



ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations
2019 ANNUAL MEETING
April 6th 2019
HWDSB Education Centre Hamilton, Ontario

Arlene Morell, President, chaired the meeting.

Quorum was present with 23 voting members present
Federation Bylaws, Article XVI, 2.- 5% of total members at Dec 31st =3268 members
(2018)

With the most possible votes being 163. 5% is quorum= 8 votes

1. Welcome and call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

"I would like to begin our meeting by acknowledging it's taking place on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations."

all delegates were for welcomed to the Annual 2019 Meeting.

2. Appointment of parliamentarian and timekeeper for the Annual Meeting:

The parliamentarian for OFHSA Annual Meeting was **Alex Johnstone, Chair of the Board for HWDSB**, OFHSA thanked HWDSB for the use of the space to hold the OFHSA Annual Meeting.

The timekeepers for the OFHSA Annual Meeting were T. Blum and K. Berlet.

S. Thomson spoke about the loss of one of OFHSA's long time members, Mary Hope, who passed away this year. Members took a moment of silence.

A. Morell presented an overview of the OFHSA year-in-review she had prepared.

3. Adoption of the agenda for the 2019 OFHSA Annual Meeting:

**APR19-AM-01 THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING BE
ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED**

**MMS J. Huculiak , from Prince of Wales HSA
T. Bryars, from W.H. Morden HSA
CARRIED**

Cam Galindo, Ward 9 & 10 Trustee for HWDSB joined the meeting.

4. **Adoption of the business procedures for the 2019 Annual Meeting:**
Members were referred to green or pink sheets that were placed on the tables.

APR19-AM-02 THAT THE BUSINESS PROCEDURES FOR THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING BE ADOPTED

**MMS S. Noel, from Queen Victoria HSA
J. Truax, from Adelaide Hoodless HSA
CARRIED**

5. **Adoption of the minutes of the 2018 OFHSA Annual Meeting:**

APR19-AM-03 THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 2018 OFHSA ANNUAL MEETING BE ADOPTED

**MMS G. Selig, from B. Davison HSA
S. Noel, from Queen Victoria HSA
CARRIED**

6. **Adoption of the 2017-2018 OFHSA Annual Report:**

6.1 Adoption of the 2017-2018 OFHSA Annual Report

APR19-AM-04 THAT THE 2017-2018 OFHSA ANNUAL REPORTS BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED

**MMS S. Noel , from Queen Victoria HSA
J. Truax, from Adelaide Hoodless HSA
CARRIED**

- 7 **Reports to members:**

7.1 Annual Report Presentation for 2018-19

Presented by A. Morell on screen and hard copy was handed out.

7.2 Policy Report

Presented by S. Binns

The Survivor theme of this years' conference is very fitting considering the multitude of changes that have affected our members, other parent groups and education institutions in Ontario following the election of a new government and the funding cuts and to policies changes without consultation.

The Home and School movement has survived 102 years through the ongoing commitment of members to ensuring that the education, health, safety and social well-being of children and youth are a priority for all. The network of members providing support, training, resources and advice developed over a long history of involvement has OUTLASTED many governments and societal changes through knowledge sharing and the power of one voice to advocate at all levels of the Education system.

How does this organization OUTWIT the pendulum of change – our torch is the OFHSA policy document. Once a year, members of this unique organization gather to review, revise and revitalize bylaws and policies. Some of you understand the importance of timely and current policy. Others are shuddering, unsure how your name was voluntold for representing your association and the importance of raising that red card!

On a regular basis, OFHSA is asked to send representatives to a Ministry committee, or a committee with other recognized parent groups, or another Education partner group, or speak up on upcoming legislation, perhaps making presentations to a standing committee. The local media often contacts OFHSA for comments on current issues.

H&S representatives speaking not for themselves but as a voice of OFHSA members, and what makes that situation unique is that OFHSA has a policy document to which the representative looks to for guidance on any issue.

This year, the Ministry invited feedback on class size in the larger Consultation on the 2019-20 Education Funding Guide. OFHSA provided a concise statement that “OFHSA members believe elementary classes should not exceed 15 students in JK, 18 in SK, 20 in the primary level and 25 at the junior and intermediate levels” – because that policy was adopted in 1988. Also included in the feedback was our member position on the digital classroom, provincial standardized assessments, adequate funding for classroom support, community hubs and our foremost belief ‘that there should be one publicly funded school system.’

