



MINUTES

Present: Board Chair G. Anderson, Board Vice-Chair T. Waldschmidt, R. Collver, D. Dean, J. Richardson, K. Sandy, C.A. Sloat, D. Sowers, J. Hsiao (Student Trustee), A. Hauser (Student Trustee),

Administration: Director - B. Blancher; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, L. De Vos, D. Martins, S. Sincerbox, L. Thompson, R. Wyszynski; Recording Secretary – L. Howells

Regrets:

Trustees: B. Doyle, A. Felsky, J. Harris, A. St. Pierre (Student Trustee)
Administration: Nil

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 6:30 p.m.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss personnel, legal and property matters at 6:30 p.m.

Carried

(d) Welcome to Open Session

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 7:15 p.m.

(e) Memorials

Nil



(f) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **In Camera Report**

Nil

(h) **Presentations**

(i) **Patti McCleister Memorial Award**

S. Sincerbox provided an overview of this award. The Patti McCleister Award is given on an annual basis to the Grand Erie employee who best embodies Patti's passion and has shown great leadership and effort within their role. The 2018 Patti McCleister Memorial Award is:

Kate Johnson-McGregor, Teacher Librarian at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School (BCI), has been an employee with Grand Erie for more than 20 years. She was originally hired as an elementary teacher in 1997 before obtaining further qualifications to teach secondary. In 2000, she made the move to BCI, working in the English department. She moved into her current role in 2011, where she has had a tremendous impact in evolving the space. K. Johnson-McGregor has also helped to build capacity across the board as other schools transformed their libraries into learning commons. A sought-after speaker and consultant, K. Johnson-McGregor is the past-president of the Ontario School Library Association. Last year, she received an exclusive invitation to attend Library Day at Queen's Park where she met with then-Minister of Education Mitzie Hunter to discuss the importance of school libraries.

Director B. Blancher, G. Anderson, Chair of the Board and Ted McCleister presented the award to Kate Johnson-McGregor.

(i) **Delegation**

Nil



B - 1 Approval of Minutes

(a) Regular Board Meeting – August 27, 2018

Presented at printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held August 27, 2018 be approved.

Carried

(b) Committee of the Whole Board – September 10, 2018

Presented as printed.

Moved by: K. Sandy

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting, held September 10, 2018, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

Nil

D - 1 Director's Report

Director's highlights:

- **Ministry Call for Photo Opps** – On September 11 we received a message from the regional office of the Ministry that they were asked to collect some information on possible options only of schools that the Minister of Education and her Parliamentary Assistant (PA) could visit throughout the school year. There were no specific dates and time and a possible visit would be 30 – 45 minutes during which the Minister/PA would like to see a classroom and interact with students. We were asked to send 2-3 options and we sent the following suggestions:
 - Day of Dignity Oct 17.
 - VHSS – partnerships of SHSMs then down to Houghton for Robotics
 - PJVSC – Hospitality, Spec Ed – Woodview Class, SOAR, Kiwanis Field
 - Langton – FDK Classroom



