

ETFO AMDSB OT General Meeting
Monday, October 17, 2016
Seaforth Legion
4:30pm

Executive Present: Lindsay McNichol, Kimberly Albers, Darlene Ellison, Kim Finlayson, Gayle Van Altena, Toni Gale

Executive Regrets: Ashley Dickey, Wendy Hastings

1. Call to Order

Kim Finlayson called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

2. Reading of the ETFO Harassment Policy, FMNI Statement and Introduction of the Human Rights Officers, Lindsay McNichol

- Human Rights Officers - Lindsay McNichol, Kim Finlayson

3. Welcome Guests, Introduce Executive

The executive was asked to introduce themselves and the roles they serve.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Toni Gayle motioned to approve the agenda as screened, seconded by Darlene Ellison.

5. Approval of the Minutes from Monday, May 9th, 2016.

The minutes are posted on the Local website for viewing prior to the meeting. Gayle Van Altena motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Kerri Havens, carried.

6. GAFE and Core Presentation, Question Period

Two software trainers, Sue Faber and Glenda DeBoer, and Hugh Cox will make a presentation about GAFE and The Core. Jason will also be in attendance and available to help people with username and password issues on the spot.

Tips and Tricks

-asked to change password right away

-change passwords every 90 days (will be a notice when you log in that password will expire soon)

-contact TRA if you have forgotten password, if no success then contact LRC

The Core

- go through board website
- same username and password for active directory
- have to activate active directory before you can get into The Core
- you can access The Core from home
- in widget you will see most recent unread messages, calendar, drive, etc.
- you will see drop down menu for different departments (HR services - ESS portal)
- Safe Schools is under "Corporate Services"
- system wide calendar is located here
- system memos posted here
- as OT teacher if you see "school closed to students" = probably not required

GAFE (Google Apps For Education now G Suites)

- find a google group:
- go to app picker, click on groups, search for a amdsb employees
- click join
- if you want messages from groups to come to mailbox you have to change settings to all mail, which will send it to your inbox
- G suite training (for help) in top right hand corner (circle with question mark inside)

7. **Treasurer's Report, Lindsay McNichol**

a. Current Balance in our accounts as of Monday, September 19, 2016

Chequing	\$ 55 936.48
GICs 1+1	\$ 3 236.64
TD Special Offer	\$ 5 000.00
Total Balance of	\$ 53 250.51

Lindsay presented the 2015-2016 Year End Report and the Proposed 2016-2017 Budget in a section by section basis. With questions being asked at the end of each section.

- Presentation of the 2015-2016 Year End
Lindsay McNichol motioned that the Year End Report be accepted as screened and reviewed, seconded by Jane Marie Mitchell, carried.
- Presentation of the Budget

Lindsay McNichol motioned the budget be approved as screened, leaving the levy as is for 2016-17 fiscal year, seconded by Maureen Miles Kramer, carried.

8. President's Report, Kim Finlayson

In September, the OT Roster was reviewed and as a result the Board will be adding 24 teachers to the roster.

As always, please email or call if you have any questions. I typically check my email in the evenings and usually on weekends; however, rarely without my cell phone, so feel free to text as well - 519-318-6444 if you need an response immediately.

9. Vice-President's Report, Lindsay McNichol

On September 20, I attended the Presidents' Meeting in Mississauga. Howard Goldblatt and Ethan Poskanzer went through a presentation on Remedy in preparation for negotiations for 2017. We need to decide what is important to our membership. We want to go back to before August 31, 2012. We need to consider our gains vs. losses. We went into break away groups to further discuss what this will look like in regards to a Remedy or next round of negotiations.

On September 29 I attended three workshops, FNMI Learning and ETFO, E-Professional Judgement and J-Planning and Prof. Judgement.

FNMI was presented by Rachel Mishene and covered the issues we face in regards to resources, practices to build capacity for intercultural understanding and Professional Learning. We discussed empathy and a valuable resource to use in the classroom to expand upon why we feel empathy and why we empathize with some people but not with others. What is reconciliation?

E-Professional Judgement was presented by Todd and Dave. ETFO has been pushing back since the implementation of EQAO and this is why there is a push to have this in the new Collective Agreement. As Dr. Michelle Rozen said last night "avoidance leads to deterioration" and this is why we need to bring this to the forefront. Multiple resources distributed to assist in taking this back to membership. Outline regarding what needs to be reported on and when are in the bulletin attached and would be beneficial to members.

J-Planning and Prof. Judgement was presented by Janet. Janet referred to the "Planning for Student Learning" resource throughout her presentation. Professional judgement is more than just saying "No" but there must be a rationale to back that choice and explain why they have made that decision.

10. Collective Bargaining Report, Kim Finlayson

Met with Shelley King and Paula Wallis on Friday, September 9, 2016 to combine the various collective agreements. The final collective agreement will have to be approved by ETFO. Hoping to be post by late October. Kim will email once it is posted on The Core.

