



## MINUTES

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

**Administration:** Director – J. Roberto; Superintendents – W. Baker (via MS Teams), 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: B. Doyle

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss personnel and legal 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 7:26 p.m.

**(e) Memorials**

- i) C. VanEvery-Albert read the Memorial Statement for H. Tobicoe, Hagersville Secondary School and NewStart Program.

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

R. Collver requested MPPs Visit Update be added as C-1-a.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Agenda be approved, as amended.

**Carried**



(g) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendation to add to the Replacement/Casual Principal and Vice-Principal List, effective September 29, 2020.

**Carried**

(h) **Presentations**

Nil

(i) **Delegation**

Nil

**B - 1 Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Regular Board Meeting – August 31, 2020**

Presented as printed.

R. Collver acknowledged all the hard work completed by all the staff and asked if there is any update with respect to technology for future Board meetings. J. Roberto responded that this is temporary solution and are continuing to investigate further options.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held August 31, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

(b) **Committee of the Whole Board – September 14, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting, held September 14, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**



(c) **Special Board– September 14, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held September 14, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

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

(a) **MPPs Visit Update**

R. Collver provide a verbal report with regards to the MPPs Visit. R. Collver noted meeting with MPP Toby Barrett scheduled for Friday, October 2, 2020 early afternoon outside Elgin PS and MPP Bouma is requesting Thursday, October 15 at 11:30 a.m., location is TBD.

G. Anderson reminded Trustees that these meetings are to get support for our capital funding needs for new schools

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board received the MPPs Visit Update as information.

**Carried**

D - 1 **Director's Report**

Director's highlights:

- **Virtual Academy** - Currently we have 4,351 students Kindergarten to Grade 12, 3189 students/129 classes in Elementary, 1162 students/91 courses in Secondary.
- **Home Schooling** - currently we have 439 in Elementary and 38 in Secondary.
- **Graduations** - Due to the current landscape with COVID cases on the rise and out of an abundance of caution for our students, staff and communities, in consultation with public health, the Grand Erie District School grade 12 graduation ceremonies scheduled for the fall and grade 8 graduations that were postponed in June will be held virtually this fall. Schools will be preparing these ceremonies with their school-based teams to honour and recognize our students and their outstanding accomplishments. Although these ceremonies are virtual, they will be unique to each school. Superintendent Martins and Superintendent Munro will be providing a list of forthcoming commencements to trustees mid-week and arrangements will be made in consultation with the Chair to provide greetings on behalf of the board which will include video greetings.
- **Special Education** - Our Behaviour Counsellors and our Complex Behaviour Intervention Team have been supporting student transitions back to school. Their work has included:
  - Collaborating with school teams to develop return plans for students.



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- Supporting students who are transitioning into or out of specialized classrooms.
- Updating safety plans taking into consideration the new environmental restrictions that COVID has created.
- Participating in virtual case conferences and transition meetings.
- **Social Workers and Child and Youth Workers have been engaged in the following work to support a healthy start-up:**
  - Following up with students and/or families who received Social Workers services during 19-20 school year or Spring Wellness Checks.
  - To participate and support schools as part of the Traumatic Events Response Team and COVID Wellness Response Team.
  - To counsel students in-person and be prepared to counsel students in Grand Erie's Virtual Academy.
- **Child and Youth Workers have been engaged in the following work to support a healthy start-up:**
  - To help students' transition back to school by delivering the 'Super Self Reg' programs in primary classrooms.
  - To support teachers with resources or ideas focused on a mentally healthy return to school such as the School Mental Health Ontario document, The First 10 Days (and Beyond).
- **Dates of Significance**
  - **Orange Shirt Day** - On September 30 Grand Erie will join with others across Canada in Orange Shirt Day – Every Child Matters to recognize the effect of Indian Residential Schools and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensuring that every child matters. Also, the Woodland Cultural is providing virtual sessions for schools to participate in. <https://woodlandculturalcentre.ca/history-of-orange-shirt-day/>
  - **Rowan's Law Day - Rowan Stringer** was a 17-year old student that died after sustaining multiple undiagnosed concussions playing Rugby. Following an inquiry, legislation was passed in Ontario aimed at improving concussion education and injury prevention. There are several resources to raise awareness through OPHEA that will positively promote understanding and injury prevention.
  - **National Custodian Day is October 2** – Encourages and appreciate the employees that keep our schools and workplace safe.
  - **World Teachers' Day is October 5** - The theme this year is "Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future". This is a day where we can take stock of achievements, and draw attention to teachers, whose contributions to providing remote learning, supporting vulnerable populations, re-opening schools, and ensuring that learning gaps are being addressed and looking after the wellbeing of students is all about reimagining the future.