Policy is OFHSA’s power to OUTPLAY– each one gives weight to comments that members of OFHSA bring to the table. Though those mentioned have been policy for quite some time, without question, there is still significance to the words to influence change.

Yes, we still think those class sizes are optimal, that the inequities of education throughout the country be eliminated and that there be one non-discriminatory public school system open to all students. Asking the government to consider the best funding solutions based on member policy is a great idea, but what about the questions that there is no policy statement for guidance? Or questions for which the existing policy statement is so out-of-date that it’s almost embarrassing to have to repeat? Without the policies that are representative of OFHSA members, we are individuals speaking for ourselves and we lose the benefit of belonging to a provincial organization bound together by common beliefs and goals.

We all can think of an issue that could have come forward as a policy resolution today. There is a resource to help understand the premise of policy and get that idea to the Annual Meeting for debate by members.

So if there is an issue in your area: BE BRAVE! Consider bringing it forward as a resolution to be discussed next year with your fellow H&S members and to have the issue carried forward by your OFHSA executive.

- Set your statement – keep it simple, be precise, make it stand alone.*
- Do a bit of research – or ask SIRI to.....*
- Decide who should be responsible for implementing and write action recommendations so the policy doesn’t just stand – it actually moves.*
- Bring it to next years’ Annual Meeting – smile knowing you are making a significant contribution to this organization.*

Policy, according to our own policy document, is 'a stand or position taken by the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws on matters that are beyond the internal legislative powers of the Federation'. A stand or position stands alone as a statement of belief. Who pays? How much? Who is going to enforce? Those are implementation issues.

Action recommendations – Acting on the belief - this is where as advocates, OFHSA suggests those with the authority direct and implement the operational pieces of our brilliant policies. Remember, responsibility, funding and oversight, are beyond our internal legislative powers.

The OFHSA executive is instructed to speak on your behalf about issues that concern you to the organization that can affect change. If the Board of Directors doesn't know what the grassroots issues are, they are uncomfortably quiet. Be bold, go big, and don't sweat the details!

In 1986, voting delegates accepted the statement that, "It is the policy of the OFHSA that there be one publicly funded school system in the Province of Ontario." Consider this policy statement and the implications it could have on education in the province of Ontario. Now that's a policy statement!

APR19-AM-05 THAT THE POLICY REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED

**MMS J. Truax, from Adelaide Hoodless HSA
R. Diab , from Ancaster Meadow HSA
CARRIED**

7.3 Members-at-Large

Report on Members-at-Large was presented by A. Morell.

"Members-at-Large started as a pilot project; the Board felt they were missing out on expertise from around the province. They brought in members from the regions that didn't necessarily have councils or representation at the Board level. Members-at-Large are not able to move into an executive position until they serve as a Workgroup Leader for a minimum of two years. Since inception OFHSA has introduced six Members-at-Large. During the 2018-19 year, OFHSA did have a Member-at-Large at the Board of Directors table. A. Lowe was appointed in November 2018 at the Board of Directors meeting.

We hope to continue having Members-at-Large at the table and the Board is asking if members know of someone who might be interested in next year to please contact the office."

APR19-AM-06 THAT THE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

**MMS B. Chaggar, from Memorial Stoney Creek HSA
C. Williams, from Prince of Wales HSA
CARRIED**

8. Business Arising:
No Business Arising

9. Finance matters:

A. Morell worked through and discussed the audited financial statements provided by the Auditors with the members.

9.1 Adoption of the OFHSA audited financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2018

APR19-AM-07 THAT THE OFHSA AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31ST, 2018 BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED

**MMS J. Huculiak, from Prince of Wales HSA
J. Truax, from Adelaide Hoodless HSA
CARRIED**

Appointment of the Auditors for the years 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, was motioned at the 2017 OFHSA Annual Meeting.

9.2 Ratification of the 2019-2020 OFHSA Fees

9.2.1 Association membership fee

APR19-AM-08 THAT THE OFHSA ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2019-2020 INCREASE TO \$20 PER ANNUM.

**MMS C. Williams, from Prince of Wales HSA
T. Bryars, from W. H. Morden HSA
CARRIED**

9.2.2 Alumni membership fee

APR19-AM-09 THAT THE OFHSA ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2019-2020 INCREASE TO \$20 PER ANNUM.

