



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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

**Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting
October 15, 2012, 7:15 p.m.**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Trustees: C.A. Sloat, Committee Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, A. Everets, D. Werden, L. Bradovka (Student Trustee), D. Fleet (Student Trustee)

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

REGRETS:

Trustees: B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre, M. Macdonald

Administration: G. Anderson

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**

Nil.

(c) **In Camera Session**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Werden

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: 19 p.m.

(d) **Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair C.A. Sloat, at 7:19 p.m.

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

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the agenda be approved as printed.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Nil.

(g) **Delegation – Steve Talos re: Norfolk Secondary School Accommodation Review**

S. Talos read his delegation that addresses the motion coming forward from the Trustees with respect to Senior Administrations recommendation to close Port Dover Composite School as a secondary school and redirect the remaining students to Simcoe Composite School.

R. Collver clarified that trustees are aware of the facts, and inquired if there is any 2011 data to show population for Norfolk.

J. Gunn provided dissemination detail for 2011 data, with higher level data to be presented during item B-1-a.

D. Werden addressed the manufactured myth of declining enrolment by explaining how enrolment at Doverwood Public School has been declining in the last 10 years and all four feeder schools for Port Dover Composite School (PDCS) shows a decline of 25% enrolment.

S. Talos explained there would be 402 students enrolled at PDCS if initial catchment boundaries were enforced.

A. Everets recommended that the enrolment update that will be provided tonight is done by a professional data analyst and Senior Administration has been preparing this way for a number of years. We need to look at Doverwood Public School as the main school feeding into PDCS.

(h) **Delegation – Rosemary Taylor re: Norfolk Secondary School Accommodation Review**

R. Taylor read her delegation. She has two children that currently attend PDCS and is here to present her children's wish to keep PDCS open until June 2013 to complete their school year.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie School Board receive the delegations re: "Norfolk Secondary School Accommodation Review" as information.

Carried

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

(a) **Norfolk Secondary School Accommodation Review –Committee Report and Norfolk Secondary School Accommodation Review – Senior Administration Report** (from May 14, 2012)

J. Forbeck reviewed the process that resulted in the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) and Senior Administration reports presented at the Committee of Whole No. 2 meeting held on May 14, 2012.

A Special Board Meeting was held on July 9, 2012. Policy FT5 was followed to allow for a 60 day period with a motion to meet today to further discuss options.

J. Gunn reviewed 2011 census data:

- County has grown from 2001 to 2011 by 2300 people
- Key statistic to us is ages 0 - 14
- Norfolk County ages 0-14 went from 11,515 to 9675 a decline of 1840 from 2001 to 2011
- Norfolk County ages 0-14 (Year 2006) declined by 960 from 2006 - 2011
- Trend between three census groups shows 2011 school aged students is the lowest % in Port Dover catchment area compared to other schools in the board
- Ages 45-59 and 60-74 have the highest % in Port Dover catchment area

J. Gunn will send to trustees and S.McKillop to post on ARC website.

R. Collver indicated that the ARC process was followed carefully and understands the challenges in communities. The Ministry requires Senior Administration to provide a recommendation at the beginning of an ARC after careful review. Demographics are changing and Norfolk is in a decline.

R. Collver, on behalf of the Board thanked the members of the ARC Committee that included principals, parents and community on an outstanding job.

D. Dean acknowledged that this is a difficult situation that needs to be addressed and supports all recommendations from Senior Administration with the exception of Port Dover: iii (*At the current PDCS facility, establish a Faith-based Focus Program Pilot beginning with grade 9 students and expanding annually as appropriate; this program will operate as a satellite campus of WDHS*) and iv (*Promote the International Student Program with a focus on attracting international students who wish to attend a Faith-based Focus Program*)
The decision that needs to be determined is when to close Port Dover.

A. Everets moved the motion to support the recommendations from Senior Administration with the exception of Port Dover iii (*At the current PDCS facility, establish a Faith-based Focus Program Pilot beginning with grade 9 students and expanding annually as appropriate; this program will operate as a satellite campus of WDHS*) and iv (*Promote the International Student Program with a focus on attracting international students who wish to attend a Faith-based Focus Program*). She does not support Waterford ii (*Locate WDHS satellite campus for Faith-Based Pilot at the current PDCS facility*).

J. Angus asked for clarification on how senior administration came to the idea of a Faith Based Program when the school holds few students.

J. Forbeck stated that we looked into options that were not in existence at Grand Erie District School Board. The challenge was to determine what the correct number of students required to successfully start programs.

