



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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

**Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting
November 12, 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, B. Johnston, M. Macdonald, D. Werden, L. Bradovka (Student Trustee)

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

REGRETS:

Trustees: C. Lefebvre, D. Fleet (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 concerning an In Camera property matter.

(c) **In Camera Session**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

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

Carried

Open Session reconvened at 7:18 p.m.

(d) **Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair C.A. Sloat, at 7:18 p.m.

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

The following items were added:

A-1-j Delegation - Michaela Morris re: Port Dover Composite School Closure

F-1-a Correspondence – Peggy Guiler-Delahunt/Eleanor Chithalen re: Port Dover Composite School Closure

Moved by: M. Macdonald

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT Item B-1-a be approved.

Carried

(g) **Delegation – Greg Acuna re: Port Dover Composite School (PDCS) Closure**

G. Acuna read his delegation regarding the closure of PDCS.

(h) **Delegation – Josh Townsend re: Port Dover Composite School (PDCS) Closure**

J. Townsend read his delegation regarding the closure of PDCS.

(i) **Delegation – Chase Swartz re: Port Dover Composite School (PDCS) Closure**

C. Swartz read his delegation regarding the closure of PDCS.

(j) **Delegation – Michaela Morris re: Port Dover Composite School (PDCS) Closure**

M. Morris read her delegation regarding the closure of PDCS.

D. Werden requested that the delegations and Correspondence regarding the closure of PDCS be added to the agenda as item B-1-b.

B – 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**(a) FT5 Pupil Accommodation Reviews** (from November 5, 2012)

A revised copy of pages 4-5 was provided.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy F5 – “Pupil Accommodation Reviews”.

Carried

(b) Port Dover Composite School Closure

The motion was not put on the table for discussion.

D. Werden referred to a point of clarification in Robert’s Rules, that the motion can be reconsidered at the next Board Meeting on November 26, 2012.

B. Johnston thanked the students for attending tonight to speak, and commended them on a tremendous job in dealing with this difficult issue and tough decision.

L. Bradovka agreed with B. Johnston and respects every teacher, student and member of the Board and indicated that not every decision is right or wrong, but there are reasons to make this decision. She hopes students can understand the decision.

C – 1 Director’s Report

J. Forbeck spoke to a number of things happening:

- Remembrance Day – many students participated in school activities in recognition of this day. C.A. Sloat represented the Board by attending a ceremony and placing a wreath at the Cenotaph
- Haldimand grade 8 parent and student information nights are scheduled this week
- Preparing for high school transition guide is complete with each grade 8 student to receive a copy
- GO Conference – C.A. Sloat provided a brief summary on the program offered to enrichment students and run by Nippissing student teachers
- Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week (November 18-24)
- Paris District High School in collaboration with Burford District Elementary School will host Annie Kidder, Executive Director of People for Education on November 20th, 2012.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of November 12, 2012 as information.

Carried**D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items****(a) Multi-Year Accessibility Plan**

W. Hobbs outlined proposed changes and additions:

- 2.0 Commitment to Accessibility Planning has been reworded
- 5.0 Members of Accessibility Committee - addition of elementary Vice-Principal Erica Fleming-Gillespie
- 9.0 Barriers to be addressed under the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan – (Systemic-attitudinal) – provide training to all employees and (information communications-student transportation for special education)
- 10.0 Review and Monitoring Process - section (a) annual status report on the progress will be provided at the Committee of the Whole No. and section (b) plan will be reviewed, updated and brought to the Board for consideration and approval at least once every five years

In response to M. Macdonald, W. Hobbs responded that the responsibility for the school library often rests with the companies that produce the curriculum material.

D. Werden thanked W. Hobbs and his team.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the “Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2012-17”.

Carried

(b) Quality Accommodations Update

J. Gunn recapped how the committee was asked to develop and maintain a Quality Accommodations Plan that maximizes benefits for all students. He discussed the key steps in the process.

The Capital Plan for 2012 -2013 was explained and categories highlighted that set out that separate allocations by the manner in which the priority or need is determined. They include: Pride of Place, Community Partnership Incentive Plan, Capital Projects Identified by Facilities, Committed Capital and Full day Kindergarten – additions and renovation.

Appendix B outlines classroom additions and retrofits that were approved by the Ministry. J. Gunn noted that the Quality Accommodations Committee continues to meet and will be providing a report to the Board in the near future.

In response to E. Dixon, J. Gunn explained that the oil tanks at Hagersville Elementary School and Elgin Public School have been decommissioned.

J. Gunn clarified the roofing programs are those schools that don't have solar panels.

In response to R. Collver, J. Gunn explained that the issue of the Hagersville Elementary School drainage is being addressed and is in the process of completing engineering plans.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Quality Accommodations – Facility Renewal Plan for 2012-13

Carried

D – 2 New Business – Information Items

(a) **Report to AANDC (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) and Six Nations of the Grand River**

J. Forbeck invited D. Montour and C. VanEvery-Albert to present the report. Together with the Director, they have been researching education on and off the reserve as they develop initiatives. This report will be presented in December to the Band Council.

The data this year is developed when the tuition agreement students enter secondary schools.

D. Montour highlighted the changes in the report and the number of programs. She addressed the changes in the Six Nations School Within a College (SWAT) Program and the Turning Point Program on Six Nations.