**MMS T. Bryars, from W. H. Morden HSA
M. Bell, from Fessenden HSA
CARRIED**

9.2.3 Member-at-Large membership fee

APR19-AM-10 THAT THE OFHSA MEMBER-AT-LARGE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2019-2020 INCREASE TO \$20 PER ANNUM.

MMS S. Noel, from Queen Victoria HSA
V. Zivkovic, from Memorial Stoney Creek HSA
CARRIED

9.2.4 Association and Council Life Membership fee

APR19-AM-11 THAT THE OFHSA ASSOCIATION AND COUNCIL LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2019-2020 REMAIN AT \$100 PER ANNUM.

MMS G. Selig, from B. Davison HSA
S. Noel, from Queen Victoria HSA
CARRIED

9.2.5 Associate membership fee for individuals at the Federation level

APR19-AM-12 THAT THE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR INDIVIDUALS AT THE FEDERATION LEVEL FOR 2019-2020 REMAIN AT \$25 PER ANNUM.

MMS C. Williams, from Prince of Wales HSA
G. Selig, from B. Davison HSA
CARRIED

9.2.6 Affiliate membership fee for organizations at the Federation level

APR19-AM-13 THAT THE AFFILIATE FEEMBERSHIP FEE FOR ORGANIZATIONS AT THE FEDERATION LEVEL FOR 2019-2020 INCREASE TO \$250 PER ANNUM.

MMS G. Selig, from B. Davison HSA
M. Lenchan, from Lord Nelson HSA
CARRIED

9.2.7 Affiliate membership fee for organizations at the Council level

APR19-AM-14 THAT THE AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR ORGANIZATIONS AT THE COUNCIL LEVEL FOR 2019-2020 REMAIN AT \$150 PER ANNUM.

MMS T. Bryars, from W. H. Morden HSA
G. Selig, from B. Davison HSA

CARRIED

9.2.8 Association Insurance fee

**APR19-AM-15 THAT THE ASSOCIATION INSURANCE FEE FOR 2019-2020
REMAIN AT \$100 PER ANNUM.**

**MMS T. Bryars, from W. H. Morden HSA
D. Barrett, from Stoney Creek HSA
CARRIED**

10. Nominations report:

S. Binns presented the nominations report as provided by A. Murchie. The following officers were elected for **2019-2020** by the Board of Directors at their meeting on Friday, April 5th:

President- Arlene Morell
Past-President- Sandra Binns
1st Vice-President- Sarah Thomson
2nd Vice-President- Nancy Raymond
3rd Vice-President- Laura Gonzalez

**APR19-AM-16 THAT THE NOMINATIONS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS
PRESENTED.**

**MMS R. Diab, from Ancaster Meadow HSA
M. Lenchan, from Lord Nelson HSA
CARRIED**

Installation of Officers for 2019-2020 done by G. Myers.

11. Report on 2018-19 activities of the Canadian Home and School Federation:
Presented by S. Binns.

**APR19-AM-17 THAT THE CANADIAN HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION
REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.**

**MMS M. Bell, from Fessenden HSA
C. Williams, from Prince of Wales HSA
CARRIED**

**12. OFHSA Bylaw Amendment recommendations
(see Annual Meeting Package - Part A):**

Bylaws were brought to the board by A. Morell.

12.1 BYLAW AMENDMENT #1

APR19-AM-18 Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc. amend Federation Bylaws, Article XXII, Remuneration of Directors,

To:

The directors shall receive no compensation, either directly or indirectly, for acting as such and shall not receive, either directly or indirectly, any profit from their office. The directors **may** be paid their travelling and other out-of-pocket expenses properly incurred by them in attending **official federation business** as approved by the board of directors or of the members, **in accordance with approved OFHSA budget allocations**. No confirmation by the members of any such payment shall be required.

**MMS R. Diab, from Ancaster Meadow HSA
M. Lenchan, from Lord Nelson HSA
CARRIED**

12.2 BYLAW AMENDMENT #2

APR19-AM-19 Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc. amend Federation Bylaws, Article XIX, Banking and Financial Arrangements, 4, Execution of Instruments.

To:

Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, and other instruments may be signed on behalf of the corporation by any two persons, who are the **past-president, president and executive vice-presidents**.

