



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

April 14, 2014  
Education Centre, Board Room

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### MINUTES

**Present:** J. Angus, Committee Chair, R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle, A. Everets, C. A. Sloat, T. Waldschmidt, D. Werden, K. Amy (Student Trustee), K. Manning (Student Trustee)

**Administration:** Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, M. McDonald, A. Nesbitt S. Sincerbox; Recording Secretary - D. Fletcher

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** E. Dixon, C. Lefebvre, M. Macdonald

**Administration:** Nil

**A – 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, J. Angus at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of conducting the In Camera Session.

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

Nil.

**(c) In Camera Session**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

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

**Carried**

**(d) Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, J. Angus, at 7:21 p.m.



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

Agenda items C-1-b and D-1-b were added to the In Camera agenda.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the agenda be approved as printed.

**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Item D-1-a be approved.

**Carried**

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

Nil.

C – 1 **Director's Report**

The Director highlighted:

- The second Grand Erie Parent Engagement Symposium will be hosted by the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) on Wednesday April 16, 2014 at Branlyn Community School. Topics include early learning, secondary program options, safe schools and bullying prevention and mental health
- The Secrets of Discipline will be hosted by the school councils of Simcoe Composite School, Elgin Avenue Public School, West Lynn Public School, Lynndale Heights Public School and Bloomsburg Pubic School on Tuesday April 15, 2014. International speaker Ronald Morrish, author of "Secrets of Discipline, With All Due Respect and Flip Tips" will be presenting
- Grand Erie schools will lower flag at half-mast from Monday, April 14th until Wednesday April 16, 2014(sunset) to honour the late Honourable James Michael Flaherty, PC, MP and former MPP and Member of the Executive Council of Ontario



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- Education Week will be celebrated during the week of Monday May 5 to Friday May 9, 2014. This annual event will highlight the excellence in student learning across the schools in the Board. It is held during Mental Health Week and will celebrate the theme of “Healthy Minds Learn Best”

Other celebrations include:

- Student Talent Show held on May 1, 2014 at the Sanderson Centre
- Art Soup held on May 6, 2014 at Waterford District High School
- School Success and Empathy held on May 6, 2014 at Pauline Johnson CVS

### School Visits – A. Nesbitt

Presentation – “Haldimand & Norfolk Family of Schools Learning beyond the School Day”

- Dual Credits engage students through exposure to college courses and culture while supporting their successful transition to postsecondary education
- Students participate in apprenticeship training and postsecondary courses, earning dual credits that count towards both their high school diploma and their postsecondary diploma, degree or apprenticeship certification
- Currently, programs include the Cayuga Language program offered to any interested student hosted by McKinnon Park Secondary School and Hagersville Secondary School offered at GREAT; Welding at Cayuga Secondary School and Valley Heights Secondary School and Construction at Waterford District High School.

Trustees were pleased to see the value of such program to those students entering small agricultural based businesses.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of April 14, 2014 as information.

**Carried**



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

#### (a) Secondary Average Class Size

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve an increase to the average aggregate Secondary School Class size to 22 for 2014-2015.

**Carried**

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

J. Gunn reviewed how the fee structure is determined for international students for the next school year. It is recommended that the fee structure remain the same since there are no significant changes expected.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldshmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2014-2015 Tuition Fees for International Students.

**Carried**

#### (c) Mileage Remuneration Review

The Board's mileage rate is reviewed each year, for budgeting purposes, in accordance with a motion of the Board. The last change to the mileage rate was effective September 1, 2012 when the Board approved an increase from \$.046 to \$0.47 per kilometer.

J. Gunn referred to Ontario Regular Unleaded Gasoline Prices, Annual Driving Costs for 2013, and budget implications. It is suggested that the current reimbursement rate of \$0.47 remain the same for the 2014-2015 school year.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt



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THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the current mileage rate of \$0.47 per kilometer, effective September 1, 2014, subject to final budget approval.

**Carried**

(d) **Facility Renewal Plan 2013-2014**

Facility Services maintains a building condition inventory that identifies building components that may need repair or replacement. The Facility Services team reviews and prioritizes these needs with the goal of meeting the objectives of the Multi-Year Plan.

