



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, April 9, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

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### MINUTES

**Present:** D. Sowers – Committee Chair, G. Anderson, R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle (arrived at 7:56 p.m.), A. Felsky, J. Harris, J. Richardson, K. Sandy, C.A. Sloat, D. Sowers, L. Kelly (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:** J. Hsiao (Student Trustee)  
**Administration:** Nil

**A - 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, D. Sowers at 6:47 p.m. for the purpose of conducting the Open Session.

**(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Nil

**(c) In Camera Session**

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss personnel matters at 6:47 p.m.

**Carried**

**(d) Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, D. Sowers at 7:15 p.m.



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

Presented as printed.

Moved by: J. Richardson  
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt  
THAT the Agenda be approved.  
**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat  
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the term appointment extensions pending Board budget approval and Ministry Funding.  
**Carried**

(g) **Delegation**

Aaron Berta presented his delegation regarding French Immersion kindergarten in Norfolk County.

J. Harris noted he has questions for staff and would like to add French Immersion Program in Norfolk to the agenda.

Moved by: J. Harris  
Seconded by: A. Felsky  
THAT the Norfolk French Immersion be added to the agenda as B-1-b.  
**Carried**

**B - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

(a) **Multi-Year Financial Recovery Plan**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Multi-Year Financial Recovery Plan (MYFRP) 2017-18 to 2019-20 noting Grand Erie is required to submit a new MYFRP to the Ministry of Education for their approval. The plan is based on a Ministry template and contains the following sections:

- The current financial picture
- Major factors that contributed to the deficit
- Strategies to achieve success
- A financial summary and three-year outlook



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- An impact of the assessment of savings measures and cost pressures
- The risks associated with the proposed plan.

G. Anderson commented that a variety of things could be different over time and this is a very ambitious plan.

C.A. Sloat asked if a regular update or status on the plan will be brought to Trustees. R. Wyszynski responded that this will be incorporated into the quarterly reports.

R. Collver requested clarification that we are approving the plan but we not approving the budget. R. Wyszynski responded that is correct and we may find alternate savings during the budget planning process. R. Collver asked in the quarterly report that Trustees receive, if it is possible, to have more written explanation rather than just charts and graphs. R. Wyszynski responded the quarterly cover report will contain more details going forward.

J. Harris thanked R. Wyszynski for the clarity in this report and outlining some of the pressure points very well.

D. Sowers noted concerns regarding the reduction to classroom resources budget. R. Wyszynski responded that he noted those concerns and will keep them in consideration during the budget process.

J. Harris noted as the Ministry requires monthly reporting, he asked that Trustees also receive monthly reports. R. Wyszynski responded that is doable.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Multi-Year Financial Recovery Plan 2017-18 to 2019-20 for submission to the Ministry of Education.

**Carried**

### (b) French Immersion Program in Norfolk

J. Harris asked what is the current capacity at Walsh. R. Wyszynski responded Walsh is currently at 91% capacity. J. Harris further asked what was the capacity previously? C. A. Sloat responded 112%. J. Harris continued to ask when do we believe this will stabilize. R. Wyszynski responded that projections are that up to 2022-23 enrolment will decline and then stabilize for the next 7 years.

J. Harris asked on the programming side, what is the French Immersion classification. B. Blancher responded it is a program within an English-language school. J. Harris further asked



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do we have a ready supply of teachers that are qualified to teach French? L. De Vos responded we continue to hire but there is a struggle to find candidates.

J. Harris noted we are under a financial recovery plan and this is a program of choice and we can only provide if a viable. J. Harris noted we have controls to create stability and does not recommend we make any changes.

D. Dean commented that it seems we have a number of children at Lakewood who cannot get into French Immersion and that there are vacancies at Walsh. L. De Vos responded that we have a no out of area rule in a motion passed by the Board and should we choose to lift it there could be a backlash from other areas. G. Anderson noted that we need to be very careful and would could have a snowball effect if we change the rule in one area

C.A. Sloat asked how would we triage the waiting list and allowing out of area registration as this could create secondary problems for those who cannot provide their own transportation. Also, there are more students on the waiting list than there are spaces at Walsh.

R. Collver would like to remind Trustees we have plan in place and the rules apply to all.

J. Harris responded to D. Dean's comment stating we do not have capacity at the school even though we may have space in the program.

### ***B. Doyle arrived at 7:56 p.m.***

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the delegation as information.

