



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, February 26, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

A - 1 Opening

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session (**6:30 pm**)
 - (i) Personnel
 - (ii) Legal
 - (iii) Property
- (d) Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement
The Grand Erie District School Board recognizes Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as the longstanding peoples of this territory. We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples who reside within the Grand Erie District School Board. We are all stewards of these lands and waters where we now gather, learn and play, and commit to working together in the spirit of Reconciliation.
- (e) Call to Order
- (f) Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Agenda be approved."
- (g) Memorials
- (h) In-Camera Report
- (i) Student Showcase – Project Search (L. Thompson, R. Vankerrebroeck)
- (j) Delegations

B - 1 Approval of Minutes

- * (a) January 29, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated January 29, 2024, be approved."
- * (b) February 12, 2024 (Special Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated February 12, 2024, be approved."

C - 1 Committee Recommendations and Reports

- * (a) [Finance Committee Meeting](#) Report dated February 12, 2024 (B. Doyle)
 - (i) **Recommended Motion:**
"THAT a working committee is established to review the K-3 program offering and consolidation of French Immersion to River Heights Public School effective September 2024, and that a recommendation is forwarded to a Regular Board meeting for approval no later than March 2024."
 - (ii) **Recommended Motion:**
"THAT the Board approve the amended Grade 7-8 school boundaries for Graham Bell-Victoria Public School, and Grandview Public School, as outlined in Figure 1, effective September 1, 2024."
 - (iii) **Recommended Motion:**
"THAT the Board approve the Elgin Avenue Public School renovation scope and related tender documents."

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

E - 1 Report of the Director (J. Roberto) (I)



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, February 26, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

F - 1 Student Trustees' Report

- * (a) OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference (M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye) (I)

G - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

- * (a) Student Trustee Selection 2024-25 (J. Roberto, L. Munro) (I)
- * (b) French Immersion Program Consolidation – Caledonia Centennial Public School and River Heights Public School (J. White)

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the K-3 French Immersion Program at Caledonia Centennial Central Public School be consolidated with Grades 4-8 at River Heights Public School effective September 2024."

H - 1 Other Business

- * (a) Student Senate Meeting Minutes dated November 23, 2023 (I)
- * (b) Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated December 14, 2023 (I)
- * (c) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated January 11, 2024(I)

I - 1 OPSBA Report (C. VanEvery-Albert) (I)

J - 1 Correspondence

- * (a) Rainy River District School Board dated February 13, 2024

K - 1 Adjournment

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned."



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, February 26, 2024
 Education Centre Boardroom

7:15 p.m.

AGENDA

MARCH

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				01
04	05	06	07	08
Policy and Program 6:30 p.m.			Audit Committee 4:30 p.m. SEAC 6:00 p.m.	
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
			Governance Committee 6:30 p.m.	
25	26	27	28	29
Regular Board 7:15 p.m.			IEAC 3:30 p.m. GEPIC 6:30 p.m.	



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair S. Gibson, Vice-Chair B. Doyle Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, E. Thomas, T. Sault, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton; Student Trustees: M. Baker K. Gayowsky, A. Skye
- Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, D. Smouter, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken
- Regrets:** Trustee L. Passmore
- Guests:** Planning Supervisor: N. Hercanuck, Planning Consultant: L. Morgulis
- A - 1 **Opening (6:30 pm)**
- (a) **Roll Call**
Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.
- (b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil
- (c) **In-Camera Session (6:30 pm)**
Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: G. Anderson
THAT the Board move In-Camera.
Carried
- (d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**
Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
- (e) **Call to Order**
Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.
- (f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**
Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert
THAT the agenda be approved.
Carried
- (g) **Memorials**
- (i) **Carie Ferrell**
The memorial of Carie Ferrell was read by Trustee Bradford.
- (h) **In-Camera Report**
Moved by: J. Bradford
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert
THAT Item B-1-c be approved.
Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board agree that staff engage Grand River Conservation Authority in discussions to continue outdoor education programming viability for the students of Grand Erie at App's Mills' Nature Centre and other facilities.