- **Mental Health Monday Sessions** - Superintendent Thompson's team, with leadership from our Mental Health and Wellness Lead, has developed a series of five Mental Health Monday after school sessions. These sessions will run throughout the school year – September, October, February, March and April and will be offered in various areas of the board. The first session took place today "*Minds On with MindUp*".
- **Heritage Language** - Earlier this month Trustees may have seen some social media posts sharing excitement around a new Punjabi language course being offered at Walter Gretzky Elementary. This program is an extension of a heritage language class in Punjabi that GELA initiated last year offering Grade 10 Academic and Grade 12 University level credits. Through these offerings, the relationship with the community grew and GELA did a lot of promotion through community festivals to promote an elementary language program. As a result of this promotion, there was a large increase in enrolment and a community request that the program be located at Walter Gretzky where many of the students attend day school. The community has been very supportive in helping us find instructors and we expect that we have even more people register for the program. We continue to run other language programs including Arabic, Urdu and Polish.
- **Upcoming Commencement** – Valley Heights Secondary School – Friday, September 28, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.
- **September 28th – Orange Shirt Day** - Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, in the spring of 2013. It grew out of [*Phyllis' story*](#) of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually. Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together.
- **On the Job with...Tara McFarling** - a Grade 8 Teacher at Major Ballachey Public School, is the first Grand Erie staff member to be featured in *On the Job With...* in 2018-19. The new feature story series will be created monthly by Grand Erie's Communications and Community Relations team. The series will highlight a wide range of staff who work tirelessly each day to realize the goal of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan, *Success for Every Student*.
- **EcoSchools: Registration Begins Friday** - Last year, 35 Grand Erie schools received their EcoSchools certification. Registration for certification in 2018-19 begins this Friday (September 28). The program works to nurture environmental leaders, reduce the ecological impact of schools, and build environmentally-responsible school communities.
- **Student Recognition Nominations** - Nominations are now open for Grand Erie's Student Recognition awards program. Students are honoured for outstanding achievement in one of four areas: arts, athletics, academics or community leadership.



- **2018 Leadership Gala** - Grand Erie staff and trustees are invited to the 2018 Leadership Gala to learn more about leadership opportunities and programming available during 2018-19. The gala takes place on Thursday, September 27 at The Greens at Renton in Simcoe. The opening reception begins at 4 p.m., followed by the formal program at 5:30 p.m.
- **Recognition of Grand Erie efforts in energy conservation** - In recognition of our commitment to energy conservation and efficiency in 2018, the Grand Erie District School Board has been acknowledged by Energy+, our local distribution company serving Brant County schools. The Grand Erie District School Board was recognized as community leaders and congratulated for our efforts in conserving energy, participating in the saveONenergy program that offers incentives and educating our staff and students on the importance of energy and environmental conservation." This is our 3rd consecutive year obtaining this award, but we did receive it before Energy+ bought Brant County Power.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of September 24, 2018 as information.

Carried

E - 1 **Student Trustees' Report**

A. Hauser and J. Hsiao provided Trustees with a verbal report on the recent walkout that took place on Friday, September 21st.

K. Sandy, in the absence of A. St. Pierre, provided a verbal report regarding the September 19, 2018 United Indigenous Student Associations Session.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Trustees' Report of September 24, 2018 as information.

Carried



F - 1 Committee Report

(a) Committee of the Whole Board – September 10, 2018

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board dated September 10, 2018 as follows:

1. In Camera Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Term Appointment of the Teacher Consultant, Secondary Student Success from September 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021 (with the possibility of extension) pending Board budget approval.

2. Director's Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of September 10, 2018 as information.

3. Trustee Honoraria

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Trustee Honoraria for the period from December 1, 2018 to November 30, 2019 as presented.

4. Enrolment Update

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Enrolment Update Report as information.

5. Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Annual Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Supervised Alternative Learning Report as information.



6. **SO124 Animals in Schools and Worksites (including Emotional Support, Therapy and Service Animals)**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure SO124 – Animals in Schools and Worksites (including Emotional Support, Therapy, and Service Animals) to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by December 7, 2018.

7. **Bylaw 36 Municipal Elections Compliance Audit Committee**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 36 – Municipal Elections Compliance Audit Committee, as amended.

Carried

G - 1 New Business

(a) **Major Construction Project – Final Report**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Major Construction Project Report providing Trustees with a final update for the 2017-18 Major Construction Projects which included Fairview Avenue Redevelopment and New Elevator Additional at Major Ballachey Elementary School.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Project Report as information.

