



Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Roy H. Wilfong Boardroom, 1994 Fisher Drive, Peterborough, Ontario

The public may view the meeting in-person or through the [KPR YouTube Channel](#).

AGENDA

- ITEM 1. **CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**
- ITEM 2 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- ITEM 3 **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**
- ITEM 4 **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
for the Meeting held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023
- ITEM 5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
- ITEM 6. **PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**
 - 6.1 **DELEGATIONS (10 minutes)**
Re: International Baccalaureate (IB) Program
 - 6.1.1 Jyoti Chandra, Mark Chandra and Isaac Chandra, parents and former IB student.
 - 6.1.2 Mindy Poley, Kenner Collegiate Vocational School IB Program Coordinator.
 - 6.1.3 Penny Welch and Jim Welch, parents of former IB student.
 - 6.1.4 Jennifer Connelly, Principal/Owner and Sarah Cook, Office Assistant and educator of The Children's Montessori School, Peterborough.
 - 6.1.5 Christine Kathiravelu, parent of former International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma student and current IB certificate student.
 - 6.1.6 Anusha Kathiravelu, parent and community member.
- ITEM 7. **DECISION ITEMS**
 - 7.1 **Decision Reports**
Nil
 - 7.2 **Policy Reviews**
Nil

ITEM 8. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

8.1 Student Achievement Reports

Nil

8.2 Student Achievement Initiatives

8.2.1 Specialized Program Review Update: International
Baccalaureate (IB)

8.3 Discussion Items

Nil

ITEM 9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

ITEM 10. **BOARD MEMBER ADDITIONS**

ITEM 11. **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

January 16, 2024

February 13, 2024

March 5, 2024

April 11, 2024 (Thursday)

May 7, 2024

June 4, 2024

(all meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom unless
otherwise noted)

ITEM 12. **ADJOURNMENT**

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SUBJECT TO COMMITTEE APPROVAL

DRAFT PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Trustees Rose Kitney (Committee Chairperson), Paul Brown, Cyndi Dickson, Kathleen Flynn and Diane Lloyd.

Also Present: Trustees Steve Russell (Chairperson of the Board), Jaine Klassen Jeninga (Vice-chairperson of the Board), Cathy Abraham, Terry Brown and Angela Lloyd; S. Gohil, D. McNaughton, S. Fisher, J. McIlmoyle Parsons and L. Haemel.

Trustee R. Kitney, Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order (7:00 p.m.) and welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Trustee R. Kitney provided the land acknowledgement and stated that the Committee was meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga First Nations.

Adoption of Agenda

MOVED BY P. Brown, SECONDED BY K. Flynn.

That the agenda be adopted as printed and amended by moving items 8.2.3 before items 8.2.1 and 8.2.2.

CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes

MOVED BY J. Klassen Jeninga, SECONDED BY D. Lloyd.

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, be adopted as recorded.

CARRIED

Specialized Program Review Update: International Baccalaureate (IB) and French Immersion Programs

Associate Director McNaughton reported that at the September 20, 2022, Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) Board meeting, the 2022-2023 priorities of the Director of Education were identified which included a specialized program review of specialized programs such as French Immersion (FI), Ojibwe Language and International Baccalaureate (IB) and an assessment of their impact on enrolment and accommodation pressures in schools. It was also noted at this time that the specialized program review would take a comprehensive, staged approach.

At the June 13, 2023, KPR Program Review Committee meeting, an initial specialized program review report was presented. This report provided relevant background information including program details, potential timelines, priority areas, review framework, and key actions. The specialized program review will occur over a two-year period. In 2023-2024, the review will concentrate on FI and the IB programs. The specialized program review will use a consistent and comprehensive framework to examine each of the four programs (French Immersion, International Baccalaureate, Ojibwe Language and Integrated Arts). This framework includes three areas: equity of access, student outcomes, and financial implications.

During this meeting, the 2022-2023 Extended French program review was also shared. It was noted that KPR is committed to extending the French Immersion program to the eastern portion of Northumberland County in the 2024-2025 school year.

At the September 6, 2023 KPR Resource Committee meeting, the Long Term Accommodation Plan for 2020-2025 report was presented. It was noted that due to an annual growth trend of 1.5-2%, various measures will need to be employed to relieve accommodation pressures. Additionally, and more specifically, the report also introduced the need for a secondary school boundary review for the Peterborough area.