- **Ontario College of Teachers has recently released some tools** - These tools were created deepening understanding and exploration of environmental stewardship for educators. The resources include [ECO-PLACEMATS](#) and [ECO-CARDS](#), which can be found on the [College website](#). These documents align with our current Multi- Year Strategic Plan in the area of environment. Director Roberto pointed out that these resources include a focus on integrity, leadership, professional development, respect and they capture perspectives of artists such as – Elder Garry Sault, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and – Elizabeth Doxtater, Six Nation Artist.
- **Regulation 440** – Director Roberto turned it over Superintendent Baker
  - W. Baker provided an update on Regulation 440 which speaks to suspension of K – 3 students
- **Major Ballachey Video** was shared

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of September 28, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

**E - 1 Student Trustees' Report**

Z. Garbaty referred to the Student Trustee Report regarding Class of 2020's Response to Virtual Graduation providing a high-level overview and the suggestion of exploring an alternative approach. A. Burtis added input from the student voice of the south.

D. Werden stated that he agreed with what has been said but we need to remember that these graduation ceremonies have individuals returning from college/university that are not part of school community.

R. Collver commented that we are listening to our students and realize it is devastating, however, we would be inviting students back from across the province, inviting family member and some that may be in a danger zone and we need to balance safety for all. R. Collver stated our administrators are doing the best they can and hope they are listening to the student voice for the virtual to try and ask our administrators to manage an outdoor event would be tremendous on them.

C.A. Sloat understands that some smaller schools may be able to hold a ceremony, but we need to ensure equity across the board.

C. Speers commented that in the spring she was supporting that we did not cancel ceremonies in the fall, but with the increased cases she supports the virtual ceremonies.



D. Werden and S. Gibson recommended we contact the Public Health Units (PHUs). J. Roberto responded that we have consulted with PHUs with respect to this and it is all the other pieces outside of the actual graduation, it is the community piece and the cases are on the rise.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Trustees' Report of September 28, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

## **F - 1 Committee Report**

### **(a) Committee of the Whole Board – September 14, 2020**

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendations from the September 14, 2020 Committee of the Whole Board Meeting as follows:

#### **1. Exemption to Human Development and Sexual Health Report**

- a. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Exemption to Human Development and Sexual Health Report as information.
- b. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure SO110 Exemption to Human Development and Sexual Health to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by October 29, 2020.

#### **2. COVID Funding Update**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the COVID-19 Funding Update as information.

#### **3. Director's Report**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of September 14, 2020 as information.

#### **4. Schedule of Pre-Budget Consultation and Budget Review Meetings**

- a. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board set the dates for Pre-Budget Consultation Meetings as follows:
  - 1 Tuesday, February 2, 2021
  - 2 Tuesday, March 2, 2021



- b. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board set the dates for Budget Review meetings as follows, as amended:
    - 1 Tuesday, April 20, 2021
    - 2 Monday, May 17, 2021
    - 3 Thursday, May 27, 2021
    - 4 Tuesday, June 8, 2021
5. **School Closure Information**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the School Closure Information report as information.
6. **Enrolment Update**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School receive Enrolment Update verbal report as information.
7. **Supervised Alternative Learning Annual Report**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Supervised Alternative Learning Annual Report as information.
8. **Bylaw 8 – Committees of the Board – Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Terms of Reference**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 8 – Committees of the Board -Amendments to the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Terms of Reference, as amended.
9. **FT105 Playground Equipment**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure FT105 Playground Equipment to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by October 29, 2020
10. **OPSBA Report**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the OPSBA Report as information.
11. **County of Brant Operations – June 10, 2020 re: Bobby St. West**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the correspondence as information.

C.A. Sloat requested to divide recommendation #8.



Vote was taken on recommendations #1 to 7 and 9 to 11. **Carried**

C.A. Sloat spoke to items 3.11 & 4.2 and requested that Indigenous Education Lead / Teacher Consultant be used.

Vote was taken on recommendation #8. **Carried**

## **G - 1 New Business**

### **(a) Annual Operating Plans – School Year 2020-21**

J. Roberto reviewed the Annual Operating Plans report providing a brief overview of the Annual Operating Plans prepared by Sr. Administration and staff of the Board to guide their work and the work of the system, to address components of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan. J. Roberto noted that these plans are in no way meant to represent all the work that is done in the Board. They are intended to set out at a high level, clear direction for the Senior Administration and our schools. To align with the indicators and outcomes of the Multi-Year Plan, are as follows:

*C. VanEvery-Albert left the meeting at 8:22 pm.*

#### **i) Community**

J. Roberto reviewed the Community Operating Plan for the 2020-21 School Year.

C.A. Sloat asked do you think we can get the other 50% on board with respect to the parent portal? J. Roberto responded that we want to reach the remaining families.