J. Gunn reviewed the renewal plans for 2013-2014:

- Principal building and grounds
- Pride of Place (POP)
- Community Partnership Incentive Plan (CPIP)
- Capital projects identified by facilities
- Committed capital and other
- Full day kindergarten – additions and renovations

Appendix A (Facility Renewal), Appendix B(School Improvement), and Appendix C(Full Day Kindergarten) were reviewed to show the specific capital projects identified for approval to proceed this school year.

J. Gunn stated how some air conditioning requests are on hold in the Pride of Place program, however clarified that Agnes Hodge should be considered for air conditioning and explained how the building was originally designed and built without it.

J. Gunn clarified that a full partnership needs to be fully developed for the Hub at Major B between the Board and the City. The scope of the work is for the space within Major B for floors, ceilings, lightings and all physical building components for the Hub. As the agreement is further developed, the facility portion for operation and maintenance would be Grand Erie's contribution.

J. Gunn clarified that in regards to Administrative Procedure FT111 and if it affects on the ground capacity, the space for the Hub would take a Ministry rated classroom out of the school, however it still shows as a potential classroom. There has been no decision to move forward.



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Trustee discussion involved money for safe welcome and reserve for kindergarten rooms.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Facility Renewal Plan for 2013-14.

**Carried**

### D – 2 New Business – Information Items

#### (a) Brantford Neighbourhood Hub Update

S. Sincerbox reviewed background, additional information, current status and summary of the report. Monique Goold, Principal of Bellview Public School and Grant McKinnell, Principal of Major Ballachey Public School were invited to the presentation.

M. Goold clarified that the City of Brantford has been operating the Hubs at Bellview PS and Major Ballachey. The hours (eight to 12 hours per week) are announced through newsletters and Facebook, and are flexible to meet the needs of the community. Meetings were held at both schools and a neighbourhood survey at Bellview PS to learn what those needs are.

M. Goold provided examples of positive impact that the Hub has had on students and parents. Parent/community engagement can be seen during morning socials on Tuesdays, wish closet at school, community church involvement to support nutrition program, and afterschool programs.

Future programs that will benefit students and community include “Read-On” program and recreational programs with parks and recreation for baseball and playgrounds.

Trustee discussion around the Hub involved financial commitment by the Board, trustee involvement on steering committee, formalizing a partnership, accessibility issues at the schools, insurance and liability concerns, police record checks, impact on work of the school, safe welcome and request for report update from the steering committee.

The trustees congratulated M. Goold and G. McKinnell on their initiative, leadership and extraordinary progress made at both schools.

A report will be brought back at the Committee of the Whole No. 2 meeting on August 18, 2014.



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Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report, Brantford Neighbourhood Hubs Update as information.

**Carried**

### (b) Educational Technology Initiative Update

D. Abbey invited Lynda Kilpatrick, Teacher Consultant, Information Technology to the presentation.

He reviewed background information, implementation to date, professional development, February (Play to Learn), March – April (collaboration sessions), May (next steps THINK tank sessions), next steps, and budget implications.

D. Abbey clarified a report will come in the fall of 2014 detailing following phase five. Data collection from surveys will be used in development of the plan.

Netbooks are currently used until the end of next year, at which point next steps will be reviewed.

K. Amy stated that the Student Senate meeting held on April 8, 2014 included a presentation from Jeff Dumoulin on educational technology and left students impressed with the initiatives planned for this year and next year.

J. Gunn clarified the process of leasing technology and the residual value of the technology equipment.

Discussion involved communication to schools and parents regarding educational technology plans and equipment in the schools.

D. Abbey explained that students are encouraged to Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) to school.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat



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THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Educational Technology Initiative Update as information.

Carried

(c) **Information Technology Services Annual Report**

D. Abbey invited Mark Windle, Supervisor of Operations and Development to the presentation.

D. Abbey reviewed background and additional information, budget implications and communication plan.

ITS Milestones 2013-2014 include:

- Wireless network (WIFI)
- Portal update/Office 365
- Hardware/software deployment and maintenance – Phase 2
- Education Technology Project Year 4
- Bring your own Device (BYOD)
- Internet bandwidth upgrades
- Phone system
- Data network improvements
- Introduction of tablet technology

ITS initiatives 2014 -2015 include:

- New Data Network
- Learning Management System for GEDSB Staff
- New Student Information System
- Office 365/Online classroom collaboration
- Support process improvements

M. Windle clarified that service requests (work orders) are assigned a number and go through the prioritization system. Criteria continues to be developed to meet the service needs in the Board as this is recognized as an ongoing challenge.