Carried

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by J. Bradford

THAT the Board remains committed to working together with Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board to support student learning, mental health and well-being, and a sense of belonging at our joint-use school with Branlyn and value our tri-party agreement with the City of Brantford.

Carried

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT Item D-1-e be approved.

Carried

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT Item D-1-f be approved.

Carried

(i) **Learn Lead Inspire Award**

Director Roberto presented Adriana Potichnyj, David Gervais and Pamela O'Halloran with a Learn Lead Inspire Award for their quick thinking, sound decision-making, wisdom and cooperation, which allowed these leaders to navigate through a complex, uncertain situation, and get a colleague crucial help when they recognized she had signs of a stroke.

(j) **Delegations – Cordie Jagt**

Chair Gibson invited C. Jagt to speak. After the presentation, Trustees were given the opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: T. Sault

THAT the Board receive and file the delegation.

Carried

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **December 11, 2023 (Annual Board)**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

THAT the Minutes of the Annual Board Meeting, dated December 11, 2023, be approved.

Carried

(b) **December 11, 2023 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated December 11, 2023, be approved.

Carried

(c) **December 18, 2023 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated December 18, 2023, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Report dated January 11, 2024**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Board approve the appointment of Paul Found, Norfolk Association for Community Living, to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remainder of the Term 2022-2026.

Carried

(b) **Policy and Program Committee Meeting Report dated January 15, 2024**

Presented as printed.

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings – Nil**

E - 1 **Report of the Director**

Director Roberto highlighted the following:

- Future Grade 9 Nights
- Registration Support Days for Six Nations and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- You Belong Campaign
- Student Trustee Gift Basket Donations
- Sledge Hockey
- Elementary Athletics
- English as a Second Language Program at Pauline Johnson Collegiate Institute
- January Family of Schools Meeting
- New Teach Induction Program (NTIP) Session
- New Principal/Vice-Principal Program
- Professional Development – Math



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

- LEAD Grand Erie District School Board
- Careers with Grand Erie

F - 1 **Student Trustees' Report** – Nil

G - 1 **New Business - Action / Information Items**

(a) **Major Construction Project Report**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Draft Proposed School Year Calendars 2024-24**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Board approve the draft Proposed School Year Calendars 2024-25.

Carried

(c) **Approval to Tender Construction of Caledonia Elementary School**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board approve the design of the New Caledonia Joint-Use Elementary School for release of Tender documents.

Carried

H - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Student Senate Meeting Minutes dated May 5, 2023**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated September 28, 2023**

Presented as printed.

(c) **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated October 19, 2023**

Presented as printed.

(d) **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 16, 2023**

Presented as printed.

(e) **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated December 14, 2023**

Presented as printed.

(f) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee dated October 26, 2023**

Presented as printed.

I - 1 **OPSBA Report**

Trustee VanEvery-Albert advised of the following

- OPSBA has launched a new brand and logo
- Grand Erie will host the Central West Regional meeting in April
- The Public Education Symposium was a success including the keynote speaker Romaine Mitchell of the Ministry of Education.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

J - 1 **Correspondence**

(a) **Superior-Greenstone District School Board dated November 23, 2023**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Halton Catholic District School Board dated January 9, 2024**

Presented as printed.

(c) **Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board dated January 15, 2024**

Presented as printed.

(d) **Bluewater District School Board dated January 16, 2024**

Presented as printed.

K - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Special Board Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair S. Gibson, Vice-Chair B. Doyle, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, T. Sault (MS Teams), E. Thomas, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton (MS Teams)
- Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, L. Thompson, J. Tozer (MS Teams), R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken
- Guests:** M. Zega, Legal Counsel
- Regrets:** Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, T. Zebroski
- A - 1 **Opening**
(a) **Roll Call**
The meeting was called to order by Chair Gibson at 5:32 p.m.
- (b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil
- (c) **In-Camera Session (5:32 p.m.)**
Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: J. Bradford
THAT the Board move In-Camera.
Carried
- (d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**
Chair read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
- (e) **Call to Order**
Chair Gibson called the Board meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.
- (f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**
Moved by: J. Bradford
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Agenda be approved.
Carried
- (g) **Memorials** - Nil
- (h) **In-Camera Report** - Nil
- B - 1 **Adjournment**
Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt
THAT the Special Board meeting be adjourned at 7:15 p.m.
Carried



Special Board Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto

Draft



Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

Present: Committee Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, S. Gibson, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Waldschmidt

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: L. Munro, L. Thompson, J. Tozer (MS Teams), R. Vankerbroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken, Executive Assistant: C. Dero

Guests: Planning Supervisor, Nathan Hercanuck (MS Teams)

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair B. Doyle at 7:30 p.m. and roll call was confirmed.