KPR commits to offering effective French language learning, including the FI program. To support enrolment and accommodation pressures in FI schools, a staged approach will be used. The first stage will employ an accommodation planning approach that will explore school boundaries and the creation of new FI schools. This phase of the FI specialized program review will take place over the next three school years as part of the KPR Long Term Accommodation Plan (2020-2025).

Stage two, if required, will explore additional strategies to support enrolment and accommodation pressure in FI schools. If stage two of the FI specialized program review is required, it will incorporate the same framework and key actions as the IB program review.

The IB specialized program review key actions were described in detail:

- steering committee,
- review of KPR Policies and Administrative Regulations,
- KPR data analysis,
- jurisdictional/school district scan,
- literature review and,
- partner engagement.

Through the review, a number of key considerations were identified, including:

- Equity of access: the IB program is not available for students across our board, with programs only in Peterborough and Cobourg.
- Cost: Grade 11 and 12 students registered in the IB diploma program are required to pay a total of \$2,600 for administrative and course fees.

- Retention and graduation rates: retention and IB diploma graduation rates are extremely low. Over a five-year period, the average number of KPR students who had registered for IB in Grade 9 and then graduated with an IB diploma was eight (8% of IB students).
- Budget consideration: through the annual KPR budget process, \$171,000 is dedicated to the IB program (teaching sections, program related costs, transportation).

As a result of these actions and the findings, the next steps in the IB specialized program review will be to update participants in the recent consultations and focus groups with the results of the findings, and share the belief that the IB program be discontinued, effective June 2027. A final report affirming this recommendation will be provided at a subsequent Program Review Committee meeting.

An in-depth discussion was held and Trustee questions of clarification were addressed.

MOVED BY A. Lloyd, SECONDED BY P. Brown

That the Specialized Program Review Update: International Baccalaureate (IB) and French Immersion Programs Report, dated October 10, 2023, be received for information.

CARRIED

Math Achievement Action Plan Update

J. McIlmoyle Parsons, Principal of Teaching and Learning K-12 (elementary focus) and Board Math Lead, reported that as part of the Ministry of Education 2023-2024 Priorities and Partnership Funding (PPF), school boards were provided with funding for dedicated school math facilitators to support learning in Grades 3, 6, and 9 classrooms in Ministry of Education identified priority schools.

School math facilitators will support positive student achievement in priority schools by working in classrooms, collaborating with educators, identifying students' strengths and needs, determining appropriate interventions and sharing resources and effective practices.

The KPR math achievement action plan (MAAP) will reflect system actions and the KPR Board Action Plan (BAP). As the KPR MAAP is developed, it is expected to offer concrete, visible, and measurable strategies as well as key performance indicators at the board, school, and classroom levels.

Baseline data collection in the form of student learning evidence and stakeholder reflections and interviews is underway to capture evidence that corresponds to each of the areas of the MAAP. This data will support the identification of areas of need at the board, school and classroom levels and will support the selection of strategies of focus.

It was also shared how KPR is using other areas of learning such as the arts and science to augment math learning for students.

MOVED BY A. Lloyd, SECONDED BY S. Russell
That the meeting be extended (9:00 p.m.).

CARRIED

A supplementary Math Achievement Action Plan Update report will be presented to the January Program Review Committee meeting.

Discussion was held and questions of clarification were addressed.

MOVED BY J. Klassen Jeninga, SECONDED BY K. Flynn
That the Math Achievement Action Plan Update, dated October 10, 2023, be received for information.

CARRIED

The Committee recessed for a ten-minute break.

Virtual Schools Update

Superintendent Gohil reported as a part of the return to school plan during the global pandemic, the Province of Ontario instituted an online, virtual school option for students within each school board. The KPR Virtual Elementary School (VES) and Virtual High School (VHS) were established in the 2020-2021 school year. In the spring of 2023, 40 students indicated their desire to remain in the VES and 24 students in the VHS for the 2023-2024 school year.

S. Fisher, Point of Contact Principal for the KPR K-12 Virtual school, reported that there is a small number of students interested in a virtual option and there is a new opportunity allowing school boards to combine resources to collectively offer an online program across multiple boards. A joint venture and memorandum of understanding was created between KPR, Limestone District School Board (LDSB) and Renfrew County District School Board (RCDSB) to offer an online option for students in the elementary panel.

