



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

*Head Office, 349 Erie Avenue
Brantford, ON N3T 5V3*

**Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting
March 18, 2013, 7:15 p.m.**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Trustees: C.A. Sloat, Committee Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, D. Werden

Administration: Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents - G. Anderson, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, M. McDonald, A. Nesbitt; Recording Secretary — D. Fletcher

TELECONFERENCE:

Trustees: A. Everets

REGRETS:

Trustees: B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre, M. Macdonald, D. Fleet (Student Trustee), L. Bradovka (Student Trustee)

Administration: Nil.

A – 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

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

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

E. Dixon declared a conflict of interest for an In Camera property item.

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss Legal and Personnel Matters at 6:30 p.m.

Carried

Open Session reconvened at 7:23 p.m.

(d) Welcome to Open Session

Committee Chair C.A. Sloat welcomed everyone to the Open Session at 7:23 p.m.

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

Item C-1-a Property was added to the In Camera Agenda.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the agenda be approved as printed.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Nil.

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

Nil.

C – 1 Director's Report

J. Forbeck highlighted the “School of Interest” visits which include the Director and Superintendent reviewing school progress related to achievement. The first school visited was Walpole North Elementary School.

Grand Erie District School Board is the recipient of a grant that will allow the Board to offer a summer literacy program for primary First Nations, Metis and Inuit Students.

The Ministry of Education released two parent guides 1) Doing Mathematics with Your Child and 2) Reading and Writing with Your Child. Each student in the elementary schools from kindergarten to grade six will receive them.

Six schools in our Board are participating in the School Malaise Trap Program. They include Grandview (Dunnville), Prince Charles, Paris Central, Glen Morris, Port Rowan and Hagersville Elementary. The program is conducted by students from the University of Guelph and will focus on local and global biodiversity through the trapping of insects.

The Hospitality Program from Waterford District High School was the winner in the Farm to School Challenge. The challenge involved the creation of dishes using all local ingredients.

B. Doyle inquired if the province could provide these types of guides for students in grade 7-10, as another option for homework help. J. Forbeck to follow up with that recommendation.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of March 18, 2013 as information.

Carried

D – 1 New Business – Information Items

(a) Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk – Annual Report

J. Gunn invited P. Kuckyt to review the Annual Report of the Transportation Consortia.

J. Gunn reviewed new information since last year's report. A Request for Proposal (RFP) reduced the vendors from six to three with an increase of taxi operator usage.

The Route and Vehicle Statistics, Student Data (Board specific to GEDSB), Consortium Update and STSBHN Going Forward were presented.

Courtesy ridership was reviewed for elementary and secondary schools.

In response to D. Dean, P. Kuckyt explained there are common factors that influence travel time of 75 minutes each way for students on a daily basis.

Those factors include transfer points, special education students and geographical distance across the board. These factors are monitored and tracked on a monthly basis in alignment with the budget.

Successful results were seen in the Effectiveness and Efficiency (E&E) Review that includes consortium management, policies and procedures, routing and technology, and contracts.

STSBHN Going Forward focuses on further improvements related to customer communications, continual review and assessment of key performance indicators, and assessment of the current structure of the organization.

J. Gunn clarified that Courtesy Ridership is based on the condition that it does not cost anymore to the consortia. When riders on a vehicle changes, it may change the Board's weighted share of the cost of the route. If a student is assigned to specific route and has a courtesy seat on a second route, we pay for both routes.

R. Collver requested historical data to be included in the next report.

A transportation form is required to be sent to those students who are not using a bus but have registered for it before the student would be removed from the route.

The form requests confirmation that they do/don't require the bus service. It is tracked by live tracking information from snapshots from student bases. The number of students is counted and collected in September and October and then the driver reviews to see who is still using the bus service on a continuing basis and advises STSBHN.

J. Gunn explained the vast majority who are receiving these forms are students in JK/SK who are being driven by parents.

In response to C.A. Sloat, P. Kuckyt will review the number of courtesy riders from last year and provide that information to J. Gunn

It was suggested to put the transportation link to register for notification emails regarding cancelation or delays, in a more visual area on the website. P. Kuckyt will provide link.

For delay or buses, principals are notified through an email.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk – Annual Report as information.

Carried

D – 2 New Business – Action/Decision Items

(a) Allocation of Self-Contained Classrooms for 2013-2014

W. Baker invited C. Mackenzie to present the report.

The gifted class in Jarvis was highlighted, showing a prediction of two students in the class for next year. Options were reviewed in terms of other students attending the program. 15 parents have indicated they plan to attend the open house on March 19, 2013.

In response to J. Angus, W. Baker explained that in regards to the class in Jarvis, a number of 8-10 students would be reasonable to continue the class. A better indication after the open house will provide direction for timelines.

M. McDonald stated that any staffing decision can be made before surplus process begins, and that the surplus timeline is the end of April.

