



MINUTES

Present: Board Chair G. Anderson, Board Vice-Chair R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, S. Gibson, J. Richardson (via teleconference), C.A. Sloat, C. VanEvery-Albert (via teleconference), 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 6:30pm.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Werden

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 7:17 p.m.

(e) Memorials

(i) Memorial statement for V. Henhawk was read by C. VanEvery-Albert.

(f) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried



(g) **In Camera Report**

This item will be reviewed following I-1 as the In-Camera Meeting will resume following the Regular Board Meeting.

(h) **Presentations**

Nil

(i) **Delegation**

Nil

B - 1 Approval of Minutes

(a) **Regular Board Meeting – September 28, 2020**

Presented at printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held September 28, 2020 be approved.

Carried

(b) **Special Board Meeting – October 2, 2020**

Presented at printed. J. Richardson noted that he was in attendance via teleconference. It was also noted that A. Hauser should be replaced with A. Burtis.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held October 2, 2020 be approved, as amended.

Carried

(c) **Committee of the Whole Board – October 5, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting, held October 5, 2020 be approved.

Carried



(d) **Special Board Meeting – October 5, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held October 5, 2020 be approved.

Carried

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

(a) **Trustee Replacement Process**

J. Roberto referred to the Trustee Replacement Process report and provided high-level overview of the proposed Trustee Appointment Process, Application Process and Media Release for review.

R. Collver suggests that the Application Process document, be revised to advise that the candidates will be approved and notified, and “December 2020” be removed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Trustee Appointment Process and application form, as amended.

Carried

D - 1 **Director’s Report**

Director’s Highlights:

- J. Roberto announced and welcomed Kathryn Giannini who assumed the role of the Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees created by the movement of Lisa Howells into the role of Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Business. J. Roberto extended her thanks to L. Howells for her outstanding support.
- **Cyberbullying Month** – It is Cyberbullying month and tips will be sent out via email each week.
- **Treaty Awareness Recognition Week** – held during the November 2-6, 2020. This week provides an opportunity for educators to bring awareness to the importance of honouring and recognizing the treaties made between First Nations and the Crown. Honouring and recognizing treaty relationships, is part of the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). Learning about the Treaties is an essential aspect to bridge a connection between Ontarians and First Nation community members, youth, and elders. Treaties are solemn agreements that



represent mutual peace, respect and friendship. Wampum belts were sometimes exchanged as a record of the treaty. Learning about treaties and the histories, perspectives and contributions of First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples is an important part of the learning experience for all Grand Erie students, staff and community and the indigenous team continues to provide resources and supports.

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- **Managing the Pandemic** – This continues to be at the forefront of our work as we navigate through positive cases. We have a responsive team and we continue to work closely with school administrators and all central staff. Reminders most recently are seating plans on buses, masking updates and cohorting. S
- Superintendents worked with their principals guiding principles for Halloween which includes all of the public health unit COVID19 protocols:
 - Physical distancing
 - Masking
 - Celebrations limited to cohort
- Superintendent Baker is working with principals and nutrition partners to support our students in schools with the safe delivery of food from local volunteers and we have consulted with both Chief Medical Officers to ensure that our processes are sound and food is delivered to students in our schools.
- **Virtual/Conventional Enrolment Updates** – As we move forward, we have two dates for moving between learning models - November 2 for Elementary and November 16 for Secondary. We may have to look at our next opt in date - January 4th. We are going to take some time after this reorganization to carefully review it. The reasons that we want to share with our community are follows:
 - Transition period in November will be short in terms of another opt in date
 - Need to monitor the situation to ensure there is continuity of learning for all our students in both virtual and conventional model
 - Switches not only impact classroom cohorts, will ensure cohorts are tracked,
 - we do recognize this is a difficult decision for parents/guardians to make decision
 - this also impacts teaching staff, support staff, and routines – there is significant changes and a lot work that occurs in the background by school administrators
- Currently working with the Virtual Academy to gather staff, student and parent voice, how it is going as this a new process for all of us and how we can improve and support
- Home School strategy – we reached out to families and have approximately 60 students that have returned to the conventional model
- **Capital Project** – The Ministry has approved funding for \$16,269,978 to support the project to build an Elementary School in South West Brantford.