A. Nesbitt reviewed the situation with Eden School and those challenges. As some students are leaving PDCS, the Faith Based Program may be an opportunity to stay there. During the visit to Eden Secondary School, A. Nesbitt's group learned that Eden drew students from a variety of groups:

- Students who were traditionally home schooled
- Students who have attended private Christian schools
- Students who previously attended Catholic schools

In all instances, the families and students chose a school environment that was not a public secondary school environment. Eden staff indicated that for the Faith-Based Model to work it could not be "housed" in the same building as another secondary school. Eden staff commented that when Eden shared the Lakeshore Campus, it was a very difficult situation.

J. Angus supports all recommendations from Senior Administration with the exception of Port Dover iii (*At the current PDCS facility, establish a Faith-based Focus Program Pilot beginning with grade 9 students and expanding annually as appropriate; this program will operate as a satellite campus of WDHS.*)

D. Werden supports all recommendations from Senior Administration with the exception of Port Dover iii (*At the current PDCS facility, establish a Faith-based Focus Program Pilot beginning with grade 9 students and expanding annually as appropriate; this program will operate as a satellite campus of WDHS*), Simcoe i (*Offer International Baccalaureate Program (grade 11 and grade 12)*), iv (*Investigate a one-semester per year Theatre Magnet Pilot of SCS located at the Lighthouse Festival Theatre*), or Waterford ii (*Locate WDHS satellite campus for Faith-Based Pilot at the current PDCS facility*).

L. Bradovka inquired if the Faith Based Focus Program at Port Dover would be all day program. J. Forbeck explained that the intent would be to start at PDCS and let it grow to connect at Waterford District High School. C. A. Sloat stated that it is based on a model that the religious component would occur before and after school.

Date of closure was discussed and an update of enrolment numbers was requested for semester one and two.

A. Nesbitt/Principal Dulmage provided the following numbers for semester one:

- Grade 9 – 10 students
- Grade 10 – 10 students
- Grade 11 – 15 students
- Grade 12 – 9 students
- System Special Education class – 10 students
- Turning Point – 22 students

There are a total of 76 students including Special Education and Turning Point.

Individual enrolment among in-school classes is as follows:

Semester 1:

# of Classes	# of Students per class
11	1 – 5
15	6 – 10
3	11 – 15
Total: 29 classes	

Semester 2:

#of Classes	# of Students per class
19	1 – 5
10	6 – 10
4	11 – 15
Total: 33 classes	

A. Everets and E. Dixon support the closure on January 31, 2013.

In response to J. Angus, A. Nesbitt explained there are 2 students not returning in semester 2.

D. Werden does not support the closure of January 31, 2013, the programming is available, and students are receiving a good education.

M. McDonald explained a fair amount of work would be required if the school closes January 31, 2013 however that work could be operationalized.

B. Doyle feels we owe it to the community and the students who are going to graduate this year for the school to remain open until June 2013. Students would have the summer to make the transition for next year.

R. Collver referred to the high cost to run a semester for a secondary school with 45 students and does not support closing on January 31, 2013.

D. Dean stated that this is not the best educational experience we can offer those students and it is our responsibility to provide that. He understands the emotional attachment to the school.

C. A. Sloat is concerned about the process not working for students and supports closing on January 31, 2013.

D. Fleet left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Senior Administration Recommendations for each school in the Accommodation Review:

Delhi District Secondary School:

- i. Make Advanced Placement courses available in senior academic subjects (to be determined)
- ii. Keep the busing in place for the Norwich area and continue to support engagement of the Norwich students

Doverwood Public School:

- i. Relocate Doverwood Public School to the current PDCS facility
- ii. Repurpose Doverwood Public School facility

Port Dover Composite School:

- i. Close Port Dover Composite School
- ii. Repurpose the facility to accommodate Doverwood Public School (Kindergarten – Grade 8)
- v. Continue to support the development of a partnership that would see the Norfolk Public Library Board locate its Port Dover branch in PDCS as a shared use facility

Simcoe Composite School:

- i. Investigate International Baccalaureate Program (grade 11 and grade 12)
- ii. Enhance Health Sciences Program with additional college, university, and healthcare partnerships
- iv. Investigate a one-semester per year Theatre Magnet Pilot of SCS located at the Lighthouse Festival Theatre

Valley Heights Secondary School:

- i. Enhance Turning Point with additional programming

Waterford District High School:

- i. Make Advanced Placement courses available in senior academic subjects (to be determined)

Carried

In response to J. Angus, A. Nesbitt stated that the Turning Point program would remain at the Port Dover Site.

In response to J. Angus, J. Forbeck indicated that Senior Administration is concerned about the cost of \$400,000 + over the course of a year. He understands the emotional part and cares about the young people involved.

The advantage to closing on January 31, 2013 is that it will allow five to six months to get prepared for Doverwood students coming over in September 2013 and that closing in June 2013 would prove challenging.

In response to R. Collver, W. Baker recommended to follow past practice of moving kindergarten to grade 6 self-contained classes for Special education with grades seven and eight remaining at PDCS.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board close Port Dover Composite School effective January 31, 2013 and relocate Doverwood Public School to Port Dover Composite effective September 2013.