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

(c) **Welcome/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Committee Chair B. Doyle read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Finance Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **December 4, 2023**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the Minutes of the Finance Committee dated December 4, 2023, be approved.

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes/Previous Meetings** – Nil

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **French Immersion Review Update**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT a working committee is established to review the K-3 program offering and consolidation of French Immersion to River Heights Public School effective September 2024, and that a recommendation is forwarded to a Regular Board meeting for approval no later than March 2024.

Carried

(b) **Boundary Review: Graham Bell-Victoria Public School and Grandview Public School**

Presented as printed.



Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the amended Grade 7-8 school boundaries for Graham Bell-Victoria Public School, and Grandview Public School, as outlined in Figure 1, effective September 1, 2024 be forwarded to the February 26, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

(c) **Elgin Avenue Public School Renovation**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the Elgin Avenue Public School renovation scope and related tender documents be forwarded to the February 26, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

(d) **Enrolment vs Capacity by School Report**

Presented as printed.

It was noted that Agnes Hodge Public School is the holding area for the new Shellard Lane school.

In response to a question, it was noted that the Communications Department and the Transition Committee continue their work to promote Grand Erie schools to ensure they remain competitive.

(e) **Paris District High School Track Fundraising Update**

The goal to raise \$2,000,000 by June 2024 has been deferred to the summer of 2025.

(f) **Pride of Place and Community Partnership Incentive Program Report**

Presented as printed.

It was noted that when communities invest in their schools, they feel a stronger sense of belonging.

(g) **Budget Process 2024-25**

Presented as printed.

F - 1 **Other Business** – Nil

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** April 8, 2024



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board

FROM: Maggie Baker, Student Trustee – South
Keira Gayowsky, Student Trustee – North
Aleena Skye, Student Trustee – Indigenous

RE: **OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference**

DATE: February 26, 2024

This past month, the Student Trustees had the opportunity to attend the first-ever Education Action Conference in Ottawa hosted by Ontario's Student Trustee Association. At this conference, Student Trustees from across the province engaged in professional development, heard from guest speakers, participated in workshops, and continued working with their advocacy interest working groups. The Leadership Team also updated OSTA-AECO's general assembly on the upcoming and new vision document, announcing the name and the 7 pillars of focus.

As a member of the Public Education Interest Group (PEIG), Student Trustee Gayowsky, in collaboration with Catholic Education Interest Group members, helped to host an Education Marketplace. Members of both groups presented topics such as special education, transportation, standardized testing, mental health and artificial intelligence to general assembly members. The PEIG also held a breakout session to gather consensus on current issues Student Trustees are experiencing within their districts.

Student Trustee Baker joined the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group. The group discussed how Student Trustees can ensure inclusivity and positive environments are being fostered within schools. Mental health support and resources were also discussed. Student Trustee Baker also had the opportunity to hear from Kristina Epifano, the Equity, Education, and Services Coordinator at Carleton University, who discussed the importance of consent education. Student Trustee Skye continued her work with the Truth and Reconciliation working group, where they discussed the importance of Truth and Reconciliation in a school setting and chose specific initiatives to accomplish by the Annual General Meeting to advocate and spread awareness for Indigenous peoples. The group decided on the initiatives based on upcoming events such as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Day in May and Indigenous Peoples Day in June. The work was divided into groups to even the workload, and virtual meetings are scheduled to keep on track with deadlines.