LDSB is leading the K-12 Virtual School program, with KPR and RCDSB cross-enrolling students as out-of-board students. The three school boards have agreed to staff the online elementary school based on percentage of students, specific to each board entering the program. Both KPR and RCDSB have selected administrator contacts who work with LDSB administration on teacher supervision, absence coverage and student

services (special education and student wellness), as well as student enrolment and de-enrolment with the virtual schools. Each administrator in the various school boards also reports directly to designated superintendents.

As of the date of this report, there are 39 elementary and seven secondary students enrolled in the virtual option.

Discussion was held and questions of clarification were addressed.

MOVED BY A. Lloyd, SECONDED BY K. Flynn
That the Virtual Schools Update Report, dated October 10, 2023, be received for information.

CARRIED

Adjournment

MOVED BY T. Brown, SECONDED BY K. Flynn
That the meeting be adjourned (9:59 p.m.).

CARRIED

Rose Kitney
Committee Chairperson

DRAFT

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

TO: Program Review Committee

TOPIC: **Specialized Program Review Update: International Baccalaureate (IB)**

INITIATOR: Drew McNaughton, Associate Director of Education

BACKGROUND

1. At the September 20, 2022 Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) Board meeting, the 2022-2023 priorities of the Director of Education were identified. One of the priorities included a specialized program review. Director Russo noted that this review would examine the distribution of specialized programs such as French Immersion (FI), Ojibwe Language and International Baccalaureate (IB) and assess their impact on enrolment and accommodation pressures in schools. It was also noted at this time that the specialized program review would take a comprehensive, layered approach.
2. At the June 13, 2023 KPR Program Review Committee meeting, an initial specialized program review report was presented. This report provided relevant background information including program details, potential timelines, priority areas, review framework, and key actions:
 - a. In taking a comprehensive and staged approach, the specialized program review will occur over a two-year span. In the 2023-2024 school year, the review will concentrate on FI and the IB program.
 - b. The specialized program review will use a consistent and comprehensive framework to examine each of the four programs (French Immersion, International Baccalaureate, Ojibwe Language and Integrated Arts). This framework includes the following three areas: equity of access (e.g., distribution of programs), student outcomes (e.g., enrolment, retention), and financial implications (e.g., staffing, accommodation pressure, transportation).
 - c. Key actions of the specialized program review will include the establishment of a steering committee, review of applicable KPR policies and administrative regulations, jurisdictional scan, KPR data analysis, literature review, and partner engagement.
3. At the September 6, 2023 KPR Resource Committee meeting, the Long Term Accommodation Plan for 2020-2025 report was presented. It was noted that due to an annual growth trend of 1.5-2%, various measures will need to be employed to relieve accommodation pressures (e.g., boundary reviews, additional FI sites, classroom portables). Additionally, and more specifically, the report also introduced the need for a secondary school boundary review for the Peterborough area.

4. At the October 10, 2023 Program Review Committee meeting, the following information regarding the IB specialized program review was shared.

a. *Steering Committee*

The specialized program review steering committee has to examine resources/materials, review data, and prepare reports. Representatives from the steering committee have consulted with other KPR staff to seek input on the three areas of the framework (equity of access, student outcomes, financial implications).

b. *Review of KPR Policies, Administrative Regulations, and Principles*

The following KPR policies, administrative regulations, and principles were reviewed:

- Principles of Indigenous Education
- BA-7.1: Student Accommodation-School Boundaries,
- BA-8.1: Student Eligibility,
- B-3.2: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion,
- ES-2.2: School Organization,
- ES-3.2: Special Education, and
- ES-4.1: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting.

Due to some of the IB diploma program requirements, several KPR policies, administrative regulations, and principles cannot be fully realized (e.g., B-3.2: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, ES-4.1: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting, Principles of Indigenous Education, ES-2.2: School Organization).

c. *KPR Data Analysis*

The KPR data analysis maintained a focus on the review process framework (equity of access, student outcomes, financial implications). Some of the key highlights included:

- There is no IB program available for students who reside in Clarington. The two current IB programs are located in Peterborough and Cobourg.
- Students registered in the IB diploma program are required to pay \$2,600 for administrative and course/exam related fees over the length of the program (\$100 Grade 9 administration fee, \$1,250 Grade 11 program/exam fee, \$1,250 Grade 12 program/exam fee).
- Retention and IB diploma graduation rates are extremely low. Over a five year period, the average number of KPR students who register for the IB Diploma program in Grade 9 is 106. Over this same period of time, the average number of students who graduate with an IB diploma is eight (8% of students who start IB in Grade 9).
- Through the annual KPR budget process, \$171,000 is dedicated to the IB program (teaching sections, program related costs, transportation).