**Carried**

### **C - 1 Director's Report**

Prior to beginning her report, the Director stated the following:

As an organization that encourages student-athlete participation, Grand Erie District School Board joins all Canadians in recognizing the lives lost in Saskatchewan on Friday. We will keep the Humboldt Broncos, their family, friends and community in our thoughts as they deal with this loss and try to move forward.



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### Director's highlights:

- Secondary Eco Conference is this Wednesday, April 11 at Camp Trillium in Waterford. The Grand Erie District School strives to create environmentally responsible teach and learning environments for all and as part of this effort, Facility Services host an annual Environmental Youth Symposiums alternative years for both elementary and secondary students. This year secondary students will have an opportunity to actively be engaged, education and inspired to become environmental stewards and leaders. The day will include keynote address, lunch and a number of break out workshops hosted by a number of local and provincial organizations.
- Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair Awards were held on March 27, 2018 and 10 Grand Erie Students received awards, many multiple awards and 2 projects were selected to move onto the Canada-wide Science and Engineering Fair.
- International Day of Pink is this Wednesday, April 11
- PA Day this Friday, April 13 for all elementary and secondary schools
- CWB Welding Foundation and Stelco Donation – Stelco is making a large contribution to help the welding programs at four Grand Erie Secondary schools – BCI, PJ, Cayuga and Waterford. An event to celebrate this investment by Stelco will take place this Wednesday, April 11 at 1 p.m. at the United Steelworkers Local 8782 hall in Townsend. Superintendent Martins and Chair Anderson will be in attendance at this event.
- Open Houses for Grandview Central and Fairview Avenue Elementary Schools is scheduled for this Saturday, April 14 from 1 – 3 p.m.
- GEPIC Spring Event is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2018 beginning at 6 p.m. at Waterford District High School. Topic requested from GEPIC members is “The impact of Legalization of Marijuana on Families.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of April 9, 2018 as information.

**Carried**

- B. Blancher noted that Budget Meeting dates were set in February and since that time we have been advised that the GSN Technical Paper will not be released until the end of April and recommends the Board reschedule the meeting set for April 30.



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Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board reopen the motion approved at the February 25, 2018 Regular Board Meeting setting the 2018-19 Budget Review Meetings dates.

**Carried**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board set the amended dates for Budget Review Meetings as follows:

1. May 15, 2018
2. May 22, 2018
3. May 29, 2018

**Carried**

### D - 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

#### (a) Secondary Class Size

S. Sincerbox referred to the Secondary Average Class Size report that is presented to Trustees annually.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve an increase to the average aggregate Secondary School Class Size to 22 for 2018-19.

**Carried**

#### (b) International Students – Fee Structure

R. Wyszynski referred to the International Students – Fee Structure report that is presented to Trustees annually. R. Wyszynski noted that Grand Erie receives a number of applications from students outside of Canada and reviewed the 2013-18 International Student Enrollment data, budget implications/funding source(s), proposed fee schedule for 2018-19 and next steps.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2018-19 Tuition Fees for International students

**Carried**



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### (c) Mileage Remuneration Review

R. Wyszynski referred to the Mileage Remuneration Review Report noting the mileage rate is reviewed annually for budgeting purposes. R. Wyszynski reviewed the Canada Revenue Agency's Automobile allow rates for 2018, recent gasoline prices in Ontario and budget implications.

J. Harris requested we add as recommended by Canada Revenue Agency as we did last year.

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the current mileage rate of \$0.54 per kilometer for the first 5,000 kilometers, and \$0.48 per kilometer thereafter effective September 1, 2018, subject to final budget approval and as directed by Canada Revenue Agency.

Carried

*K. Sandy left the meeting at 8:12 p.m.*

### (d) Facility Renewal Plan 2017-18

R. Wyszynski invited T. Oldham to the table. R. Wyszynski referred to the Facility Renewal Plan 2017-18 Report noting to ensure that students and staff have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and work, annually the Facility Services team reviews and prioritizes the building components that may need repair or replacement. R. Wyszynski reviewed the 2017-18 Capital Projects and noted these were funded by Facility Renewal, School Condition Improvement, Community Hubs allocations and previous approved allocations for Building and Ground budgets, Pride of Place, Community Partnership Incentive Projects and School/Program Improvement Fund Projects.

