



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

MINUTES

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

Administration: Director – J. Roberto; Superintendents – W. Baker, D. Martins, L. Munro, S. Sincerbox, A. Smith, L. Thompson, R. Wyszynski; Recording Secretary – K. Giannini

Regrets:

Trustees: Nil

Administration: Nil

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 6:29 p.m.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board move into the In-Camera Session at 6:30 p.m.

Carried

(d) Welcome to Open Session

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 7:22 p.m.

(e) Memorials

Nil

(f) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Moved by: J. Richardson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) In Camera Report

In-Camera will continue following Open Session.

(h) Presentations

Ava Ro from River Heights School is recognized for excellence in academics, the arts, community involvement and athletics. Ava is an actor, singer, and dancer with an impressive list of credits including Big Top Academy, Holly Hobbie, Paw Patrol and America's Got



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

Talent. She is a multi-instrumentalist and songwriter that balances career milestones with academics and school achievement.

- (i) **Delegation**
Nil

B - 1 Approval of Minutes

- (a) **Regular Board Meeting – February 22, 2021**
Presented as printed.

C.A. Sloat stated that page eight of the minutes should state April 12, 2021.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held February 22, 2021 be approved as amended.

Carried

- (b) **Special Board Meeting – March 1, 2021**
Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held March 1, 2021 be approved.

Carried

- (c) **Committee of the Whole Board – March 8, 2021**
Presented as printed.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting, held March 8, 2021 be approved.

Carried

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

- (a) **2020-21 Grand Erie Student Achievement Plan: Success for Every Student – Mid-Year Update**

A. Smith, D. Martins, and L. Thompson presented the 2020-21 Grand Erie Student Achievement Plan: Success for Every Student – Mid-Year Update report. A. Smith noted an amendment on page four, as a title is missing from the chart. The PowerPoint was shared with the Trustees to highlight key points and updates in the report.

The multi-year plan goals that were presented in October 2020 are as follows:

- Increase staff understanding of effective instruction and assessment in literacy and numeracy.
- Increase student understanding of effective learning strategies and how to use them.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

- Create and promote an enabling environment where all students can participate fully in their education.

Numeracy Overview:

- Our primary and junior students continue to develop reasoning skills through learning opportunities which require the use of a variety of mathematical thinking strategies, tools, and models to solve problems.
- Our system learning goal is to continue to build educator capacity by deepening understanding of number and operational sense in order to recognize and develop these thinking strategies in all learners.
- Program staff have reviewed *Long Range plans* and *Scope and Sequence* resources created by Ministry and other Ontario school boards to inform the creation of a Grand Erie grade 1-8 long range framework.

Numeracy Highlights:

- All elementary schools were assigned as Teacher Consultant and/or Math Facilitator.
- In the 2020-21 school year, professional learning in numeracy has been offered in various formats.
- Twenty-six numeracy-focused (face-to-face and virtual) professional learning sessions have been facilitated for over 300 teachers.
- Knowledgehook and Zorbits are digital tools which have been introduced to primary and junior educators to support assessment for learning.

Next Steps:

- Further refine the Grand Erie long range mathematics framework and accompanying resources to prepare for system launch.
- Identify professional learning needs for educators and administrators related to implementation of the new mathematics curriculum and develop a responsive professional learning plan using a variety of formats and delivery platforms.

Literacy Overview:

- The focus of system support has continued to be on the BIPSAW goal to increase staff understanding of effective instruction and assessment in literacy.
- System staff are collaborating to revise and update the *Grand Erie Literacy Profile*, which outlines evidence-based, effective instruction and assessment practices necessary for developing student literacy skills.

Early Years Highlights:

- Virtual workshops for educators included: “new to Kindergarten”, “Taking Math and Literacy Outdoors”, “Effective instructional practices and pedagogical documentation (assessment) in a virtual environment”.
- A pilot project was initiated to increase educator capacity in the use of digital devices to support evidence-based pedagogical approaches in the Kindergarten program.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

- Kindergarten Professional Learning Environment created to provide recorded workshops and resources to educators and administrators.

Primary/Junior Highlights:

- After school virtual sessions include: "Exploring the effective use of the Benchmark Assessment System", "Assessing Student Reading using Digital Resources," and "How to effectively incorporate the digital resource Literacy Pro Library into a comprehensive Literacy Program."
- NTIP teachers have also had the opportunity to attend professional learning focusing on implementing a comprehensive literacy program in an elementary classroom.