Student Trustee Gayowsky is also a member of the Student Well-Being Working Group, which met to discuss progress on current projects. The Chair has been using consensus from the group to work with the Ministry of Education to create educational video modules on vaping and addiction. In the coming months, the group will continue to meet virtually and establish supports and initiatives for student mental health, with an alternate focus on cafeteria prices and nutritional value.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Baker, Student Trustee – South
K. Gayowsky, Student Trustee – North
A. Skye, Student Trustee – Indigenous



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: Trustees of the Grand Erie District School Board
FROM: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
Lisa Munro, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement
RE: **Student Trustee Selection 2024-25**
DATE: February 26, 2024

Background

In accordance with General Governance Policy Section 10, correspondence was forwarded to secondary school Principals in December, inviting applications for the position of Student Trustee for the Grand Erie District School Board for 2024-25. Sixteen responses were received from the invitation, five from the North (Brantford and Brant County), nine from the South (Haldimand and Norfolk) and two from the Indigenous student population of the Board.

Elections were held, and Caitlyn Shields, a student at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School was elected as Student Trustee for the North, Olivia Prince, a student at Cayuga Secondary School was elected as Student Trustee for the South, and Aiden Lyle Hill, a student at Hagersville Secondary School was declared as the Indigenous Student Trustee.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the mission of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan: Together we build a culture of Learning, Well-Being, and Belonging.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnna Roberto, Ph.D.,
Director of Education & Secretary of the Board

Lisa Munro, Superintendent of Curriculum and
Student Achievement



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board

FROM: Julie White, Superintendent of Education
Lisa Munro, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement

RE: **French Immersion Program Consolidation – Caledonia Centennial Public School and River Heights Public School**

DATE: February 26, 2024

Recommended Motion: Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
THAT the K-3 French Immersion Program at Caledonia Centennial Public School be consolidated with Grades 4-8 at River Heights Public School effective September 2024.

Background

On June 8, 2020, the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of a French Immersion Ad Hoc Committee. The establishment of this committee was deferred on August 31, 2020, due to the pandemic. The French Immersion Special Ad Hoc Committee was eventually established on April 11, 2022.

The **Long-Term Accommodation Plan** (LTAP) 2023-2028 was conducted and presented to the Board of Trustees in the fall of 2023. As part of the review, the LTAP included a recommendation to address French Immersion accommodation at Caledonia Centennial Public School and River Heights Public School. As a follow-up to the LTAP, a Program Delivery Review was conducted with a recommendation to address the high utilization rate at Caledonia Centennial Public School by moving the Kindergarten to Grade 3 French Immersion program to River Heights Public School.

The accommodation pressure at Caledonia Centennial Public School requires the relocation of students to River Heights Public School. Senior Administration and the Planning Department recommend relocating the existing Kindergarten to Grade 3 French Immersion program to River Heights Public School for September 2024.

At the Finance Committee on February 12, 2024, a report was submitted to support the establishment of a working committee to review the K-3 program offering and consolidation of French Immersion from Caledonia Centennial Public School to River Heights Public School. The working committee met on February 16, 2024. Committee representation included input from Senior Administration, School Administration, staff, parent(s)/caregiver(s), students, Communications and Community Relations, and Facility Services. The working committee reviewed what program consolidation would involve, the benefits this would have on program delivery, and any impact this may have on students, families, staff, and school communities. The working committee supports the consolidation and transition planning.

Additional Information

Currently, Caledonia Centennial Public School is organized as a dual-track English/French Immersion school with students attending English Track from Kindergarten to Grade 8 and French Immersion students from Kindergarten to Grade 3 with French Immersion students transferring to River Heights Public School for Grade 4 to Grade 8. River Heights Public School is a dual-track English/French Immersion school with English students attending English Track from Kindergarten to Grade 8 and French Immersion students from Grade 4 to Grade 8.

A consolidated program will eliminate the transition between schools for French Immersion students while providing more opportunities for educators to collaborate, share resources, and engage in professional development together. Resources can be enhanced in libraries and classrooms when all grades are in one building. Active engagement in the French language and culture in a variety of settings and contexts allows French Immersion students to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills effectively. Consolidation grades at one location will provide increased French language learning opportunities (i.e., Announcements and assemblies in French, hallway and recess conversations in French).

