TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

Name: Ted Martin Date Submitted: June 22, 2018

Name of Conference: 30th Annual General Meeting

Sponsoring Organization: OPSBA

Theme (If any):

Conference Dates: May 31, 2018 to June 3, 2018

Location: Marriott on the Falls, Niagara Falls, ON

Workshops/Seminars/Presentations/Keynote Speeches Attended:
(Include a brief Summary)

Welcome Reception and Team Trivia – Jerry Chadwick, Vice President, OPSBA
I sat at a table with people from several other Boards (including Bluewater, Hamilton-Wentworth, Ottawa-Carleton, Renfrew, York). It was a great opportunity to have fun – but also practice teamwork – with trustees from other Boards.

Bluenotes Jazz Band – Port Colborne High School, District School Board of Niagara
I appreciated hearing the talents of these students.

Exit Outcomes – Jennifer Adams, Director, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
Identified the 10 “exit outcomes” – characteristics and skills that every student should have when they graduate from high school – and created their strategic plan based on these.

Creating a Culture of Innovation – Lesleigh Dye, Director, District School Board Ontario North East
Described how their board has created a culture of innovation and enhanced learning opportunities for all students.

R U Ready to Shift – Jacqueline Newton, Superintendent, Halton District School Board
Described how we need to shift how we learn, grow and succeed.

Update on “A Blueprint for Addressing Poverty in Ontario Schools” – Michael Barrett, Chair, Durham District School Board
This initiative was presented to trustees at an early meeting, so Michael brought us up to date on its successes and challenges.
Enhancing Equity by Transforming Student Learning – John Malloy, Director, Toronto District School Board
Described how TDSB has transformed student learning on a foundation of mathematics and literacy.

Annual General Meeting – Laurie French, President, OPSBA
Nominations for executive positions.
Policy resolutions:
1. First Nations Metis Staff (Ottawa-Carleton) – approved
2. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Exceptionality (Waterloo Region) – approved

The Wonder Wall: Leading Creative Schools and Organizations in an Age of Complexity – Peter Gamwell, former Superintendent, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

www.petergamwell.com
This was a very interesting talk, but he obviously had far more material than time, so it was a little disjointed.
When the priorities of the organization are for the organization rather than for the individuals, the bureaucracy will stifle creativity. We should be asking what are the conditions under which creativity can flourish. (e.g., ladder training for kindergarten class)
Foster curiosity and trust. Challenge the assumptions on which the assumptions are made.
“When there is a problem, community is the answer.” We need people who lead with creativity to inspire creativity in others.
Rather than focus on kids’ learning, we need to “shift the apostrophe” to focus on each kid’s learning.

Collective Bargaining August 2019 – Penny Mustin and Janet Edwards, Labour Relations, OPSBA
Outlined the preparation and consultation process prior to central collective bargaining.
Provided an opportunity for us to provide feedback on what we felt should be at the central table.

Annual General Meeting – Laurie French, President, OPSBA
Elections were held for all three executive officer positions:
President: Cathy Abraham, Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board
1st Vice: Michael Barrett, Durham District School Board
2nd Vice: Carol Ann Sloat, Grand Erie District School Board

Preparing Our Students Today for the World of Tomorrow – Alana Murray, Director, Bluewater District School Board
Equitable access for the diverse rural student population.

The DSBN Academy – Lora Campbell, Trustee, District School Board of Niagara
Board has created a special academy for grades 6-12 aimed at ensuring that all graduates attend post-secondary school. Students apply to the program, but must be first person in family hoping to reach post-secondary. Grades 9 and 10 only have academic stream; grades 11 and 12 have college and university stream. Every student has an advisor. Wear uniforms. Mandatory extra-curriculars.
Here Campaign – Ellen Chambers, Trustee, Lakehead District School Board
Campaign with all Boards in Northwestern Ontario in collaboration with Lakehead University to address persistent absenteeism. Involves the entire community. Every day counts. “I’m here to get smart.”

Building a Plan from the Inside Out – Helga Campbell, Trustee, District School Board of Niagara
Outlined the comprehensive exercise to create a new strategic plan. “IMatter at DSBN”

OPSBA Regional Council Elections – Donna Danielli, regional vice president/chair, OPSBA
Donna Danielli (Halton) as Vice President
Kathleen Woodcock (Waterloo Region) as regional Vice Chair
Jeanne Gray (Halton) and Linda Busuttil (Upper Grand) to Policy Work Group, with Amy Collard (Halton) as alternate
Marty Fairbairn (Upper Grand) and Alex Johnstone (Hamilton-Wentworth) to Program Work Group, with Amy Collard (Halton) as alternate