A recorded vote was taken with results as follows:

Yeas:	J. Angus	Nays:	R. Collver
	D. Dean		B. Doyle
	E. Dixon		D. Werden
	A. Everets		
	C.A. Sloat		

Carried

It was noted that B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre and M. Macdonald were not in attendance to vote.

A. Everets left the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

- (b) **2012-2013 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement** (from September 17, 2012)

B. Blancher highlighted the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement 2012-13 outlining the cover page that lists the Grand Erie District School Board's Mission, Belief, Vision and Values and lists the Achievement Goals from our

Multi-Year Plan. The cover page also lists the five School Effectiveness Framework indicators that align with the components of our BIPSA: Assessment for, as and of Learning, School and Classroom Leadership and Curriculum Teaching and Learning.

In response to R. Collver, A. Nesbitt explained that the Student Success Teacher (SST) Intermediate has been removed due to funding cuts with the implementation of Bill 115.

A. Nesbitt explained how Aboriginal Education staff will work with Secondary Program staff to support the Assessment for Learning (AFL) Project on Six Nations. He elaborated on how the Literacy Support Plan has been re-designed as the development of grade 9 and grade 10 curriculum map to ensure coherence and alignment with the essential elements of the OSSLT.

In response to D. Werden, A. Nesbitt stated that there are ongoing discussions with Six Nations regarding the school support initiative (SSI) for aboriginal education.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2012-2013 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement as information.

Carried

C – 1 Director’s Report

J. Forbeck highlighted how the United Way Campaign in three areas of the board connects students, teachers, classrooms and the community. The services support our schools. Annual school council orientation sessions will be held in partnership with the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) on Tuesday October 16, 2012 and Wednesday October 24, 2012. The first session of the Equity Speaker Series called “Positive and Safe Work Space Workshop” will be held on Thursday November 1, 2012.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of October 15, 2012 as information.

Carried

D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

(a) Disposition of Coronation Public School and Dunnville Central Public School

J. Gunn referred to the two schools that are surplus to the Board’s future accommodation needs. The approval of the recommendation actions will allow these facilities to be offered to preferred agencies in accordance with Ont Reg. 444/998.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Coronation Public School and Dunnville Central Public School be declared surplus to the Board's future accommodation needs in accordance with S.194(3)(a) of the Education Act.

Carried

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Coronation Public School and Dunnville Central Public School be offered to preferred agencies at fair market value in compliance with Ontario Regulation 444/98.

Carried

R. Collver left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

D – 2 New Business – Information Items

(a) Enrolment Update

J. Gunn reviewed the enrolment report as of Friday September 28, 2012. The elementary enrolment shows increases, mostly in the JK/SK area. It is trending higher than anticipated. The secondary enrolment from September 28th to October 31st is likely to decline. Projections show on budget.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: E. Dixon

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

Carried

(b) Data Report – Summer School Report

A. Nesbitt's discussed the highlights from the Summer School 2012. Summer school is growing with a broadening of courses with E-Learning being a large component.

Scott Johnson, Principal of Summer School reviewed the two areas that have expanded our offerings:

- 1) Grade 7 and 8 are completing arts, business, computer, civics with E-learning that provides the confidence for them to enter grade 9
- 2) Offering a full menu of E- Learning courses increased to 430 from 86 in the previous year.

In response to E. Dixon, A. Nesbitt confirmed that 35% of summer school students are from other boards. The funding is provided for students through the Ministry. Many students from out of board help to fill up classes so Grand Erie District School Board students can get the courses they need.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

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

Carried

(c) **Data Report – EQAO Board Report**

(i) **Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2011-2012 Primary Division and Junior Division Assessment Results**

B. Blancher and N. Norton took this opportunity to share more about EQAO results, achievement over time, information about gender, and level two students, those in particular performing at a high level two.

- Grade 3 reading, writing and math mirror provincial trends
- Results are slightly lower than provincial
- Grade 6 reading, writing, and math show gaps are starting to close between board and province
- Results are slightly lower than provincial
- Results of Level 2.7 to 2.9 for primary and junior divisions show grade 3 reading at 15%, grade 3 writing at 28% and grade 3 math at 19%.; grade 6 reading at 12%, grade 6 writing at 29% and grade 6 math at 16%
- Still below provincial but a great success moving students out of level one range.
- Results of Level 3-4 plus 2.7 to 2.9 for primary and junior divisions show grade 3 reading at 73%, grade 3 writing at 94% and grade 3 math at 76%; grade 6 reading at 84%, grade 6 writing at 91% and grade 6 math at 63%
- Primary and junior boys are lower in all three categories and mirror provincial trends

The plan is to continue to implement the fundamental principles as outlined by the Ministry's assessment, evaluation and reporting document "Growing success, 2010" and to support teachers in focusing on effective instruction that targets curriculum expectations, including the development and use of learning goals, success criteria and descriptive feedback to improve student learning.

