GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Head Office, 349 Erie Avenue
Brantford, ON N3T 5V3

Regular Board Meeting
February 25, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Trustees: B. Johnston, Chair, J. Angus, S. Cann, R. Collver, B. Doyle, A. Everets, C. Lefebvre, M. Macdonald, C.A. Sloat; C. Bower (Student Trustee), S. Hanson (Student Trustee)

Administration: Director — J. Wibberley; Superintendents — G. Anderson, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, A. Nesbitt, D. Pyper; Recording Secretary — J. Grincevicius

REGRETS:

Trustees: M. Hurley, D. Werden

A – 1 **Opening**

(a) **Invocation/Roll Call/Welcome**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, B. Johnston, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Agenda be approved, as amended.
Carried

(c) **Memorials**
Nil.

(d) **Presentations**
Nil.

(e) **Delegation — David Jones re BCIVS**

D. Jones believes an auditorium should be included in the rebuilt BCIVS on Brant Avenue due to the large drama program at the school.

He thinks there are at least three options that could provide the necessary space to accommodate the Drama program:
1. a multi-use facility,
2. a new theatre facility with permanent seating, and
3. a renovated/restored BCI auditorium.

(f) **Delegation — Rita Reid–Smith and Monika Ferenczy re Canadian Parents for French**

The Canadian Parents for French is a national network of volunteers that promotes opportunities for Canadian students to learn and use their French language skills.

Their objectives are to:
(1) Share local CPF Chapter highlights.
(2) Discuss strategies for maximizing the funding for French Immersion programming.
(3) Respond to the Grand Erie French Immersion program review in order to support the continued growth and quality of Grand Erie's French Immersion program.

The CPF has recommended that the Ministry of Education:
(1) Adjust the FSL funding formula to ensure that additional funding is allocated to rural and remote communities to offset challenges suffered from having small class sizes and greater geographic distances; and,
(2) Establish and administer a fund to encourage rural districts to start or expand FSL programs.

S. Hanson, a former French Immersion student, indicated his support for expanded French Immersion.

B – 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **January 28, 2008 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: S. Cann
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held January 28, 2008, be approved.
Carried

In regard to the membership on the Director's Performance Appraisal Committee, it was agreed that the Vice Chair would be added this year, however, none of the trustees currently assigned to the Committee would be asked to vacate his/her position for 2007–08.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: R. Collver
THAT the membership for the Director's Performance Appraisal Committee for 2007–08 be the Chair, Vice Chair and the three other trustees currently assigned.
Carried by Required 2/3 Majority

(b) **February 4, 2008 (Committee of the Whole No. 1)**

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting, held February 4, 2008, be approved.
Carried

(c) **February 11, 2008 (Committee of the Whole No. 2)**

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: R. Collver
THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Meeting, held February 11, 2008, be approved.
Carried

In regard to the funding to support the Safe Schools initiatives in partnership with social service agencies, J. Wibberley indicated that the Grand Erie District School Board is the lead board through which the funding is funneled. Selected community agencies are involved and will participate in the funding.

B – 2 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

(a) **Food Services and Vending Machines Services — RFP Evaluation Committee Membership [from February 11, 2008 Committee of the Whole Board No. 2]**

J. Gunn reviewed the proposed RFP Evaluation Committee membership.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: A. Everets
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Food Services and Vending Machine Services – RFP Evaluation Committee Membership.
Carried

C – 1 Director's Report

(a) Anita Campbell, English Teacher from Waterford District High School, re Project Based Learning — Can Do!

Anita Campbell is the English Department Head at Waterford District High School. She used a food can drive in the school and community to assist the grade 11 work place/coop placement class to learn to apply various literacy/numeracy skills.

The students interviewed the Food Bank Director to learn what food types were needed, thus developing verbal skills. They developed a list and tallied donations every day, thus developing organizational and mathematical skills. The students were matched to the tasks for which they had strengths. The students also made presentations to other teachers and students about the tasks involved in organizing a food drive.