The consolidation of the French Immersion Program will impact approximately 80 current French Immersion students from Caledonia Centennial Public School who will relocate to River Heights Public School effective September 2024. The program change will also require new French Immersion registrants for Kindergarten to register at River Heights Public School.

Currently Caledonia Centennial Public School is at 163% capacity utilization and River Heights Public School is 90% capacity utilization. The proposed change would see a capacity utilization of 135% at Caledonia Centennial Public School and 105% at River Heights Public School. Moving 3-4 portables from Caledonia Centennial Public School to River Heights Public School would release more playground space at Caledonia Centennial Public School. As a result, the relocation will reduce the required number of portables at Caledonia Centennial Public School and improve the utilization of the school.

Next Steps

Once approved by the Board, next steps will include communication to inform families, students, and staff of the consolidation of the French Immersion Program at River Heights Public School for September 2024. The working committee will continue to meet to plan for the relocation and transition activities.

Human Resources, Transportation, Facility Services, Specialized Services, Communications and Curriculum and Student Achievement departments will work together to support the transition to ensure timelines are in place to address moving portables, and resources, and to support transition events as needed.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Belonging indicator of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: We build a culture of belonging to support an equitable, inclusive, and responsive environment for each learner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie White, Superintendent of Education
Lisa Munro, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement



Student Senate Meeting

Thursday, November 23, 2023

10:10 a.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School

MINUTES

Present: Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, Cayuga Secondary School, Delhi District Secondary School, Dunnville Secondary School, Hagersville Secondary School, McKinnon Park, North Park Collegiate, Paris District High School, Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School, Simcoe Composite School, Tollgate Technological Skills Centre, Valley Heights Secondary School, Waterford District High School

Student Trustees: Maggie Baker (Representing South)
Keira Gayowsky (Representing North)
Aleena Skye (Representing Indigenous)

Administration: Superintendent Lisa Munro, Executive Assistant: Kerri Harrison

Recorder: Kerri Harrison

A - 1 **Opening/Welcome**

(a) **Grand Erie Land Acknowledgement** – Student Trustee Gayowsky

(b) **Opening and Welcome** – Superintendent Munro opened the meeting and welcomed Senators.

B – 1 **Approval of the Minutes – May 5, 2023**

Moved by: I. Halsey

Seconded by: K. Davis

THAT the minutes of the Student Senate meeting, dated May 5, 2023, be approved.

Carried

C – 1 **Working Groups**

Student Senators broke into working groups: Mental Health, Student Voice, and Environment.

D – 1 **Round Table Discussion**

Student Senators summarized the working group discussion:

Mental Health and Well-Being Working Group:

- Well-being – survey investigating cafeteria pricing and food options will be going out to all secondary students
- Mental Health – additional supports and resources in the schools would be helpful. Consideration to change “Sexual” Health Nurse to “Public” Health Nurse so that students feel more comfortable
- Consideration for hosting a Mental Health event
- Request for more anxiety support groups



H-1-a

Student Senate Meeting

Thursday, November 23, 2023

10:10 a.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School

MINUTES

Student Voice Working Group:

- Land Acknowledgment – reviewing a consistent process across all schools
- Transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9 – consideration for mentoring by senior students and sharing resources prior to starting grade 9
- De-streamed classes – considerations for supporting students transitioning from grade 9 de-streamed to grade 10 courses
- Washroom Accessibility – would like to see more all-gender-neutral washrooms and opening more washrooms that have been closed
- School Cash Online – new fees are an issue for some families; ensure there is a cash option for families who do not bank online

Environmental Working Group:

- Could more greenhouses be built? Nutrition classes could use the crops
- Can we implement compost bins?
- More signage on garbage and recycling bins would be helpful
- Biodegradable utensils should be used
- Promote more Eco Clubs – schools that do have clubs need to advertise more
- Eco friendly projects – pitching ideas to classes – woodworking classes could build garbage cans and art classes could paint them

E – 1 **Keynote Speaker – Johnny Henderson**

Student Senators had the opportunity to hear Johnny Henderson share his experiences on how he overcame personal challenges. Johnny provided messaging on how to persist during turbulent times and “create your own story.”