- **Bobby St W Pedestrian Safety** – We are pleased to confirm that the County will be maintaining the sidewalk/multi-use path on Laurel Street through to the Mechanic Street footbridge on a year-round basis (including winter maintenance).
- **Graduation is an Important Milestone for our Students** – a video is shared with the Board of Trustees of Valedictorians sharing their memories and celebrating their time together in High School.

C.A. Sloat inquired whether we are permitting Halloween costumes within schools. J. Roberto responded we are encouraging students to wear orange and black.

C.A. Sloat queried when will the data results for the latest survey be available and when the decision will be made about the January “opt-in” date. J. Roberto responded the decision will be made by the end of November and the statistics will be sent out and discussed at the next Board Meeting.

B. Doyle commented that the virtual commencements have worked out pretty well and these are tough times. B. Doyle is pleased to see students have adjusted to the circumstances of the Pandemic. He congratulated the wonderful Grand Erie team for their hard work and dedication.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director’s Report of October 26, 2020 as information.

Carried

E - 1 Student Trustees’ Report

I. Doxtador-Swamp thanked the Board for allowing her to participate in the virtual OSTA-AECO eFGM Conference from October 22-25, 2020. They had mini break-out sessions and keynote speakers including Kareem Perez, the founder of The Tech Effect. There were plenty of opportunities for engagement with other Student Trustees. Overall, the weekend was filled with many new learning experiences and was described as very beneficial.

Z. Garbaty thanked the Board for providing him with the opportunity to participate in the conference. He felt that it was a very beneficial experience for a Student Trustee.

A. Burtis was very thankful for the opportunity to attend the conference. She enjoyed engaging in conversations with students equally as passionate as her.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Trustees’ Report of October 26, 2020 as information.

Carried



F - 1 Committee Report

(a) Committee of the Whole Board – October 5, 2020

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendations from the October 5, 2020 Committee of the Whole Board Meeting as follows:

1. Modified School Year Calendar Ad Hoc Committee Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Modified School Year Calendar – Ad Hoc Committee Report as information.

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board direct staff to bring back the Terms of Reference, for a Committee to make suggestion for Modified School Year Calendar for the 2022-23 school year and report back to the Board in November 2021.

2. MPPs Visit Update

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the MPPs Visit with MPP Toby Barrett and MPP Will Bouma Update report as information.

3. Director's Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of October 5, 2020 as information.

4. Learner Intervention Tracking for Excellence (LITE)

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Learner Intervention Tracking for Excellence (LITE) report as information.

5. Public Consultation Plan for Special Education Plan Annual Review

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Public Consultation Plan for Special Education Plan Annual Review as information.

6. Voluntary Indigenous Self-Identification Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Voluntary Indigenous Self-Identification Report as information.

7. Bylaw 19 Use of Board Logo and Grand Erie Name

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 19 Use of Board Logo and Grand Erie Name.



Carried

8. Bylaw 26 Chairs' Committee

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 26 Chairs' Committee

9. SO9 Cyberbullying

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO9 Cyberbullying to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by November 25, 2020

10. SO25 Visual Identity

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO25 Visual Identity to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by November 25, 2020

11. SO31 Accessibility

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO31 Accessibility to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by November 25, 2020

12. HR110 Hiring Procedure

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure HR110 Hiring Procedure to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by November 25, 2020

13. OPSBA Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the OPSBA report as information.

14. Student Trustee Report – Orange Shirt Day

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

15. In Camera Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the resignation of Superintendent of Education Linda De Vos for the purpose of retirement effective January 31, 2021.

R. Collver requested on Recommendation #2 that the MPP names be included.

Carried

G - 1 New Business

(a) Enrolment Update

R. Wyszynski referred to the Enrolment Update report providing a high-level overview noting enrolment is reported to the Ministry on October 31st and March 31st on a yearly basis.



Enrolment has been difficult within the first week of September, a significant number of parents held their children back to be homeschooled or for virtual learning due to COVID-19. These students are not included in the statistics provided to the Board and this could result in a loss of revenue, and we are waiting to hear from the Ministry regarding this issue.

S. Gibson inquired where do we fit percentage wise with the number of students, we have lost compared to other School Boards? R. Wyszynski responded we do not have access to the other Boards' enrolment loss data so that comparison would be difficult, but it is definitely we can propose to bring when this report come back in November, looking at the October 31 count date.

