \$50 to each school per year on top of \$100 already set aside??
It would be nice if small project grants hit our new strategic directions.

12. Goodwill Committee Report, Nicole King

Please and thank you keep an ear out for any of those Occasional teaching co-workers that may need some best wishes sent their way on behalf of the local. If so, forward the names to myself in order to that completed and demonstrate our compassion and consideration at a time that we all know we need some. Thanks!

13. Political Action Report, Wayne Stewart - nothing to report

14. Constitution Committee, Wayne Stewart

Susan, Terri, and Wayne have set up a date to meet in February and will present their ideas in March to the rest of the executive committee. Wayne will send the date of this meeting to Kim F.

15. Treasurer's Report, Krista Ehgoetz and Kim Finlayson

Kim Finlayson completed the treasurer's report for this month since Krista is currently fulfilling a short term LTA.

a. Current Balance in our accounts as of January 18, 2013

Chequing \$44 830.52

GICs 1+1 \$16 313.68 – continue to roll it over until the release has been paid

Money Market \$ 3 160.05

Total Balance of \$64 304.25

**Please note, no release time has been paid for this fiscal year.

b. See attached treasurer's report of actual spending in comparison to the budget.

**Note we will be over in the office spending line of the budget with the purchase of the new ipad. Also, supply costs will be up as we were in provincial takeover, which resulted in more printing (ink costs for copies) and envelopes for mailouts, etc.

Krista motioned to accept the treasurer's report, Jesse seconded the motion, motion carried.

16. Collective Bargaining Report, Kim Finlayson, Wayne Stewart

a. Review of Bulletin 9 "Voluntary and Extra-Curricular Activities"

b. Much has happened since our last meeting on November 28, 2012.

The Ontario Labour Relations Board ruled the political protest scheduled for Jan. 11 violates the Ontario Labour Relations Act. ETFO abided by the Board's decision.

On Saturday, January 26 the Ontario Federation of Labour is organizing a Rally for Rights and Democracy. This rally coincides with the provincial Liberal leadership campaign. For more information or click on www.ofl.ca/index.php/campaigns/DemocraticRights or www.facebook.com/events/489963847693178 or look for the Twitter Hashtag #J26Rally.

Please join us at Allan Gardens in Toronto at 1pm, followed by a march to the Ontario Liberal Leadership **Convention being held at Maple Leaf Gardens.**

17. President's Updates

a. Status of LTA roster interviews as related to Regulation 274

This is a long process, they are currently interviewing for the Secondary panel and will begin Elementary panel interviews after that.

b. Researching Health & Safety Concern Forms and use of System Calendar via presnet. Kim F. will have more information about his in February from other OT locals.

18. New Business

a. "In Camera" - Discussion regarding "no shows" for strike action on December 10th. Krista moved to go "In Camera," seconded by Jesse, motion carried.

b. ETFO Occasional Teacher Locals Overview of Government-Imposed Collective Agreements Should we hold a general meeting to present the information and field questions? A discussion was held about holding a meeting, but the contract is constantly changing and therefore the executive saw no point in holding a general meeting at this time. It was decided that a Q & A sheet would be posted online.

It was suggested that we print all of the changed to the imposed contract and clip them to the previous contact. It is a work in progress and it is changing frequently.

Interesting Tidbits:

- 97th day counts as 1 year experience
- qualifications for LTA are the same
- mandatory unpaid days – OTs are not required to take 3 unpaid days

Next meeting dates:

- System Leaders' Meeting, February 4th – Kim Finlayson
- Teachers' Local Meeting, February 5th – Kim Finlayson
- Representative Council, February 6th-7th – Kim Finlayson
- Health and Safety Meeting, March 28th – Susan Janmaat, Kim Finlayson
- Charter Dinner and Auction – April 18th – Everyone **PUMP IT UP!**
- Constitution Committee Meeting – TBA – Wayne Stewart Chair, Susan Janmaat, Terri Houston
- Executive Meeting – TBA

19. Adjournment

Wayne Stewart adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm.

Action Items:

Jennifer Kelly

-post current years minutes prior to backlogged years minutes

Wayne Stewart

-rally information to be posted on Elementary OT icon

Kimberly Albers

-send draft copy of these minutes to Jennifer