C.A. Sloat last year \$150,000 was allocated for kindergarten classroom upgrade and did they all get completed? T. Oldham responded that upgrades were completed. T. Oldham noted the following projects were not completed or were deferred: 5 roofing plans, the well-water upgrade at Walsh as there is a well driller shortage in Norfolk, front entry for both Pauline Johnson CVS and North Park Collegiate and the Pauline Johnson CVS elevator.

C.A. Sloat asked do we still do CPIP signs for donors? T. Oldham responded we leave it to the school. C.A. Sloat continued to ask about Brantford Collegiate Institute front entrance doors. T. Oldham responded it was not part of the original retrofit and was deferred, however we have tried to patch the damage but we are now at the point that it needs to be replaced.



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D. Dean noted he would like to continue the discussion on open concept classrooms and the need to fix them, this project was rejected previously due to the cost. D. Dean asked if Facility Services could provide costs to fix these rooms so we can determine if it is prohibitive.

G. Anderson appreciates the work that is completed each year by Facility Services and knows it means a lot to schools.

T. Waldschmidt requested Paris Central also be added to the list of open concept classrooms.

R. Collver noted that we need to understand our capital budget and would like to know if we could align capital and operating budget. R. Wyszynski responded we can definitely add a capital report to the budget cycle. J. Harris asked how do we protect ourselves from the unsupported items. R. Wyszynski responded that we will set realistic budgets for projects and monitor the costs throughout the project. However, it should be noted that there is always a chance that unforeseen costs materialize such as unknown substances behind walls or contaminated ground. Although these risks can occur, the finance team will ensure that we utilize Ministry capital funding streams where possible.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Facility Renewal Plan for 2017-18.

**Carried**

(e) **Quality Accommodations Committee Report**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Quality Accommodations Committee report which is a result of completing a review of accommodation and projected enrolment and contains recommendations for considerations by the Trustees. R. Wyszynski reminded Trustees that the board engaged Watson and Associates to assist with the preparation of long term enrolment forecasts and future accommodation scenarios and in 2018, Grand Erie received updated demographic information for each geographic region within the Board based on the 2016 census. R. Wyszynski continued to provide an overview on the following:

- Pupil Accommodation Reviews (PAR) with recommended Priorities
- Demographic Trends
- Enrolment Share for Elementary and Secondary
- Population per Dwelling in Brant/Brantford, Haldimand and Norfolk for Elementary and Secondary
- Priority Recommendations for completion in 2018-19 and 2019-20 and 2020-21





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- Programming Recommendations for French Immersion at Caledonia Centennial Public School

G. Anderson asked how many pupil spaces do we need to gain in Brantford to get a new Secondary in West Brant. R. Wyszynski responded that we would need to look at that and can provide the information. G. Anderson further commented that he presumes that if there was a new secondary school in West Brant, we would be required to close a secondary school.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Quality Accommodations Committee Report as information.

**Carried**

R. Collver noted the Houghton and Valley Heights issue asked if R. Wyszynski has requested a reply from the Ministry recently? R. Wyszynski responded he will send a request for get a status update on that.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board complete a Pupil Accommodation Review of Brantford Secondary schools (Brantford Collegiate Institute & Vocational School, North Park Collegiate & Vocational School, Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School, Tollgate Technological Skills Centre and Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA). Scope of review to include possible re-distribution of specialty programming among schools and boundary revisions to balance enrolment across all schools in the review. The review to commence after the Board's review of Policy FT5 Pupil Accommodation Review.

**Carried**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the relocation of the French Immersion program grades 4-8 from Caledonia Centennial Public School to River Heights School effective September 4, 2018.

**Carried**

G. Anderson asked about the concern of staffing for the French Immersion and are we comfortable. S. Sincerbox responded that there have been two staffing meetings with ETFO and this issue will need some discussion with ETFO.



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(f) **Education Services Agreement – Mississaugas of the New Credit**

B. Blancher referred to the Educational Services Agreement – Grand Erie District School Board and Mississaugas of the new Credit First Nation (MNCFN) report noting upon request from MNCFN Education Director A. Sault we developed a formal agreement with MNCFN in a number of years. B. Blancher provided an overview of the three-year tentative agreement reached in March 2018 and reviewed the next steps once the agreement is approved.

R. Collver it is good to see that this is building of relationships is seeking for clarity on MNCFN staff. B. Blancher responded that this would staff hired by MNCFN.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2018-21 Tuition Agreement with Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation for signature by the Board signing authorities.