11. Social Justice and Equity Report, Kim Finlayson

The Local received confirmation that it will be receiving the ETFO Incentive Funding for the Backpack Program in the amount of \$2000.

At the Annual Meeting (in Toronto) a commitment was made by the Provincial Executive to match donations collected for social justice speaker Dennis Edney, to a maximum of \$10,000. Currently, \$6,300 has been collected from locals and members. ETFO will continued to collect donations until September 30th, 2016.

12. Professional Learning Report, Lindsay McNichol

On Monday, September 26, Kim facilitated our first workshop. Jodi Regier presented "Assessment in Reading and Comprehension" to 29 participants. Those in attendance received a reusable bag, small stress toy, lanyard with a whistle, and information about OTIP. Supper was provided and a survey has been sent to all participants asking for their feedback.

Maplewood Elementary Report Card Training- October 12 & 13
Teaching Mathematics for the Occasional Teacher- October 26
Classroom Management Part 1-November 14 **Part 2-**December 6
Programming for Students with Special Needs..- November 30
Inspire & Inquire- Part 1- April 11 & **Part 2-** April 25
Power to Play/Power to Explore Workshop- April 2017
Professional Judgment- GM May 2017

Kim Finlayson attended the ETFO PL Chairs Training Session in Markham on September 28-29. It was a valuable time with many opportunities for networking with Locals on best PL practices and presenters. Lindsay McNichol and I now have access to ETFO's Presenters on the Road, which is an online resource which lists all of the presenters and topics ETFO has to offer.

For more information and to register for the following workshops please visit our website @ <http://occasionalteachers.com> .

13. Communications Officer Report, Lindsay McNichol

I have received the OT list which is up to date as of September 9. I have gone through the list and cross checked it with the names and emails on Mailchimp. I sent out a mass email on September 26 to those that I still need personal emails from. At this time I still need 29 email addresses. I will continue to work on updating personal emails as I receive them.

14. Goodwill Report, Darlene Ellison - No Report

15. Annual Meeting Report, Lindsay McNichol

Ashley, Toni, Kim F. and I attended the ETFO Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Centre Toronto August 15-18. Throughout business there were guest speakers which included the Ontario Federation of Labour president Chris Buckley, Unifor President Jerry Dias and Dennis Edney. As a local we made a donation of \$250.00 and ETFO matched all donations up to \$10,000. Currently, \$6,300 has been collected from locals and members. Provincial Executive continued to collect donations until September 20th, 2016. Electromagnetic hypersensitivity still seems to be at the root of multiple resolutions and as a result electronic voting did not take place at this year and wifi was not available in the meeting room.

16. Political Action Chair Report, Gayle VanAltena

On September 29th, I attended Leadership Training in Markham. The workshop provided information on ETFO's current issues with Ontario's education funding formula and the need for its reform. The Liberal government has funded initiatives such as smaller class sizes in primary grades and full day kindergarten, it is not fully funding these mandated programs. For the 2018 Provincial Election, ETFO's *Building Better School's Plan* focuses on six aspects where we would like to see fundings reviewed:

1. Class size- cap grades 4-8 at 24, Kindergarten at 26
2. Greater Access to Specialist Teachers – Ensure access to teacher-librarians and specialist teachers in the arts, design and technology, guidance, and physical and health education to provide an enriched and engaging program for all elementary students.

Update grants for Special Needs to meet demands for special education programs and supports.

3. More Resources for Students with Special Needs – Expand opportunities for all students to reach their learning and development potential by providing greater support for students with identified special needs and students who are English-language learners.
4. Greater Focus on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion – Foster equity and inclusion in Ontario schools by providing more support for children living in poverty and children whose families are marginalized and by using schools to expand children’s services.
5. More Meaningful Student Assessment and Learning – Change EQAO testing to random-sample assessments and focus instead on teachers’ classroom assessments of students.
6. A Strong Union Voice – Maintain the ability of unionized teachers and other education staff to speak out on behalf of safe and healthy schools and policies that contribute to student engagement, academic success, and personal growth.

There was a presentation on the importance of teachers being involved in their community to help create positive relations and gain support and advocacy for public education.

17. Health and Safety Report, Lindsay McNichol

The Health and Safety meeting took place on Thursday, September 10, 2010. Unfortunately, due to a conflict with ETFO Leadership Training taking place on the same day there was no one in attendance from our executive.

It has been brought to the attention of the executive that many schools provide lanyards with the key onto for occasional teachers when they are in the building on a daily basis. Some lanyards are not the “break away” type which can cause serious injury to a member if pulled by a student. This issue should be taken to the next Health and Safety meeting. For now, please take additional lanyards from the back for schools who have lanyards without this safety feature.

18. Open General Question Period - Most of the questions were asked during the meeting.

19. New Business - Nothing to discuss at this time.

20. Adjournment at 6:25 by Susan Janmaat

Action Items:

Kim F.

-Safe Schools training - OTs aware of where to find it and that its due Nov. 4 (Spoke with Hugh Cox who put out an email in the groups section with the specifics regarding the training.)