J. Gunn explained how the number of students in the self-contained elementary classes is slightly over 300 students and funded by the Pupil Foundation Grant. The grant is based on class size and for age appropriate grades of 20-24 students per class. The difference to support smaller class sizes comes from the Special Education Grant.

In response to D. Werden, C. Mackenzie explained that the invitees for the open house were determined by the Learning Resource Teachers. They were asked to evaluate students who tested higher on CCAT testing and did well in the enrichment testing. Contact was then made with those parents.

A. Everets agreed that parents need to understand why this is a superior way of educating their child and if this is the right model for students and their parents for gifted students.

C.A. Sloat explained that a self-contained class must follow curriculum and the enrichment class may followed a “free flow” approach to learning.

D. Werden noted that it is a free thinking but does cover curriculum.

R. Collver recommended that an explanation of the self-contained gifted class program would be helpful.

C. Mackenzie explained that the On Track Class at Bellview Public School currently has 15 students in the class. A presentation will be provided at the Board Meeting on March 25, 2013.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the locations and number of self-contained classrooms for 2013-14, as outlined, pending budget deliberations.

Carried

(b) **Compensatory Education**

J. Forbeck presented the Compensatory Education in three areas: Compensatory Education Plan, School Selection Report, and Funding Direction Report. The meeting minutes from the steering committee were included as information.

(i) **Compensatory Education Plan**

The Compensatory Education Report and Plan for information approved on March 26, 2012 has directed the development of a steering committee. There was a need identified for clearly articulated and widely understood Compensatory Education evidence-based plan that addressed the need for sustained and enhanced financial, academic, social and early intervention strategies. This plan will address the poverty cycle to thereby improve student performance for all students.

The EQAO achievement results at level three and four for moderate and high needs compensatory schools were highlighted. J. Forbeck reviewed the Steering Committee Membership, Compensatory Education Action Plan 2012-2013 and the Compensatory Education Action Plan for 2013-2014.

The community partners were commended on their involvement with programs in the schools.

D. Dean is supportive of compensatory education and stated that a major challenge would be the expectations of 48 outcomes in the action plan.

J. Forbeck acknowledged the challenge and explained how this plan is different in that there are many components that outline how everyone will be a part of it and own it. The goal is over the next three to four years for the Steering Committee would narrow down the outcomes.

Professional development would involve all staff members understanding the plan.

Input is welcome over the next few weeks.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the review charts for the 2012/2013 Compensatory Education plan and the 2013/2014 draft Compensatory Education Plan for information.

Carried

(ii) School Selection Report – 2013/2014

The School Selection was based on the 2006 consensus with one strand being the single parent family.

C.A. Sloat requested complete data that shows comparison data of all schools.

J. Forbeck will forward this data to trustees.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the designation for high and moderate needs Compensatory Schools for 2013/14.

Carried

(iii) Funding Direction Report

Resources and staff supports were evaluated in relation to compensatory education.

In response to J. Angus, J. Forbeck explained the secretarial budget does not reflect an additional number of employees but is a factor built into allocation for secretarial support from the pupil foundation grants.

J. Gunn explained that a number of positions are generated within the grant

for school foundation. The allocation of them site to site may be recognized as additional clerical support for compensatory education schools.

In response to R. Collver, B. Blancher explained that KLICC and LLI will continue to be funded by the early opportunities account.

J. Gunn explained how many vice principals are in the compensatory education schools. Some vice principals were reallocated to provide support to the compensatory education schools.

G. Anderson reviewed how some vice principals are shared between two schools while they continue to have a teaching component.

In response to C. A. Sloat, J. Forbeck explained the Native Language Teacher would be placed in Hagersville Secondary School and Pauline Johnson as there are a number of students at those schools who have been educated Six Nations.

15 students have expressed an interest in native language however those numbers are not enough to require a Native Language Teacher. This teacher could be potentially funded through the tuition agreement.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the direction for staffing and resource enhancements for compensatory education schools for 2013/2014, subject to final budget approval.

Carried

(iv) Meeting Minutes – Oct 2, 2012/Nov 15, 2012/Jan 22, 2013

The minutes of November 15, 2012 will be revised to show A. Everets once under regrets.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2012, November 15, 2012 and January 22, 2013 as information.

Carried

E – 1 Administrative Procedure Consideration – Information Items

(a) HR113 Teacher Performance Appraisal

M. McDonald referred to the background and how this procedure requires alignment with Section 277.22 in the Education Act.

In response to D. Dean, M. McDonald clarified that under the TPA process, as long as the legislative timelines are adhered to, a teacher who receives two unsatisfactories in their first year may have their contract terminated, or the process may be extended into a second year.

The policy will be amended to include Section 277.22.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure HR113 – “Teacher Performance Appraisal” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 31, 2013, as amended.

Carried

G – 1 OPSBA Report

Nil.

H – 1 Correspondence

Nil.

I – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Carried