Future dates:

- February 15, 2023 (Elections)
- April 25, 2023
- May 30, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Learn

Lead

Inspire



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, December 14, 2023

1:00 p.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational Institute/ MS Office Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- Chair:** C. VanEvery-Albert, Trustee
- Community Representative(s):** S. Graham, Six Nations Federal Schools Representative
- Trustees:** E. Thomas, Trustee
- Grand Erie Staff:** R. Hill-Beauchamp, Indigenous Education Counsellor
K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
J. Laight, Six Nations Indigenous Advisor
D. Powless, Community Liaison Worker
J. Roberto, Director of Education
D. VanEvery, Indigenous Education Counsellor
C. Vyse, Indigenous Education Counsellor
- Grand Erie Staff (Resources):** Nil.
- Organizations/ Agencies:** Nil.
- Regrets:** A. Skye, Indigenous Student Trustee
- Absent:** T. Anderson, Indigenous Services Canada Director of Education responsible for Six Nations Federal Schools
A. Powless-Bomberry, Six Nations Elected Council Representative
- Guest:** D. Montour
- Recording Secretary:** D. Fletcher, Executive Assistant

- A - 1 **Opening**
 - (a) **Ohen: ton Karihwaterhkwen**
Six Nations Indigenous Advisor J. Laight provided opening greetings.
 - (b) **Land Acknowledgment Statement**
Superintendent Graham read the Land Acknowledgment statement.
 - (c) **Introduction & Roll Call**
Introductions and Roll call were completed.
 - (d) **Approval of Agenda**
The agenda was approved by consensus.
 - (e) **Student Showcase**
Indigenous Education Counsellor, D. VanEvery shared activities at Nations/NewStart included Moose Hide Tanning, storytelling, scavenger hunt, and beading poppies for Remembrance Day.

Students representing Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School attended and presented “Remember When” and “What has been our greatest achievement so far this year?”
- B - 1 **ESA Staff Roundtable**
 - (a) **Introductions and Updates from each school**



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, December 14, 2023

1:00 p.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational Institute/ MS Office Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor, J. Laight shared some current initiatives: School Events/Math, Professional Development, Transition plans, Presentation to Six Nations Elected Council, Learning Summit, and attendance at the Indspire Conference.

Indigenous Education Counsellor, R. Hill-Beauchamp shared some initiatives/events at McKinnon Park Secondary School that she is involved with through her work to support students: homework lunch support, University/College visits, Grand River Post-Secondary Education Office (GRPSEO) and connection with the Six Nations Mental Health Team to support female students. She attended Training at VITRA and the LEADS conference

Indigenous Education Counsellor C. Vyse shared initiatives/events at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School and Pauline Johnson Collegiate Vocational Institute: Grade 8 Day, luncheon social, Crawford Lake/Plant Life, Ogwehoweh Skills and Trades Training Centre (OSTTC) Trip, student interest in developing Lacrosse Teams and connection with the Six Nations Mental Health Team to support female students. She attended the LEADS conference.

Indigenous Education Counsellor D. VanEvery shared initiatives/events at Hagersville Secondary School/NewStart Program that she is involved with through her work help to support students: United Student Council event, Grade 8 visits, participation in Future Grade 9 night at HSS, celebration lunches, Mohawk College- Specialized Program and Adult day program. She attended Training at VTRA and the LEADS conference.

Community Liaison Worker D. Powless shared in his new role he continues to meet with students and families.

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

D - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Approval of Minutes – September 28, 2023**

Six Nations Federal Schools Representative S. Graham moved THAT the minutes of the Six Nations Advisory Committee held on September 28, 2023 be approved. The minutes were approved.

Carried

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Meeting Dates**

The following are remaining meeting dates scheduled for 2023-24.

- February 22, 2024 (Virtual)
- April 18, 2024 (*In person)
- May 16, 2024 (Six Nations Annual General Meeting- Time TBD)
- June 13, 2024 (*In person)

(b) **Annual General Meeting (AGM) Update**

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor J. Laight confirmed that the Annual General Meeting has been booked at Six Nations Community Hall for May 16, 2024.