French as a Second Language Highlights:

- Connecting the 2020 Math Curriculum to Core French.
- Virtual workshops included: "Échos Pro digital resource (instructional strategies)", GB+ benchmark assessment (assessment for learning and instructional strategies)", "Je lis, je lis digital resource" and "Provocations to Inspire Conversation in Core French".
- iPad-Enabled FSL Portfolio Project (cross-panel, Core French).
- OPSBA teacher retention grant: Book Club (Intermediate FI teachers), OPSBA teacher recruitment grant: Laurier Faculty of Education partnership (FSL AQ Part 1).
- Grand Erie FSL AQ (Part 2 & 3).
- Developed and maintaining FSL K-12 PLE.

English Language Learning ELL Highlights:

- ESL/ELD Itinerant team training, OneNote for Itinerant Teachers.
- PowerSchool SIS Plug-in.
- System document created: "The Role of the Itinerant Teacher/ The Role of the Teacher Consultant".
- Developed and launched the ELL PLE.
- Created four professional video tutorials for common teacher inquiries.
- Over 200 STEP Assessments completed.
- Multilingual books bins distributed for focus schools.
- Multilingual Indigenous Language Learners (MLILL) project.

Next Steps:

- Continue to refine the elementary Literacy Profile and develop a responsive professional learning plan to support effective implementation.
- Identify key learnings from the Early Years pilot project focusing on using digital evidence to inform instruction. Use data gathered from educators and facilitators to support future professional learning plan development.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

- Review the ELL/ESL model of support to identify areas for growth and enhancement of supports for students and educators.
- Further develop support for FSL teachers to support their learning in student engagement and assessment practices.
- Continue to respond to the ongoing educator and administrator professional learning needs pertaining to knowing their learners' and responding to their individual learning needs.

D. Martins presented key updates on Secondary supports for the system, as observed in the report.

C.A. Sloat stated that both panels spoke about "Apple Education". She inquired about what the goals of this are.

A. Smith advised that last year there was an idea about improving and building capacity for teachers to document learning (in particular Kindergarten). We do this in many ways and we also have students document their learning as well. The use of the iPad is a tool by which to do this. Teachers are able to re-watch again. You can inform your practice in terms of what provocation will be set-up the following day, what questions will be asked, where is a student on the continuum in terms of numeracy skill development, and this is also a way for teachers to collaborate. This is another tool to use for observations. We do not have an agreement with Apple, and they did not receive any of our information or access to any of our data.

L. Munro advised that the Learning Plan Leveraging Digital Plan is coming up in the near future and we will be going into that in further detail. It is a really great example of how we are using digital tools to support the essential practices of the Grand Erie District School Board.

C.A. Sloat inquired about the Secondary Virtual Learning Academy vs. in-class results. Why do we not have this information for elementary? Could this be provided in the future?

D. Martins advised that it would not be beneficial to include all of this data as a regular practice.

C.A. Sloat inquired about the ESL funding. J. Roberto advised that there is a funding formula; however, that would never preclude us in supporting any students depending on what step they are in. We would still ensure that there is support.

C.A. Sloat inquired about what percentage of these students we are funded for. According to the report, we have seven teachers that are doing the work. Do we have enough funding to enhance this or is there a better way to fund this?

L. Thompson presented key updates on Special Education, as observed in the report.

C.A. Sloat inquired about whether we have a plan to obtain data.

L. Thompson advised that the number of students engaging in working with our support staff is the data.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Grand Erie's Student Achievement Plan: Success for Every Student – Mid-Year Update as information.

Carried

(b) **Delhi District Secondary School – Gymnasium Fundraising Update**

R. Wyszynski presented the Delhi District Secondary School – Gymnasium Fundraising Update.

The report summarized the following for Trustees:

- Rationale for the new gymnasium addition.
- Short debrief of a February 2020 meeting with local political representatives.
- Conceptual footprint with features that included:
 - 9,000 square foot double-sized gymnasium able to hold a regulation-sized basketball court and two standardized volleyball courts.
 - Fitness room.
 - Demolition of existing multi-purpose room.
- Draft funding that included a plan that would:
 - Set a target of \$2.5 million to be fundraised by March 2022.
 - \$405,000 to \$875,000 allocated from School Renewal funding
 - Ministry approval requirement.
 - Operating plan had to demonstrate cost-neutrality.