- d. *Jurisdictional/School District Scan*
Of the 31 English public school districts in Ontario, 18 have an IB diploma program (58% of school districts). The total number of IB diploma schools in Ontario English public school districts is 36.
- e. *Literature Review*
Scholarly research that focused on IB programs in Ontario/Canada was limited as most research was based on programs in the United States and Europe. Topics explored included: equity of access (e.g., race, family income), student outcomes (e.g., achievement, stress, post-secondary entry) and other (e.g., marketing of program, curriculum) (Dulfer, N., 2019; Grose, N. J., 2021; Perna L. W. et al., 2015; Resnik, J., 2020).
- f. *Partner Engagement*
IB school administrators were consulted in July and September and provided input on the three areas of the framework (equity of access, student outcomes, financial implications). KPR's senior administration provided similar input during a September Administrative Council meeting.
- Student focus groups were conducted at each of the current IB schools. Participants included students who were on track to earn the IB diploma, students who were taking individual IB courses (but not on track to earn an IB diploma), students who did not continue with IB in Grade 11, and students who never registered for IB. The student focus groups provided feedback on the specialized program review framework areas, namely equity of access and student outcomes.
- g. *Discontinuation of IB Program, June 2027*
Based on the specialized program review framework, and findings from the key actions, it is our belief that the IB program be discontinued, effective June 2027.

STATUS

5. On October 11, 2023, a letter was sent to IB program students, families, and staff to highlight the information that was shared at the October 10, 2023 Program Review Committee meeting. Following the distribution of this letter, senior administration received feedback from IB families and staff.

6. Further information regarding the IB program was examined as a result of this feedback. These findings include:

a. *Advanced Placement (AP)*

The AP program permits students to undertake additional academic content as identified by postsecondary institutions. Students may work toward an opportunity to write an AP exam (an exam fee applies).

Secondary schools in KPR no longer offer AP. When considering the specialized program review framework, there are concerns with the AP program (e.g., equity of access). As a result, there are no plans to replace the IB program with the AP program.

b. *Ontario's Public Education System*

Key elements of Ontario's public education system include:

- Various types/levels of courses are offered to meet student pathways (e.g., university, college, workplace, open).
- Transferable skills are embedded in all curriculum areas (e.g., critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, innovation).
- Students have opportunities to engage in arts and physical activities through the arts and health and physical education curricula and various extracurricular opportunities.
- To earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, students complete 40 hours of community involvement.

c. *Individual IB Courses*

While the IB Diploma program requires students to complete 6 courses, students may also take individual IB courses. There is a fee of \$500 for each individual IB course taken. Students who complete IB courses receive an IB Diploma program transcript that identifies subjects taken, grades, and additional requirements to earn the IB Diploma.

d. *KPRDSB Long term Accommodation Plan - Peterborough*

As noted in the November 8, 2023 City and County of Peterborough Accommodation Planning report (to be presented at the November 8, 2023 Resource Committee Meeting), Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute and Norwood District High School are the only two schools in the area that have space and can accommodate students. The report goes on to share that to manage the accommodation pressures in the Peterborough area, KPR must prioritize balancing student enrolment amongst the City and County of Peterborough area secondary schools. In order to accomplish this, a school attendance area review will be conducted.

7. The October 10 Program Review Committee report noted that a follow-up report affirming the recommendation to discontinue the IB program would be provided at a subsequent Program Review Committee Meeting. Based on the review framework, and findings from the key actions that were taken, the IB program will be discontinued, effective June 2027. This information will be shared with all students, staff, and families of Cobourg Collegiate Institute, Kenner Vocational Collegiate Institute, and their respective elementary feeder schools.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Specialized Program Review Update: International Baccalaureate (IB) report, dated November 7, 2023, be received for information.

Drew McNaughton
Associate Director of Education