**Carried**

D – 2 **New Business**

(a) **Education Technology Initiative Update**

D. Abbey invited J. Dumoulin to the table. D. Abbey referred to the Education Technology Plan Update report which provides details of the current status of implementation of Phase 8 of the plan as well as next steps heading into Phase 9 (2018-19). D. Abbey provided a high level update on the following:

- Hardware: Teacher and Student devices, hardware refresh update, refresh strategy highlights
- Professional Development: Digital Lead Learner (DLL's), Demonstration Classes, Educational Technology Projects, EdTech Student Crew, Professional Learning Support Staff & Program Team Connections and Principals and Vice-Principals
- Education Technology Initiative Evaluation

D. Abbey continued to review the next steps, budget implications and communication plan for Phase 9 (2018-19) and Phase 10 (2019-20).

*A. Felsky assumed the chair at 9:03 pm*

*D. Sowers re-assumed the chair at 9:05 p.m.*

J. Harris commented that he continues to be impressed with this report and the work that is occurring specifically the EdTech Student Crew.



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Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Education Technology Plan Update as information.

**Carried**

(b) **e-Learning Annual Report**

D. Martins referred to the eLearning Annual Report noting Grand Erie has been offering eLearning programming since September 2002 in partnership with the Ontario eLearning Consortium (OeLC) and has expanded its programs to include a greater number of courses in a variety of grades and pathways. D. Martins provided an overview on the following:

- current eLearning programs: Consortium-based Asynchronous eLearning, Continuing Education and Summer School, Turning Point Asynchronous eLearning Courses
- Grand Erie eLearning Website
- Roles and Responsibilities of the Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching Contact (TELTc)
- Ongoing Considerations
- Budget Implications / Funding Sources
- Communication and Action Plan

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the eLearning Annual Report as information.

**Carried**

(c) **Summer School Report**

D. Martins referred to the Summer School Report noting in 2017 Summer School students achieved 89.5% of attempted credits and eLearning registration continued to outnumber in-class registration. D. Martins informed Trustees that for 2018, Summer School will be held in two locations: Brantford Collegiate Institute (BCI) and Hagersville Secondary School (HSS) and will offer full credit, reach ahead credit and credit recovery courses. D. Martins provided an overview of the key elements of 2018 programs and summer school challenges.



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Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Dean

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

**Carried**

(d) **Trustees' Expenses Report**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Trustees' Expenses Report as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Trustees' Expense Report as information.

**Carried**

(e) **Education Week 2018**

B. Blancher referred to the Education Week 2018 Report noting that Education Week will take place between May 7 to May 11 and Grand Erie's Annual Education Week Gala will take place on Thursday, May 3 between 11:30 am and 1:30 p.m. hosted by Student Trustees. This year's theme is *Feeling Well...Mind, Body & Spirit* and B. Blancher informed Trustees a complete list of Education Week activities and events will be shared at the end of April.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Education Week 2018 Report as information.

**Carried**

(f) **Before and After School Programs 2018-19**

L. De Vos referred to the Before and After School Programs Kindergarten – Grade 6, 2018-19 report noting school boards are required under the Ministry of Education's *Before and After School Programs Kindergarten – Grade 6 Policies and Guidelines* to ensure the provision of before and after school programs in each elementary school in Ontario where there is sufficient demand and/or viability. L. De Vos noted third-party providers have expressed interest in offering programs for 41 schools and two locations will offer Before and After School Program. L. De Vos reviewed the next steps.

*L. Kelly (Student Trustee) left the meeting at 9:25 p.m.*



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R. Collver requested an understanding of the role of Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSM). L. De Vos responded the CMSM works with the providers as well. R. Collver asked how the funding works. L. De Vos responded the municipality flows the funding directly to the provider.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Before and After School Programs 2018-19 as information.

**Carried**

### E - 1 Bylaw/Policy/Procedure Consideration – Action/Decision Items

Nil

### E – 2 Procedure Consideration – Information Items

Nil

### F - 1 Other Business

#### (a) OPSBA Report

Nil

### G - 1 Correspondence

(a) Waterloo Region District School Board – March 1, 2018 Letter

(b) Waterloo Region District School Board – February 26, 2018 Letter

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the correspondence as information.

**Carried**

### H - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

**Carried**

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Committee of the Whole Board Chair, D. Sowers