(c) **Student Transitions Update**

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor J. Laight provided dates of registration:

- January 23, 2024 (JC Hill Elementary School)



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, December 14, 2023

1:00 p.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational Institute/ MS Office Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- January 25, 2024 (Iroquois Lacrosse Arena)
- January 24, 2024 (Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation @ Lloyd. S. King Elementary School)

(d) **Terms of Reference**

Superintendent Graham referenced the Terms of Reference document and highlighted vacancies for Haudenosaunee Confederacy Council, Kawennio Immersion School, and Everlasting Tree School. Communication will be sent out seeking interest for these positions.

F - 1 **Information Items**

(a) **Student Senate Update**

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor J. Laight brought forward that the Land Acknowledgement Statement being read in the secondary schools was greatly discussed at the Student Senate. Follow up will be to gather information from secondary schools on current processes.

(b) **Principal's Report**

Presented in agenda item A-1-e.

G - 1 **Next Meeting:**

Thursday, February 22, 2024 - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00p.m.

H - 1 **Closing Address & Adjournment**

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor, J. Laight gave the closing address. Chair VanEvery-Albert adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday January 11, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair L. DeJong, Vice-Chair K. Jones, Trustees: T. Waldschmidt, L. Whiton, Community Representatives: B. Bruce, K. Kelly, W. Rose
Organizations: L. Boswell, C. Gilman, C. Stefanelli, R. Vriends
- Administration:** Director J. Roberto, Superintendent L. Thompson, Principal Leader Specialized Services: J. Senior, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar
- Regrets:** Community Representative L. Nydam
- Absent:** Organizations: T. Buchanan
- Guests:** Superintendents: L. Munro, R. Vankerrebroeck, R. Wyszynski, Grand Erie Literacy Coach A. Randell

A - 1 Opening

(a) Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement

Superintendent Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder

Recording Secretary J. Valstar confirmed roll call.

(c) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Add C-1 (d): Approval of new SEAC member to Board of trustees

Moved by: W. Rose

Seconded by: L. DeJong

THAT the January 11, 2023 Agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B - 1 Timed Items

(a) Thank you – Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC 2023

Superintendent Thompson thanked Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones for their services as Chair and Vice-Chair for 2023.

(b) Election – Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC 2024

L. DeJong was acclaimed as Chair of SEAC 2024. K. Jones was acclaimed as Vice-Chair of SEAC 2024.

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

(a) Approval of Minutes

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes dated December 14, 2023 be approved.

Carried



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday January 11, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

(b) **Letter to the Ministry on supporting students with mental health challenges**
To be discussed further at the next meeting.

(c) **Video Spotlight – Grand Erie’s Anti-Racism video series**
Presented

(d) **Approval of new SEAC member by Board of trustees**
Moved by: W. Rose
Seconded by: K. Jones
THAT the appointment of Paul Found, Norfolk Association for Community Living, to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remainder of the Term 2022-2026 be forwarded to the January 29, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.
Carried

D - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Financial Update 2023-24**
Superintendent Wyszynski gave an update on Grand Erie’s finances in relation to special education for the 2023-24 school year.

(b) **2024-25 School Year Calendar**
Superintendent Vankerrebroeck presented a draft of the 2024-25 school calendars for elementary and secondary schools in Grand Erie.

E - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **A Day in the Life of the Literacy Coach**
Literacy Coach A. Randell presented the role of the Literacy Coach to SEAC members.

F - 1 **Standing Items**
Policies Out for Comment - Nil

(a) **Trustee Updates**
Trustee Waldschmidt congratulated Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones on their appointments to SEAC for 2024.

(b) **Chair/Vice Chair Update**
Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones shared their respective updates.

G - 1 **Information Items – Nil**

H - 1 **Community Updates**

(a) **Fire Safety**
Trustee Waldschmidt reminded SEAC members of fire safety precautions to take in the winter.

