



## **MINUTES**

**Present:** Board Chair G. Anderson, Board Vice-Chair R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, S. Gibson, J. Richardson, C.A. Sloat, C. Speers, C. VanEvery-Albert, D. Werden, A. Burtis (Student Trustee), I. Doxtador-Swamp (Student Trustee), Z. Garbaty (Student Trustee),

**Administration:** Director – J. Roberto; Superintendents – W. Baker, L. De Vos, D. Martins, L. Munro, S. Sincerbox, L. Thompson, R. Wyszynski; Recording Secretary – L. Howells

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** Nil  
**Administration:** Nil

**A - 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 6:30 p.m.

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

Nil

**(c) In Camera Session**

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

**Carried**

**(d) Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 7:17 p.m.

**(e) Memorials**

(i) C.A. Sloat read the memorial statement for B. Tram, North Park Collegiate.

(ii) C.A. Sloat read the memorial statement for G. Canivet, Facilities Maintenance Mechanic.

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

G. Anderson noted that item E-1-f will be presented and discussed before E-1-a.

Moved by: J. Richardson

Seconded by: C. Speers

THAT the Agenda be approved.

**Carried**



(g) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the recommendation to add to the Replacement/Casual Principal and Vice-Principal List, effective September 1, 2020.

**Carried**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve C-1-c.

**Carried**

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Director's Operational Goals for 2020-21.

**Carried**

(h) **Presentations**

Nil

(i) **Delegation**

Nil

**B - 1 Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Regular Board Meeting – June 22, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held June 22, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

(b) **Special Board Meeting – June 24, 2020**

Presented as printed. C.A. Sloat requested the in-camera motion for A-1-a be written out.



Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held June 24, 2020 be approved, as amended.

**Carried**

**(c) Special Board Meeting – July 9, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: C. Speers

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held July 9, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

**(d) Special Board Meeting – July 28, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held June 24, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

**(e) Special Board Meeting – August 17, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held August 17, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

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

**(a) French Immersion Ad Hoc Committee**

L. De Vos referred to the French Immersion Ad Hoc Committee report provide high-level overview on background and noted given the current circumstances as a result of COVID-19, Sr. Administration is recommending the establishment of French Immersion Ad Hoc Committee be deferred until the 2021-22 school year.



Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board suspend the motion approved at the June 8, 2020 Committee of the Whole Board Meeting to strike an Ad Hoc Committee to develop a French Immersion Review to be presented to the Board on November 9, 2020.

**Carried**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board defer the establishment of a French Immersion Ad Hoc Committee to develop the French Immersion Review until the 2021-22 school year.

**Carried**

**(b) Implications of 2020-21 Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Events on Port Dover Students**

W. Baker referred to the Implications of 2020-21 Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Events on Port Dover Students noting on August 19, 2020 the 2020-21 School Year Calendars were approved by the Ministry with November 13 designated as a Professional Activity day and students will not be in attendance.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: C. Speers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Implications of 2020-21 Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Events on Port Dover Students report as information.

**Carried**

**(c) Return to In-Person Board Meeting Plan**

J. Roberto referred to the Return to In-Person Board Meeting Plan & Protocol report providing high-level overview on background and additional information. J. Roberto reviewed the 3 options.

D. Werden asked what is the overriding benefit to stay in the Boardroom over the Grand River Hall? J. Roberto responded that if we when into the Grand River Hall but the set up will be different and the other factor is that that space may be required for other components for reopening.

B. Doyle commented that if we have our students returning to school with PPE that we should also return to the Boardroom with the PPE.

S. Gibson stated she is looking forward to getting back into the boardroom and asked about what the sound equipment would entail? R. Wyszynski responded that it is estimate and we require a significant investment to ensure sufficient audio and camera for streaming.



R Collver stated she is looking forward to getting into the boardroom and wanted to ensure everyone understands that we will continue to MS Teams and is willing to invest in the technology for the boardroom.

C.A. Sloat asked where the funds would come from to cover this technology? R. Wyszynski responded that we would need to take this away, get an official quote and developing a funding strategy. C.A. Sloat further stated she is looking forward to getting back into the boardroom.

G. Anderson added we need to be back in the boardroom and recognize the system is not great and concur we investigate technology for the boardroom.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board explore technology for the boardroom to enhance access for public to the Board meetings and ensure all Trustees have the opportunity for full participation.