A. Campbell believes this activity taught collaborative learning and developed positive characteristics such as responsibility and compassion for others. They also learned how to solicit prizes from businesses to give to the classes who donated the most food. The students made positive connections with other students and received appreciation from members of the community. She noted that attendance went up and tardiness went down.

Trustees expressed appreciation for the presentation and indicated their belief that this type of learning works well for many students.

(b) Other

J. Wibberley stated that the Premier of Ontario has announced $40 million in funding for libraries. However, no official notice has been received from the Ministry of Education, nor is the date of rollout known.

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of February 25, 2008 as information.
Carried

D – 1 Committee Reports

(a) Committee of the Whole No. 1 — February 4, 2008

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Report, dated February 25, 2008, as follows:

1. **Director's Report**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of February 4, 2008 as information.

2. **Bylaw 8 — Director's Review Committee Terms of Reference**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Terms of Reference for the Director's Performance Appraisal Committee.

3. **FT8 Acceptable Use of Information Technology (C) and FT102 Acceptable Use of Information Technology**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward amended Policy FT8 – "Acceptable Use of Information Technology" and amended Administrative Procedure FT102 — "Acceptable Use of Information Technology" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by April 25, 2008.

4. **HR111 Personal Protective Footwear**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure HR111 — "Personal Protective Footwear" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by April 25, 2008.

5. **P103 Learning Resource Selection**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Program Procedure P103 — "Learning Resource Selection" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by April 25, 2008.

6. **SO101 Pediculosis (Head Lice)**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward amended Administrative Procedure SO101 — "Pediculosis (Head Lice)" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by April 25, 2008.

7. **SO107 Physical Intervention/Restraint**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure SO107 — "Physical Intervention/Restraint" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by April 25, 2008.

8. **SO115 Anaphylaxis (Life-Threatening Allergic Reactions)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward amended Administrative Procedure SO115 – "Anaphylaxis (Life–Threatening Allergic Reactions)" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by April 25, 2008.

9. **FT106 Special Transportation Requests for Exceptional Pupils**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive amended Administrative Procedure FT106 – "Special Transportation Requests for Exceptional Pupils" as information.

10. **FT107 Requests for Temporary Transportation**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure FT107 – "Requests for Temporary Transportation" as information.

11. **FT108 Transportation Expectations and Responsibilities**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive amended Administrative Procedure FT108 – "Transportation Expectations and Responsibilities" as information.

12. **HR113 Teacher Performance Appraisal**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure HR113 - "Teacher Performance Appraisal" as information.

13. **HR117 Re-evaluating Existing Non-Union Positions**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure HR117 – "Re-evaluating Existing Non-Union Positions" as information.

14. **SO110 Weapons**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO110 — "Weapons" as information.

15. **SO113 Tornadoes**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive amended Administrative Procedure SO113 – "Tornadoes" as information.

16. **Auditor's Report — 2006–07**
THAT the Auditor's report regarding the 2006–07 Financial Statements be received for information.

17. **Suspension and Expulsion Brochure**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the brochure, "Suspension and Expulsion" as information, as amended.

18. **Code of Conduct Brochure**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the brochure, "Code of Conduct: A Safe Schools Strategy" as information, as amended.

Carried

(b) **Committee of the Whole No. 2 — February 11, 2008**

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Report, dated February 25, 2008, as follows:

1. **Director's Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of February 11, 2008 as information.

2. **Delhi District Secondary School Prohibitive to Repair Project**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Delhi District Secondary School Prohibitive to Repair Project with a total budget of $1,623,054, pending Ministry of Education approval.

3. **Report to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Six Nations of the Grand River**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Six Nations of the Grand River as information and forward it to Indian and Northern Affairs, Canada, and Six Nations of the Grand River.