D. Werden asked about the increase in the grade 4–8 cohort numbers, what is the reason for this? R. Wyszynski responded that the Special Education Students are not represented in this report and the majority belong in the grade 4-8 and this will be there in the November report.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Werden

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

Carried

(b) Elementary Class Size Report

R. Wyszynski referred to the Elementary Class Size Report and noted that as of October 22, 2020, we have yet to receive the "SB" Memorandum from the Ministry of Education regarding the 2020-21 Elementary class size caps. The SB memorandum instructions were received on October 26, 2020 and this will be reported in late November.

C.A. Sloat questioned whether we are compliant. R. Wyszynski advised that we are compliant with the Ministry.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Elementary Class Size Report as information.

Carried

(c) 2019-20 Grand Erie's Student Achievement Plan: Success for Every Student Outcomes

L. De Vos, D. Martins and L. Thompson presented the 2019-20 Grand Erie Student Achievement Plan Outcomes. It was noted that EQAO assessments were not administered during the 2019-20 school year, no results were available for this report.



L. De Vos provided a high-level overview of the Elementary outcomes noting this looks very different than in the past, it is very short and have compiled primary and junior into one due to circumstances.

- Mathematics: How did we do? (Measures of Success)
 - Quantitative Results for Primary and Junior Students
 - Where are we now? (story of how we are responding to how we did)
- Literacy – How did we do? (Measures of Success)
 - Quantitative Reading Results and Writing for Primary and Junior Students
 - Where are we now? (story of how we are responding to how we did)

D. Martins provided a high-level overview of the Student Success / Secondary Outcomes for the following areas:

- Literacy – How did we do?
 - Percentage of students in Grade 10 Applied English achieving the Literacy Graduation Requirement on the Grade OSSLT and a summary
- Numeracy – How did we do?
 - Percentage of students achieving Level 3 or 4 in EQAO's Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics for participating students in the Applied and Academic Grade 9 course and a summary
 - Percentage of Grade 7 and 8 students achieving Level 3 or 4 in mathematics on report cards and a summary
- Credit Accumulation
 - Percentage of students achieving 8/8 and 6/8 credits by the end of Grade 9
 - Percentage of students achieving 16/16 and 12/16 credits by the end of Grade 10
- Where are we now?

G. Anderson asked do we know the Provincial averages for student's achieving 16/16 credits by the end of Grade 10? D. Martins responded we have not done comparative but would likely be on-par Provincially.

L. Thompson provided a high-level overview of the Special Education Outcomes for the following areas:

- Tier 1 Interventions
- Speech Language Pathologist and Communicative Disorders Assistant School Support
- Elementary Learning Resource Teachers (LRT)
- In-School Team and Resource Team



- System and Professional Support Staff

C.A. Sloat inquired whether the monthly LRTs are still happening? L. Thompson responded that at the beginning of the year there were to be held virtually, however, they have been put on hold as LRTs are being used in classrooms to fill in teachers.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2019-20 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Outcomes as information.

Carried

(d) 2020-21 Grand Erie's Student Achievement and Well-Being Plan: Success for Every Student

L. De Vos referred to the 2020-21 Grand Erie Student Achievement and Well-Being Plan: Success for Every Student and with the support of D. Martins and L. Thompson provided a high-level overview of the changes to the 2020-21 plan.

S. Gibson is pleased that well-being and strategies for coping and calming are included in this plan.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2020-21 Grand Erie's Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being: Success for Every Student as information

Carried

H - 1 Other Business

(a) Summary of Accounts – September 2020

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of September 2020 in the amount of \$11,563,734.01 as information.

Carried

(b) Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – September 17, 2020

Presented as printed.



Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – September 17, 2020 as information.

Carried

(c) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – September 17, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – September 17, 2020 as information.

Carried

(d) **Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) – September 22, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendations from the September 22, 2020 Audit Committee Meeting

1. External Audit Plan and Fee Estimate

THAT the Audit Committee recommends to the Board the approval of the External Audit Plan and Fee Estimates be approved as presented.

Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) - September 22, 2020 as information.

Carried

(e) **Native Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) – October 6, 2020**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: S. Gibson



THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Native Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) - October 6, 2020 as information.

Carried

I - 1 Correspondence

(i) Toby Barrett, MPP Haldimand-Norfolk Letter

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: E. Dixon

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

Carried

The Board was required to go back into In Camera session.

In-Camera

Motion by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss legal matters at 8:35 p.m.

Carried

The Board returned to open session at 9:05 p.m.

A-1-g In Camera Report

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board direct staff to open up the ability to hire retired teachers to be reviewed by August 30, 2021.

Carried

J - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair, G. Anderson