Carried

#### D - 1 Director's Report

Director's highlights:

- **Summer School update** – We had 2054 secondary credits completed (compared to 1637 in 2019). 78 students participate in the Summer Literacy and Numeracy Program (compared to 34 in 2019). Director Roberto recognized the dedicated summer school team who successfully planned and delivered all courses in an engaging online format.
- **Survey Results** - As of August 27th we have received 20,003 student responses for our September reopening – 16,041 students will participate in a conventional model and 3,962 will participate in are a remote model (2878 elementary/1084 secondary). School staff are currently following up with any families who did not complete the survey to ensure all families have been contacted.
- **Virtual School** - Later this week we will launch Grand Erie's K-12 Virtual Academy and information regarding our Academy will be shared with all families. Our goal is that our virtual school will be up soon! This is an exciting time for all of us and the first of its kind. Virtual School orientation will the week of Sept 14 with additional start time information to follow. Superintendent L. Munro will lead the K-12 Virtual Academy for Grand Erie. Thank you to our Manager of Communications and Manager of Information Services for their support with our launch! Stay tuned.
- **Parent Guide to Reopening** was launched last week, as new items come our way, we will ensure there are updates in our guide as we move forward and communicate this with our families. This was a team effort under the leadership of Superintendent Baker



who collaboratively with the team and several departments to collate the information. Also, a thank you to the Executive Assistant to the Director and Executive Assistant to the Board to Trustees for collating the work and Manager of Communication for making this document come alive for our families! We hope it is user friendly and the A-Z clickable set up is easy to navigate.

- **Childcare Update** - Of the 8 **Childcare Centres** in our schools 6 opened in July and August. Two are opening this fall.
- **Before and After School Programs** - Currently, our Childcare providers are working with our school Administrators to determine location of programs. The Before and After School Guidelines encourage outdoor play as much as possible and some providers will begin the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>. Some have delayed their openings and are waiting for the full return of students.
- **Camp SAIL** - This was our first Virtual Camp SAIL. 10 schools participated, 15 teachers and two administrators participated, 116 students from grade 3- 7 were registered every student received a learning package before camp started to enhance learning and teachers were provided with a variety of mentor texts that addressed a range of topics: Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Growth Mindset and Perseverance. Camp SAIL ran for three weeks from August 10<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> two hours a day of virtual learning.
- **School Outbreak Management Protocol** - Received on August 26, the provincial outbreak protocol is being reviewed by Grand Erie PHUs Health and information will be shared later this week.
- **Budget** - We received to date \$5.7 million dollars from provincial and federal government. We received a memo titled "*Additional Guidance and Funding for School Reopening*" that will support online learning as well as the Air Quality and Ventilation. On August 26<sup>th</sup> we received additional funding which was Federal Government funding called *Safe Return to Class Fund is focused on H & S, staffing- for class size and technology*. A report will be brought forward at our September 14<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole Meeting.
- **Personal Protective Equipment** - While our large shipment of personal protective equipment has arrived, staff are working long days and to unpack, and deliver to schools.
- **Safe and Inclusive Schools** is in the process of creating another equity video to add to our other four. This one addresses anti-Black racism and will form part of a broader plan to provide staff training on all forms of racism. We have enlisted the services of a professional in this field, who will engage with the Safe and Inclusive Schools committee to frame our training needs.
- **Cayuga Logo** – was presented - this work in progress under Superintendent Martins, students and staff input was part of the process and it went to IEAC, NAC and the School Council

R. Wyszynski noted we have received many announcements since the GSN were released and spoke to the reserve announcement., Grand Erie has received additional allocation that will be presented at the September 14 Committee of the Whole Board Meeting.



C.A. Sloat asked if there is any updated on the HVAC funding. R. Wyszynski responded we are looking at air purification system and advanced HPA systems and will be utilizing all of the HVAC funding.

R. Collver commented that it takes exceptional leaders to lead this system in a normal time and take extraordinary leaders to lead now – thanked them all for the work they are doing.

C. VanEvery-Albert commented that our new Director hit the ground running and there was amazing work that has been completed all summer.