Future initiatives for 2012-2013 include:

1. School Support Initiative – Junior/Intermediate (SSI J/I) Six Nations Partnership
2. Promotion of Six Nations School Within A College (SWAC) Aboriginal Roadmap – Grade 8 Launch
3. War of 1812 Youth Art and Writing Contest
4. School College to Work Initiative – Opportunities in Skilled Trades and Technology Aboriginal Initiatives Presentation.

C. VanEvery-Albert reviewed the data tables of students/school, OSSLT data, Credit Accumulation, absences, and 2012 EQAO results for grade 9 Math.

In response to B. Johnston, D. Montour confirmed it is a 50% increase from 13% last year to 21% this year in credit accumulation for grade 11.

J. Forbeck pointed out that SSI project benefits some of our tuition agreement students and is open to any suggestions on the report.

In response to D. Dean, D. Montour explained that the Native Advisory Committee (NAC) liaison officer Pam Davis shares a number of patterns in student attendance she has recognized over the years at the elementary level.

J. Angus inquired if the comparisons that were explained verbally can be included in the report to provide clarity in the direction we are going.

C.A. Sloat noted the number of absences included in the report, and that we never report attendance for other students.

M. Macdonald stated that number of student absences is included in the report because "Six Nations Elected" counselors requested.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School receive the report to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) and Six Nations of the Grand River as information and forward it to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and Six Nations of the Grand River.

Carried

(b) **French Immersion Transportation Report**

J. Gunn introduced Philip Kuckyt, Manager of Transportation.

J. Gunn explained the current overlapping boundaries in Burford that in the future will not be overlapping. Maps were outlined to show boundaries prior to and after the dual track was added. A further issue in providing transportation and accommodation is SO121 "Request to Attend a School Outside the Home Area School" administrative procedure. Dufferin and Fairview are currently full, with 16 of those students that fall into this category. Discussion has occurred and consensus is that the appropriate time to stop accepting out of area attendance is when you have whole division created in the dual track school.

In response to C.A. Sloat, P. Kuckyt explained that those 16 students are receiving "Board Approved" transportation.

In response to R. Collver, G. Anderson provided enrolment at Burford for JK to grade 3 is between 40 to 50 students.

C.A. Sloat requested two separate maps that outline the boundaries for Dufferin and Fairview for current grade two to eight and another to show JK to eight and that they would be updated annually as the Dual Track Program expands.

L. Bradovka left at 8:58 p.m.

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School receive the French Immersion Transportation Report as information.

Carried

(c) **Educational Technology Update**

B. Blancher provided an update on the educational technology initiative that included professional development for teachers not included in previous phases, phase three and core french.

Moved by: D. Dean
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Educational Technology Initiative Update as information.

Carried

(d) **Follow-up Report to the Operational Review**

J. Gunn presented the report, the review was completed by the Ministry during the summer.

C.A. Sloat felt trustees should be more involved in the discussion.

In response to R. Collver, M. McDonald explained that the value of the attendance support program as outlined in the policy, is a threshold for attendance and there are interventions that have taken place at different times.

J. Forbeck indicated that this an interesting report in regards to the education sector and once the new sick leave system is implemented, valuable reports will be produced.

Moved by: E. Dixon
Seconded by: D. Dean
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Follow-up Report to the Operational Review as information.

Carried

(e) **Health and Safety Annual Report 2011-2012**

J. Gunn presented on behalf of Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee (JOHSC). He referred to accidents by employee group.

Moved by: A. Everets
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Health and Safety Annual Report for 2011-2012 as information.

Carried

(f) **Trustees' Travel and PD Expenses**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

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

Carried

(g) **Trustee Honoraria**

Presented as printed.

It was noted that each board shares the responsibilities, regardless of the number of students so honorariums based on enrollment is flawed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Trustee Honoraria for the period from December 1, 2012 to November 30, 2013 as presented.

Carried

(h) **Data Report – Student Suspension Report 2011-2012**

G. Anderson presented the annual report. Safe schools team has had a significant role in helping principals to use other measures other than suspending. A dramatic decline has been shown; our numbers are comparable to the provincial average.

D. Dean stated that maintaining strong disciplinary procedures is fundamental to learning. G. Anderson explained that a large number of principals were relying on suspensions which disproportioned the one day suspension statistics.

R. Collver stated that the safe schools team has been helpful in training principals to use other measures other than suspensions.

G. Anderson acknowledged A. Nesbitt in recognition of how the Turning Point Program has made a significant impact.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Data Report - Student Suspension Report 2011-12" as information.

Carried

(i) **Data Report – Student Expulsion Report 2011-2012**

G. Anderson explained expulsions are serious in nature and involve the safe schools team.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Data Report - Student Expulsion Report 2011-2012" as information.

Carried

E – 1 Other Business

(a) **OPSBA Report**

D. Werden noted that next OPSBA meeting is scheduled at the end of November.

F – 1 Correspondence

(a) **Peggy Guiler-Delahunt/Eleanor Chithalen re: Port Dover Composite School Closure**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

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

G – 1 In Camera Session

Moved by: B. Johnston

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss Legal and Property Matters at 9:23 p.m.

Carried

Open Session reconvened at 9:42 p.m.

H – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Carried