Carried

(b) **Annual Operating Plans – School Year 2018-19**

B. Blancher reviewed the Annual Operating Plans report providing a brief overview of the Annual Operating Plans prepared by Sr. Administration and staff of the Board to guide their work and the work of the system, that address components of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan. B. Blancher noted that these plans are in no way meant to represent all the work that is done in the Board. They are intended to set out at a high level, clear direction for the Sr. Administration and our schools. To align with the indicators and outcomes of the Multi-Year Plan, there are five Annual Operative Plans which are as follows:



i) Community

B. Blancher reviewed the Community Operating Plan for the 2018-19 School Year.

ii) Environment

R. Wyszynski reviewed the Environment Operating Plan for the 2018-19 School Year.

D. Dean reiterated that he would like to request that we see a plan to reduce the number of open concept classrooms. R. Wyszynski responded that this will be reviewed as part of the 2018-19 Capital Plan.

R. Collver asked about the learning commons and the fundraising aspect, is there a plan in place for the schools that will fall short of the fundraising. R. Wyszynski responded that we will be reviewing and will build guidelines which will include plans for schools which have strong capital proposals but lack the fundraising to support material purchases. The Learning Commons committee will ensure this is considered when awarding projects.

iii) Equity

W. Baker reviewed the Equity Operating Plan for the 2018-19 School Year.

iv) Technology

D. Abbey reviewed the Technology Operating Plan for the 2018-19 School Year.

C.A. Sloat asked about the parent communication applications and will there be a “thy shall or thy shall not list”? D. Abbey responded that we will not be moving in that direction but will ensure that parents are aware what applications will be used and the privacy impact.

C.A. Sloat asked about the early years’ online registration and have we received any feedback from other boards? L. De Vos responded we have received positive feedback and we are working with Communications and there are number of steps that we will still need to work out.



v) Well-Being

L. Thompson reviewed the Well-Being Operating Plan for the 2018-19 School Year.
S. Sincerbox reviewed the Staff Wellness piece of this Operating Plan.

R. Collver requested L. Thompson provide how PATHS breakdown barriers? L. Thompson responded the PATHS program teaches students how to recognize they are anxious or stressed and give them strategies to help them self-regulate. Once they can self-regulate they are better able to attend and focus and learn. This is the same outcome for students who will be taking part in Stress Lessons which will be implemented in select schools at the secondary level.

C.A. Sloat asked if a Child and Youth Worker is needed after the first year? L. Thompson responded that yes but commented we want to continue with educating our teachers to support this program independently by finding the curriculum connections.

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Annual Operating Plans of Senior Administration for the school year 2018-19 as information.

Carried

(c) Strategic Communication Plan Update

B. Blancher invited K. Newhouse, Manager of Communications and Community Relations. B. Blancher referred to the 2017-20 Strategic Communications Plan – Year (2018-19) report providing Trustees with background. B. Blancher reminded Trustees that Grand Erie's Strategic Communication Plan consists of four streams: Leadership, Internal Communications, Marketing and Branding and Public Relations and noted the Year 2 update provides an overview of the strategies/tactics for the 2018-19 school year.

R. Collver asked has there been any thought about training parent leaders, how do we inspire parents? K. Newhouse responded there are a few ways: improve information and have discussions at the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee meetings and we have started to provide parent information content for school newsletters.

C.A. Sloat asked about the Communicate 2020? K. Newhouse responded Communicate 2020 was created by the Ad Hoc committee and the goal is to share best practices with all staff.



Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2017-20 Strategic Communications Plan for Year 2 (2018-19).

Carried

(d) **Appoint Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee Member**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Municipal Elections Compliance Audit Committee report.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the appointment of Giuditta Poelzl, Alec Cowan and Frank Gelinas for the purposes of Section 88.37 of the Municipal Elections Act and Grand Erie Bylaw 36, for the period December 1, 2018 to November 30, 2022.

Carried

H - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Summary of Accounts – August 2018**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of August 2018 in the amount of \$9,446,321.17 as information.

Carried

(b) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – June 21, 2018**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: K. Sandy

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – June 21, 2018 as information.

Carried



- (c) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee – Safety Audit Tracking Report (Summer 2018)**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee – Safety Audit Tracking Report (Summer 2018) as information.

Carried

- I - 1 **Correspondence**

Nil

- J – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair, Greg Anderson