S. Gibson commented that the Administrative team are working diligently and it is taking time to work through issues, but everyone is working to ensure we have health and safe environment for our students.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of August 31, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

#### **E - 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items**

Agenda Item E-1-f was reviewed before E-1-a.

##### **(e) JK to Grade 3 Masks**

G. Anderson provided a verbal report and noted some surrounding boards have put motions forward mandating masks, however, the medical officers have not dictated that we have to have them in JK to Grade 3 there is strong sentiment from staff and parents that we have this.

G, Anderson noted that there is no way to enforce mandatory with our youngest children and provided understanding why “strongly encourage” is being stated.

S. Gibson stated that school boards have been in a difficulty position with the lack of direction from public health and has been no win situation. As far back as July 9, we asked about the universal masking and continue to be concerned about masking for JK – 3 and the safety of our students, teachers and the fact the students may be bringing home contagions to their families. S. Gibson provided some insight regarding her day to day work where her staff have been working in long-term homes and retirement with COVID-19 cases who have been safe because of masks. S. Gibson stated that she would encourage students of all ages to wear masks to keep themselves, other students, their teachers and their families safe and the continued learning of hand hygiene.



Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board strongly recommends masks be worn in all buildings and on student transportation for all JK – Grade 3 students where 2m (6ft) of physical distancing is not possible until such time as mask are no longer required or recommended in the general population to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Carried**

(a) **Approval of 2020-21 Committee of the Whole and Regular Board Proposed Schedules of Agenda Items**

J. Roberto referred to the Committee of the Whole Board and Regular Board Proposed Schedule report and the Bylaw, Policy and Procedure Review schedule.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: B Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Proposed Schedule for the 2020-21 Committee of the Whole Board and Regular Board Meetings.

**Carried**

(b) **OPSBA Membership Fee for 2020-21**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2020-21 OPSBA Membership Fee of \$64,246.15 (\$46,855.00 plus HST) for payment.

**Carried**

(c) **Strategic Communications Plan Working Group – Ad Hoc Committee**

J. Roberto referred to the Ad Hoc Committee – Strategic Communications Plan Working Group (2021-24) report providing a high-level overview on background, additional information and the Term of Reference.

R. Collver asked if this is going to be a challenge to run an Ad Hoc committee at this time and if there are any disadvantages to defer this until January 2021? K. Newhouse responded there is no disadvantage to deferring until January 2021.

C.A. Sloat requested the terminology in 4.2 be changed to “approve”.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat





THAT the Grand Erie District School Board refer the Strategic Communications Plan Working Group - Ad Hoc Committee report to the January 11, 2021 Committee of the Whole Board Meeting.

**Carried**

**(d) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Membership**

L. Thompson referred to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Membership report providing a high-level overview.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the addition of Tara Buchanan, representing Community Living Brant as an Agency Representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

**Carried**

**(e) Educational Services Agreement – Grand Erie District School Board and Indigenous Service Canada (ISC)**

D. Martins referred to the Educational Service Agreement – Grand Erie District School Board and ISC report providing a high-level overview. D. Martins noted the agreement has been forwarded for signature and we are waiting for the return of the signed agreement.

C. VanEvery-Albert thanked the staff who worked to get this agreement completed.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2020-25 Education Service Agreement with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) for signature by the Board signing authorities.

**Carried**

**E – 2 New Business – Action/Decision Items**

**(a) Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan**

R. Wyszynski noted that D. Maniccia, Manager of Facility Services and K. Hashimoto, Supervisor of Energy & Environmental Conservation have joined the virtual meeting. R. Wyszynski referred to the Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan report noting schools board required to report energy performance metrics annually by no later than July 1 in the following year to the Ministry of Education's Utility Consumption Database, however, due to the challenges of COVID-19, the Ministry will accept submission of the 2020 reporting year data until October 1, 2020. R. Wyszynski further stated the energy



conservation and demand management plan is composed of two parts and asked D. Maniccia to provide high-level overview.

D. Maniccia reviewed:

- 1) a summary of Grand Erie District School Board's annual energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions for its operations
- 2) a description of previous, current and proposed measures for conserving and otherwise reducing the amount of energy consumed by Grand Erie's operations and for managing its demand for energy, including a forecast of the expected results of current and proposed measures.