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D. Abbey explained how limiting WIFI in the schools could impact learning involvement and sound educational ways to teach. BYOD is being encouraged so that each student can work on a device; the key is to bandwidth manageability.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Information Technology Services Annual Report as information.

**Carried**

### (d) **Data Report – Elearning Annual Report**

A. Nesbitt reviewed background, current eLearning programs, provincial eLearning strategy, Ontario eLearning consortium (OeLC), Grand Erie eLearning website, considerations for 2014-2015, budget implications/funding sources and communication plan.

Discussion involved blending learning, academic collaboration and critical thinking.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

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

**Carried**

### (e) **Summer School Report**

A. Nesbitt reviewed background, 2013 highlights, general trends, summer school challenges, and summary.

Two main program changes being considered for 2014 were highlighted:

- 1) An initial plan is in place to offer a two credit coop to students enrolled in the Specialist High Skills Major Program
- 2) Offering a School Within a College (SWAC) course, which would be a dual credit program, is being investigated



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A. Nesbitt clarified that grade seven students are able to reach ahead by taking the “passion course” that is offered by BCI in relation to physical education. It was noted that the coterminous board will be offering co-operative education credits and numeracy and literacy support for elementary students in August. Students outside of Grand Erie can register by completing an electronic form.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

**Carried**

(f) **Annual School Effectiveness Framework Report**

B. Blancher invited Lori Barkans, Principal Leader for School Effectiveness to the presentation.

B. Blancher reviewed background, additional information, trends, and communication plan. She reviewed the schedule of visits for the elementary schools.

She clarified that schools can be re-visited throughout the five year cycle for extra support. Superintendents are aware and responsive to those schools who would need to be moved up on the cycle.

A. Nesbitt reviewed the schedule of visits for the secondary schools and noted observations on the visits showed positive growth in the school.

B. Blancher explained how a five year cycle would be preferred, however a seven year cycle is more attainable considering the work load.

B. Blancher clarified that

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Werden

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

**Carried**



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(g) **Trustee Expense Report (F3)**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Report on Trustee Expenses as information.

**Carried**

(h) **Education Week 2014**

In addition to the activities highlighted in the Director's Report, J. Forbeck highlighted ART SOUP, as a system event that encourages student engagement and is proven to show that it is highly successful.

Schools were commended by trustees for providing activities that engage parents in student learning.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Education Week 2014" Report as information.

**Carried**

(i) **Quality Accommodations Report (B8)**

J. Gunn reviewed the background, single track French Immersion, dual track French Immersion, and dual track French Immersion – impact on secondary schools. Enforcing boundaries and grandfathering is important in the review. The general consensus for the secondary school is that the French Immersion program should remain at BCI as the school has a long history with this program.

He clarified that North Park could be a viable option with current numbers and recognized that the initial years would have smaller cohorts in grade nine.



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J. Forbeck explained how teachers in semester one and two often travel to different schools to deliver courses and programs, and would continue to meet the needs of the secondary students.

J. Gunn explained that best case scenario for Option #1 would have students in the Coronation site in 2015 at the earliest.

It was agreed to review and discuss the recommendations in the fall.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

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

**Carried**

### (j) **Kindergarten Before and After School Programs**

B. Blancher highlighted background, additional information and communication plan regarding the program.

As of April 2014, there are 26 schools are running this program with eight pending.

B. Blancher clarified that when extended day program was introduced, it was a companion to the full day kindergarten program. The extended day program is based on spirit and play-based learning. If there are any concerns addressed, then the program will be evaluated and accessed at the school.

The program will accept children in grades one to six if that will make the program viable.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldshmidt

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

**Carried**

### E – 1 **Other Business**



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(a) **OPSBA Report**

No report.

F – 1 **Correspondence**

(a) **Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: D. Dean

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

**Carried**

G – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

**Carried**

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Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Chair, Jane Angus