**MMS T. Lopez, from J.P. Robarts HSA
J. Truax, from Adelaide Hoodless HSA
CARRIED**

APR19-AM-20 THAT THE OFHSA ANNUAL MEETING BREAK FOR DINNER.

**MMS S. Noel, from Queen Victoria HSA
C. Williams, from Prince of Wales HSA
CARRIED**

APR19-AM-21 THAT THE OFHSA ANNUAL MEETING RECONVENE.

**MMS S. Noel, from Queen Victoria HSA
C. Williams, from Prince of Wales HSA
CARRIED**

13. Expiring Action Recommendation from 2016

(Annual Meeting -Package Part B)

All are voted on as one motion.

Action Recommendations related to policy resolutions are acted upon by the Federation for a period of three years. At the end of that period, the action recommendations must be resubmitted to the voting delegates at the OFHSA Annual Meeting. If they are again passed by the members, the action recommendations remain in effect for one additional year.

The Expiring Action Recommendations will be moved and seconded at the OFHSA Annual Meeting by the OFHSA Policy Workgroup.

There is usually no discussion of the recommendations as they were previously approved by the members.

LIFE AND LIVELIHOOD SKILLS CURRICULUM

POLICY STATEMENT

Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc. adopt the policy that there be a life and livelihood skills curriculum course offered for all elementary school students in Ontario.

ACTION RECOMMENDATION

Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc. petition the Ontario Ministry of Education to work with its education partners including parents to review current elementary curriculum in regards to the need for all students to receive the basic life skills education necessary to promote interpersonal and psycho-social skills for healthy living and social well-being, and the livelihood education skills including crafts, money management, and entrepreneurial skills. Upon completion, a course to provide education in such topics as healthy nutrition, food choices and preparation; health and self-body image; simple household tools and maintenance; communication and technology skills; and financial management skills would be developed for use in all elementary schools.

POLICY STATEMENT

Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc. adopt the policy that in consultation with aboriginal leaders, anthropologists and sociologists, materials be assembled and published designed to provide Ontario teachers with the whole story of the Canadian aboriginal in Ontario including residential schools.

ACTION RECOMMENDATION

Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc. petition the Minister and Ministry of Education to incorporate the History of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) as an integral compulsory part of the Elementary and Secondary curriculum; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Inc. petition the Minister and Ministry of Education to develop a curriculum on the history of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) in collaboration with leading Indigenous Peoples educators.

APR19-AM-22 THAT THE EXPIRING ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS BE APPROVED FOR ONE ADDITION YEAR.

**MMS T. Lopez, from J.P. Robarts HSA
R. Diab, from Ancaster Meadow HSA
CARRIED**

14. New Policy Resolutions and Action Recommendations:
(Annual Meeting Package- Part C):
No new policies for this year.

15. New business:
For the next year 2019-20, our Federation will be going paperless. The Board of Directors found this will provide efficiencies and a new way to modernize the Federation.
The Board of Directors are working on fulfilling the needs of the members by working with the Auditor and information of CRA to create tip sheets for Associations to use for applying for grants.

16. President's remarks:

A. Morell,

- thanked the members for their help and patience at the Annual Meeting
- thanked **Alex Johnstone** for acting as Parliamentarian
- thanked K. Berlet and T. Blum for being the official timekeepers
- Workgroup Leaders were acknowledged the hard work they have done over the past year
- thanked all of the members and asked them to pass on her thanks to their spouses for all their support, allowing them to spend so much time with their associations, and not only for their work with Home and School, but with all their other volunteer activities.

- then recognized the conference committee and asked them to stand. On behalf of all present, she thanked them for a wonderful conference.

Good Job Everyone!

17. Ratification of business of the Federation for the year, in accordance with the Corporations Act of Ontario:

APR19-AM-23 THAT THE BUSINESS OF THE FEDERATION FOR THE YEAR 2018-19 BE RATIFIED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CORPORATIONS ACT OF ONTARIO.

**MMS R. Diab, from Ancaster Meadow HSA
T. Bryars, from W. H. Morden HSA
CARRIED**

18. Adjournment - 6:45 p.m.

APR19-AM-24 IN THE NAME OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE ONTARIO FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS INC, THE 2019 OFHSA ANNUAL MEETING BE ADJOURNED.

**MMS G. Selig, from B. Davison HSA
R. Diab, from Ancaster Meadow HSA
CARRIED**