C.A. Sloat inquired about whether the memorandum will come to the Board of Trustee for approval. R. Wyszynski advised that this will be brought forward for approval.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Delhi District Secondary School – Gymnasium Fundraising Update report as information.

Carried

(c) **Update to Student Trustee Report**

D. Martins provided an update to the Student Trustee Report.

Keys items discussed are:

- Board Policy P2 – Honouring Indigenous, History, Cultures and Traditions
- Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
- Secondary School Social
- Ohén:ton Karihwatehkwen (Thanksgiving Address)

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

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

Carried

D - 1 **Director's Report**

(a) Director's Highlights:

Kindergarten Registration Promotion:

- Registration continues for the 2021-22 school year. Further to the board's annual plan to promote Kindergarten registration for the upcoming school year, some additions include:
 - To ensure and prepare families for the next school year, the Program team will support schools in providing online resources such as digital welcome activities and instructions on how to host a virtual open house.
 - School Messenger that includes a virtual Kindergarten Registration poster as a reminder to families that may already have a child or children in the school system and/or to encourage them to remind their friends, family and neighbours.
 - The Grand Erie Communications team will facilitate a virtual interview between Director Roberto and current SK students where they discuss advice for this year's Kindergarten class. This video will be posted on the Kindergarten landing page.
 - A refresh of the "What to Expect" electronic document to become interactive and highlight important information for parents and students, packaged in a way that is accessible for children and parents to read together.

Self-Regulation and Well-Being Presentations:

- Dr. Shanker is a world-leading authority on self-regulation and child development. His work was integral to the development of the Ontario Kindergarten Program, particularly in the development of the Self-Regulation and Well-Being frame. Self-regulation is a focus in Grand Erie, aligning with the Multi-Year Plan goal of creating enabling environments where all students can participate fully in their education. This opportunity is provided is on behalf of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Joint Professional Learning Committee.

Everyday Resiliency in Ever-Changing Times - April 7, 2021:

- The Mental Health and Wellness team invites you to attend the virtual event, Everyday Resiliency in Ever-Changing Times, presented by Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe. This interactive and engaging presentation will inform participants about the Five Pillars of Resiliency, regain a sense of order in ever-changing times, and learn how to establish new daily routines to increase productivity and decrease anxiety. The presentation on Everyday Resiliency is inspirational, practical, and timely, and will help participants regain a sense of order in everchanging times.

Cultural Competency Learning Plan:

- In line with Grand Erie's mandate, Success for Every Student, the Indigenous Education team has created a Cultural Competency training plan with the goal of



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

affecting positive change for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students of the board. This cultural competency training plan will provide the opportunity for Grand Erie staff at all levels to acquire better understandings around the lived realities of the local Indigenous communities both on and off-reserve. This training involves a series of six workshops, facilitated by Indigenous leaders, experts from the local Indigenous community, and the Indigenous Education team.

A video is shared with Trustees regarding TeachTown. In the video, Austin is working on TeachTown, a computer-based program we are implementing in some of our self-contained classrooms for students with Autism or Intellectual Disabilities. TeachTown supports student skill development and cognitive abilities by providing them with a variety of tasks and consistent reinforcement. This video was created by our Teacher Consultant for Intellectual Disabilities, Carrie Sawicki.

Committee Meetings:

- We have a process in place that will allow all Trustees the opportunity to participate or listen in on Committee Meetings. All meetings that are held through Microsoft Teams will be added to Trustees' calendars. As a guest, you are watching and listening in on the meeting. Typically, guests will have their camera off and microphone muted.

D. Dean inquired about the Document Management System that was presented and being implemented. Could some of this funding go to the Menstrual Equity (ME) Project.

R. Wyszynski stated that The Excellence in Administration Education funding has already been applied for. The Document Management System will lead to more efficiencies in our Board.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of March 29, 2021 as information.

Carried

(b) **Leading and Learning in the Pandemic**

J. Roberto advised that we will be providing an update with respect to rapid testing. We are hoping to aim for April 10, 2021. We have a new vendor that we are working with. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.

E - 1 **Student Trustees' Report** Nil

F - 1 **Committee Report**

(a) **Committee of the Whole Board – March 8, 2021**

The Committee of the Whole Board Report is presented as printed.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

C.A. Sloat requested the motion regarding the completion of the Interim Director's Performance Appraisal was included.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approved the recommendations from the March 8, 2021 Committee of the Whole Board Meeting as amended.