#### **ii) Environment**

R. Wyszynski reviewed the Environment Operating Plan for the 2020-21 School Year.

C.A. Sloat can we get a list of the first 19 Learning Commons. R. Wyszynski responded the list is available and will be provided to Trustees.

#### **iii) Equity**

W. Baker reviewed the Equity Operating Plan for the 2020-21 School Year.

#### **iv) Technology**

L. Munro reviewed the Technology Operating Plan for the 2020-21 School Year.

Z. Garbaty commented that he is pleased to see the increasing technology knowledge for staff.





C.A. Sloat great to see we are doing data collection and asked about Safe Arrival. L. Munro responded by providing the primary purpose of Safe Arrival application that will provide efficiency and accuracy with student absences and it will be staggered implementation approach.

R. Collver asked for clarification regarding the data we are capturing, not everyone does well online and some do well, will we be capturing how are students doing? L. Munro responded we are initial discussions with our Research Lead to capture that data and will to embed collection.

**v) Well-Being**

L. Thompson reviewed the Well-Being Operating Plan for the 2020-21 School Year.

R. Collver asked is the social-emotional learning an add on or is it a standalone in Grand Erie? L. Thompson it is a standalone, but we are looking to move the well-being goals and strategy reflected into the Student Achievement Plan. R. Collver further asked about mental health resources and supports in schools and how will you capture how well we are doing? L. Thompson responded that we are charged by the Ministry to gather this data and will be capturing the data and looking at the impact their supports will have with students and families.

C.A. Sloat asked with respect to the parents/family/caregiver knowledge of social-emotional learning, how will we accomplish this? L. Thompson responded that Child and Youth Workers are employees that been trained specifically in this work and go into the classrooms to provide the supports and they also developed parent leaflet, so family know what student is learning.

***D. Dean left the meeting at 8:49 p.m.***

***B. Doyle left the meeting at 8:50 p.m. and returned at 8:52 p.m.***

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Annual Operation Plans of Senior Administration for the school year 2020-21 as information.

**Carried**

**(b) 2017-20 Strategic Communications Plan – Year 4 (2020-21)**

J. Roberto referred to the 2017-20 Strategic Communications Plan – Year 4 (2020-21) report providing Trustees with background and invited K. Newhouse, Manager of Communications



and Community Relations to provide highlights. K. Newhouse referred to the document and reminded Trustees that Grand Erie's Strategic Communication Plan consists of four streams: Leadership, Internal Communications, Marketing and Branding and Public Relations and noted the Year 4 update provides an overview of the strategies/tactics for the 2020-21 school year.

R. Collver wants to recognize all the work that has gone into this plan and asked the main communication will be around managing the pandemic and will you be capturing lessons learned. K. Newhouse responded will be continuing and supporting our communication plan and we will be capturing the lessons learned.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2017-20 Strategic Communications Plan for Year 4 (2020-21) as information.

**Carried**

**(c) Major Construction Project Report**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Major Construction Project Report providing Trustees with a final update for the 2019-20 Major Construction Projects which included Maplevue Elementary School, and Child Care Renovation at Hagersville Secondary School & Child Care Addition at Central Public School.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: E. Dixon

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

**Carried**

*J. Richardson left the meeting at 8:59 p.m.*

**(d) Contract Extension – Multi-Function Devices**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Contract Extension – Multi-Function Devices report providing a high-level overview and recommends the Board extend the contract with Xerox until October 31, 2021.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board extend the term of the current contract for Multi-Function Devices with Xerox until October 31, 2021.

**Carried**



(e) **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Membership Application**

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

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the additional of Mike Gatopoulos as a Community Member representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

**Carried**

**H - 1 Other Business**

(a) **Summary of Accounts – August 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 August 2020 in the amount of \$10,937,449.11 as information.

**Carried**

(b) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes #1– June 18, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes #1 – June 18, 2020 as information.

**Carried**

(c) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes #2– June 18, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes #2 – June 18, 2020 as information.

**Carried**



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### I - 1 Correspondence

- (a) Haldimand County Letter – September 4, 2020 – Request for Extension to Use Kinsmen Park for the 2020-21 School Year

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

**Carried**

### J - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

**Carried**

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Board Chair, G. Anderson