I - 1 **Correspondence**

(a) Letter from Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board on SIP funding



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday January 11, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

J - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**

- (a) A Day in the Life of a Math Coach
- (b) Video Spotlight – Inclusion by Design in Grand Erie
- (c) Follow up on destreaming in Grand Erie
- (d) Video Spotlight - Anti-racism video series
- (e) Early Reading Strategy
- (f) Follow up on TVDSB letter for discussion about SEAC sending a letter of support regarding students struggling with mental health challenges.
- (g) Restorative practices in Grand Erie

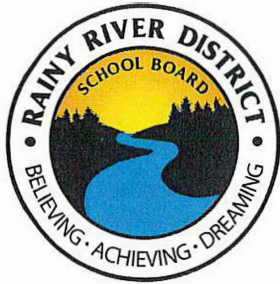
K - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday February 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. MS Teams

L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: L. Whiton
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Carried



Rainy River

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

File Code:

February 13, 2024

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
Minister of Finance & Deputy Prime Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada
K1A 0A6
chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca

EDUCATION CENTRE
522 Second St. E
Fort Frances, ON
P9A 1N4
Phone: 807 274 9855
Fax: 807 274 5078
Toll Free: 1 800 214 1753

Re: Federal Budget 2024

Dear Minister Freeland:

On behalf of the Rainy River District School Board, I am writing to provide feedback to inform the development of the budget to include a national school food program. This investment is essential to the well-being of all Canadian children and youth. References to a national school food program have been made as part of the initial introduction of the 2019 Budget, as well as in the 2022 mandate letters the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. However, the realization of this promise has yet to be seen.

As local public education advocates, we see firsthand the struggles that our children, families, and communities are facing. Food insecurity is a national issue and rates have been rising at unprecedented levels. A 2022 Statistics Canada report* shows that 6.9 million people in 10 provinces, including almost 1.8 million children, lived in households struggling to afford the food they need.

A subsidized lunch program within schools, similar to what occurs in daycares, could range from 100% free, a cost per student, a cost geared to income cost, a cost per meal, with meals being highly affordable, or an invoice to a "sponsoring organization", thus providing our students with healthy food and ensuring that families have more money to spend on supper and weekend nutrition.

Our school board strongly believes in the provision of nutrition programming for all students. However, like many school districts across Canada, especially those who serve students in rural and/or remote locations, the provision of low-cost meals/ food items to our schools is proving to be more and more challenging. In many parts of our country, there is limited access to low-cost healthy foods, especially in the winter months. As such, there is a necessary infrastructure that requires further financial support than what is currently available. This infrastructure includes:

- Storage capacity to purchase in bulk and utilize "pooling" of resources.
- Workers to provide nutrition programming, with permanent part-time positions that attract applicants due to appropriate wages and benefits.

WEBSITE:

www.rrdsb.com

DIRECTOR

Heather Campbell

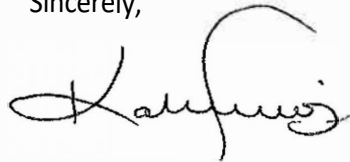
In supporting this important societal need, our government will show its commitment to the children and youth of our country. We know that all the provinces and territories are ready to work out agreements with the federal government on a cost-shared National School Food Program. Like childcare agreements, we are confident that federal funds could flow to the provinces and territories, each of whom have the structures in place to ensure money gets turned into more robust programming and thus, healthy food for students. This, in turn, will make an incredible impact on the food insecurity that many families are facing, while also supporting Canadian students' achievement and well-being.

The Rainy River District School Board has advocated at the provincial level for continued support and funding for student nutrition programming, but this priority must be reinforced by a coordinated national level of financial assurance. A national school food policy and program would also help ensure that all children have the nourishment they need to learn and grow and improve their health and well-being. We look to a financial commitment from the federal government to ensure this initiative becomes a reality. Our children and their families cannot wait.

On behalf of the Rainy River District School Board, we look forward to the inclusion of dedicated funding to support a National School Food Program in Budget 2024.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,



Kathryn Pierroz, Chair
Rainy River District School Board

- c. The Honourable Jenna Sudds, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development
The Honourable Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Mines, Northern Development and Indigenous Affairs
The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
The Rainy River District School Board of Trustees
Heather Campbell, Director of Education, Rainy River District School Board
The Ontario Public School Boards Association and member boards