Carried

G - 1 New Business

(a) Major Construction Project Report

R. Wyszynski presented the Major Construction Project Report.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

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

Carried

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the use of up to \$474,245 from its Proceeds of Disposition reserves to support the funding plan for Mapleview Elementary School.

Carried

(b) Quarterly Budget Report

R. Wyszynski presented a summary of the Quarterly Budget Report.

R. Collver requested clarification regarding the education service agreement and underfunding. If we did not have the enrollment, do we still have the cost.

R. Wyszynski advised that typically there is not a lot of cost that we can cut back. Our financing prides itself on ensuring that it is staying on top of where cost pressures exist, but also areas of savings.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Quarterly Budget Report for the six months ended February 28, 2021 as information.

Carried

(c) **Contract Award - Roof Rehabilitation at McKinnon Park Secondary School**

R. Wyszynski presented the Contract Award – Roof Rehabilitation at McKinnon Park Secondary School as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the contract award for the roof rehabilitation project at McKinnon Park Secondary School to BML Roofing Systems Inc. in the amount of \$1,737,071 plus HST.

Carried

(d) **Roof Rehabilitation at Echo Place School**

R. Wyszynski presented the Roof Rehabilitation at Echo Place School as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the contract for the roof rehabilitation project at Echo Place School from Roque Roofing Inc. in the amount of \$504,835 plus HST.

Carried

(e) **Roof Rehabilitation at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School**

R. Wyszynski presented the Roof Rehabilitation at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the contract for the roof rehabilitation project at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School from Atlantic Roofers Ontario Ltd. in the amount of \$771,300 plus HST.

Carried

(f) **Roof Rehabilitation at River Heights School**

R. Wyszynski presented the Roof Rehabilitation at River Heights School as printed.

Moved by: J. Richardson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the contract for the roof rehabilitation project at River Heights School from Atlas-Apex Roofing Inc. in the amount of \$599,902 plus HST.

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

H - 1 Other Business

(a) **Summary of Accounts – February 2021**

R. Wyszynski presented the Summary of Accounts – February 2021 as printed.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of February 2021 in the amount of \$17,256,932.84 as information.

Carried

(b) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – January 21, 2021**

L. Thompson presented the Special Education Advisory Committee minutes as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Advisory Committee minutes of January 21, 2021 as information.

Carried

(c) **Native Advisory Committee Minutes – February 11, 2021**

D. Martins presented the Native Advisory Committee minutes as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Native Advisory Committee minutes of February 11, 2021 as information.

Carried

(d) **Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – February 18, 2021**

R. Wyszynski presented the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Minutes as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee minutes of February 18, 2021 as information.

Carried

(e) **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee minutes – February 10, 2021**

D. Martins presented the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee minutes as printed.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee minutes of February 10, 2021 as information.

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

(f) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes – March 4, 2021**

J. Roberto presented the Grand Erie Involvement Committee minutes as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Grand Erie Parent Involvement committee minutes of March 4, 2021 as information.

Carried

(g) **Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk – February 23, 2021**

R. Wyszynski presented the Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk minutes as printed.

C.A. Sloat inquired about the claw back of savings.

R. Wyszynski advised that this was in our Q2 report.

C.A. Sloat inquired about the bus application. Are there places to save money? R. Wyszynski stated that the 2021-22 budget for transportation can be brought to the Board of Trustees in more detail if requested.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk minutes of February 23, 2021.

Carried

I - 1 **Correspondence**

A letter from the Toronto Catholic District School Board was shared with the Trustees for information.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the letter from the Toronto Catholic District School Board as information.

Carried

J - 1 **Back In-Camera**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Board move back into the In-Camera Session at 9:39 p.m.

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021

MS Teams (Virtual)

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board suspend Bylaw 5 and that the meeting go beyond 10:00 p.m.

Carried

K - 1 In-Camera Report

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board accepts the resignation of Superintendent of Education, Denise Martins for the purpose of retirement, effective September 30, 2021, with regret.

Carried

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve item B-1-d.

Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board direct the Chair of the Board to write a letter to the Minister expressing the need to support the two business cases being submitted for Simcoe.

Carried

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board ratify the Collective Agreement Settlement on local terms between the Grand Erie District School Board and OSSTF Professional Student Services Personnel, for the period September 1, 2019 up to and including August 31, 2022.

Carried

L - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:46 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair, G. Anderson