C. Speers asked how does the larger schools save us money in the long term? D. Maniccia responded a larger school does consume more energy and more expensive than small schools as far as consumption rate but that is why we don't use consumption rate; we use the intensity rate. K Hashimoto added that with larger schools there are different fees – and one thing that does is we buy our natural gas as a bulk commodity and we have larger schools being charged by demand for electricity.

C.A. Sloat thank you for the update on the solar panels, because a lot people don't realize that we do have them. C.A. Sloat asked do we track water consumption and notice the most cost-efficient schools like BCI have ground source heat pump and have they gone out of favour? D. Maniccia responded it is expensive alternative, makes sense for secondary but elementary it may not make sense for the dollars and we are competing ministry funding for capital and challenge to make it led compliant. K. Hashimoto responded that we are reporting water consumption to the Ministry unofficially and can be added to the report for future years.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan as information.

**Carried**

(b) **Major Construction Project Report**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Major Construction Project report providing a status update on the Major Construction Projects which are:

- Mapleview Elementary School
- Child Care Renovation at Hagersville Secondary School
- Child Care Addition at Central Public School



C.A. Sloat asked about the parking lot at Central Public School, it seems to be encroaching into the playground area. R. Wyszynski responded we were very limited in the design we could do for the parking.

J. Richardson commented on Maplevue, we have requested use of Kinsmen Park from Haldimand County is that because the playground is not ready or is it to create extra space for students to play? R. Wyszynski responded that it is to support both, the sod is not taking and also to create extra space for the students.

Moved by: J. Richardson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Project Report as information.

**Carried**

(c) **School Council Report**

J. Roberto referred to the 2019-20 School Council Report provide high-level overview and noting that due to job action and COVID-19 during the 2019-20 school year, school councils were not asked to submit reports.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2019-20 School Council Report as information.

**Carried**

(d) **Special Approval Reports**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Special Approvals Report providing an overview of the two contracts approval that occurred during the months of July and August 2020, in alignment with Policy F6:

- Paving Reconstruction at Cayuga Secondary School – awarded to Rankin Construction Inc. at bid price of \$770,005
- Compugen Leased Devices – Phase 2 – additional 3-year lease for \$1,341,732 for the acquisition of laptops

C.A. Sloat asked about the computers and have we been successful in obtaining the systems? L. Munro responded that the devices are available but there is delay in the chips that go in them, which is a world-wide issue, we hope to have those chips in the coming weeks.



Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

**Carried**

(e) **SO115 Guidelines for Student Exemption from Non-Medical or Cloth Masks and Face Shields**

L. Thompson referred to the Procedure SO115 Guidelines for Student Exemption from Non-Medical or Cloth Masks and Face Shields report and noted revisions.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT Bylaw 9 Processes for Development of Bylaws, Policies and Procedures be waived with respect to circulating Procedure SO115 Guidelines for Student Exemption from Non-Medical or Cloth Masks and Face Shields to all appropriate stakeholders for comments.

**Carried**

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive SO115 Guidelines for Student Exemption from Non-Medical or Cloth Masks and Face Shields as information, as amended.

**Carried**

**F - 1 Other Business**

(a) **Summary of Accounts – June 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of June 2020 in the amount of \$7,202,277.04 as information.

**Carried**



(b) **Summary of Accounts – July 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of July 2020 in the amount of \$11,350,755.25 as information.

**Carried**

(c) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes Meeting 1– May 19, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes Meeting 1 – May 14, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

(d) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes Meeting 2– May 19, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes Meeting 2 – May 14, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

(e) **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) – June 18, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: C. Speers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) - June 18, 2020 as information.

**Carried**



(f) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – June 18, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. Speers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – June 18, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

(g) **Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) – June 23, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) - June 23, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendation from the June 23, 2020 Audit Committee as follows:

**1. 2020-21 Internal Audit Plan**

That the Audit Committee recommends to the Board the 2020-21 Internal Audit Plan as amended.

**Carried**

**G - 1 Correspondence**

(a) **GEETF Letter to Trustees and Director – August 28, 2020**

Presented as printed.

R. Collver asked if the Chair will respond? G. Anderson confirmed that he will respond to the letter.

Moved by: C. Speers

Seconded by: R Collver

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

**Carried**



**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Monday, August 31, 2020**  
Education Centre, Board Room

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**H - 1 Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

**Carried**

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Board Chair, G. Anderson