In response to D. Dean, B. Blancher explained that they share the goal of improving the achievement of primary boys. The data shows overall results for all schools, but will plan to focus on those schools with the greatest need to close the gender gap.

In regards to teachers being withdrawn from classes, B. Blancher explained that they were not removed from the classroom nearly as much last year as in the past. We are aware of this, and have offered professional learning options so that schools can choose to focus professional learning in the school without attending system-wide sessions.

B. Blancher acknowledged the behavior piece and the barrier it can present in student learning. The compensatory model is being reviewed in terms of supports that need to be placed in the school.

In response to D. Dean, B. Blancher explained the differential between grade 3, 6 and 9 could be attributed to the fact that primary and junior students are writing a test on everything they learned all year all at once and this is not a format we would normally use when testing primary and junior students in mathematics.

J. Forbeck stated that programs are working hard to narrow the gap in grade 3 to where grade 6 and 9 are.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2011-2012 Primary Division and Junior Division Assessment Results as information.

Carried

(ii) **Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2011-2012 Grade 9 Math Assessment Results**

J. Hall recapped the results for grade 9 math assessment:

- Grade 9 Applied math shows increase by 6%
- Grade 10 applied math shows 10% increase in 5 years
- Grade 9 academic math shows a 2% increase over the last year
- Grade 9 applied math shows 8% increase over the last two years
- Achievement by gender shows boys at 81% and girls at 76% for achievement in academic math at levels 3 and 4
- Achievement by gender shows boys at 46% and girls at 41% for achievement in applied math at levels 3 and 4

L. Abbey recapped the results for OSSLT:

- Achievement by gender shows the gap remains the same
- Individual schools show gender gaps is close, relates to some SSI Projects
- Achievement by grade 10 English course shows almost same success line as province for 2D and 2P slows slightly below

In response to C.A. Sloat, L. Abbey explained that the determination amount for EQAO marks as part of the math marks is up to the school. It is usual to know early in the semester what the percentage will look like, as EQAO provides particular parameters for the %.

In response to C.A. Sloat, L. Abbey explained that it is difficult to make a solid correlation with data that shows students struggle in English more in first semester. Although there are benefits in having English in Semester one, those who struggle may still have difficulty carry over learning into second semester.

W. Baker and C MacKenzie presented the results of Special Education students and are pleased with results although realize there is always room for improvement. The IEPs will continue with the audit process and follow through with recommendations.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2011-2012 Grade 9 Math Assessment Results as information.

Carried

(iii) **Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2011-2012 OSSLT Results**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2011-2012 OSSLT Results as information.

Carried

(d) **Draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2012-2017**

W. Baker referred to September 24, 2012 when the last Annual Multi-Year Accessibility Plan was approved. By January 2013, the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will come into effect for 2012-2017. This proposed plan will come back to board November 12, 2012 for approval.

W. Baker invited W. Hobbs, Chair of the Accessibility Committee to review the Draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2012-2017 and highlight the additions to the plan:

- Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) Policy (weblink)
- 5.0 Elementary vice principal to committee members
- 8.0 Recent Barrier Removal Achievements
- 9.0 Barriers to be addressed under the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan details actions broken down by year/ 2013-2014 – systemic attitudinal ensures third party providers have similar training

Any suggestions should be forwarded to W. Hobbs.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2012-2017 as information.

Carried

(e) **Major Construction Projects – Final Report**

J. Gunn outlined the challenges around the BCI Redevelopment Project including the nature of the project and construction management. Final project costs were \$30,614,363, with total budget of \$28,922,322.

He explained that there were items required to finish the project that were initially overlooked.

Walter Gretzky Elementary School had met with great challenges in the soils causing a late and expensive start. There were issues with plumbing in the school that are not satisfied. Final budget costs will reflect an addition of \$190,000 to \$8,581,109. A revised final amount and report will be provided.

Russell Reid Addition and Renovation went well and was completed with final costs under budget. There was a portion of approval for full day kindergarten that was not needed therefore a surplus of \$126,908 was transferred to other programs.

In response to D. Werden, J. Gunn acknowledged that \$1,692,041 was spent over budget and that the project was met with “project creep” approaching completion. Decisions were made based on value for the difference, with no money wasted. Had project management been done with a full tender fixed price project process, this project would be 2.5 years behind.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Projects – Final Report as information.

Carried

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting continue past 10:00 p.m. to deal with remaining items on the agenda.

Carried

E – 1 Other Business

(a) OPSBA Report

No report.

F – 1 Correspondence

(a) Halton District School Board

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

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

Carried

G – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Carried