4. **Ryerson Heights — Appointment of Construction Manager**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board award the contract for construction management services for the proposed addition at Ryerson Heights Elementary School to Bestco Construction (2005) Ltd, Ancaster, Ontario, at a fee of 3.75% for construction value of $1 to $1.5 million or $3.05% for construction value of $1.5 to $2 million or 2.75% for construction value of $2 to $2.5 million, depending on the final cost of the project.

5. **Employee Assistance Program Annual Report (HR112)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Employee Assistance Program Report, 2006-07 as information.

6. **Budget Adjustments for 2007-08**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Budget Adjustments for 2007–08.

7. **Marketing and Communications Update**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Marketing and Communications Update as information.

8. **Information Technology Annual Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Information Technology Services Annual Report 2008 as information.

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

10. **Food Services and Vending Machines Contracts**
(a) That the Grand Erie District School Board provide appropriate notice to the food services and vending machines vendors by March 1, 2008 and commence the process to solicit the review committee membership and begin the request for proposal development process leading to a recommendation for award in June 2008.
(b) THAT Administration was directed to recommend a revised RFP Committee membership list at the February 25, 2008 Regular Board Meeting.

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

C.A. Sloat requested that Recommendations No.2, 4 and 6 be separated from the main report.

A vote was taken on Recommendations No. 1, 3, 5 and 7 to11.
Carried

C.A. Sloat restated her opinion that Delhi District Secondary School should have less pupil capacity than what is planned with the PTR project construction.

R. Collver believes the rebuilt size addresses current and future student programming needs. She thinks the PTR funding is being used efficiently and effectively.

A vote was taken on the following:

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Delhi District Secondary School Prohibitive to Repair Project with a total budget of $1,623,054, pending Ministry of Education approval.

A recorded vote was taken with results as follows:

Yeas:	J. Angus	Nays:	A. Everets
	S. Cann		C. Lefebvre
	R. Collver		C.A. Sloat
	B. Doyle		
	B. Johnston		
	M. Macdonald		

Carried

In response to C.A. Sloat's question regarding the addition to Ryerson Heights Elementary School, J. Gunn indicated that six additional classrooms are required now to accommodate current growth. In the future, another elementary school in this area will be required.

A vote was taken on the following:

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board award the contract for construction management services for the proposed addition at Ryerson Heights Elementary School to Bestco Construction (2005) Ltd, Ancaster, Ontario, at a fee of 3.75% for construction value of $1 to $1.5 million or $3.05% for construction value of $1.5 to $2 million or 2.75% for construction value of $2 to $2.5 million, depending on the final cost of the project.
Carried

Trustees indicated that budget adjustments should be approved by Board.

A vote was taken on the following:

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Budget Adjustments for 2007–08.

Amendment moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: J. Angus
That "receive" be changed to "approve".
Carried
Main Motion Carried

E – 1 **New Business**

(a) **Staff Excellence Overview (2007–08)**

D. Pyper noted that the 2007–08 goals have been achieved.

The GEDSB Leadership Continuum is a revision and redevelopment of the previous leadership programs in the Board. The changes include:

- recognition of the importance of leadership at all levels and in all departments of the board;
- an aligned approach to program delivery creating a continuum of learning for prospective leaders within the board;
- introduction of new programs to support teacher leadership in the areas of both instructional and administrative focus;
- development of a wider range of leadership training opportunities for operational-based staff; and
- development of a career mapping process to assist staff in planning and managing their leadership training and supporting system succession planning.

The NTIP program served 300 new teachers last year. J. Wibberley thanked the unions who have partnered with the Board in the development of leadership programs.

Moved by: A. Everets
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Staff Excellence Overview (2007-08) as information.
Carried

(b) **Borrowing Authority — Good Places to Learn Short Term Financing**

J. Gunn indicated that the Good Places to Learn projects get debentured by the Ministry of Education, but in the short term the Board carries the financing. The Ministry generally flows the monies to the Board once a year. The banks have agreed to match the borrowing rate set by the Ministry of Education.

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board authorize the Signing Authorities of the Board to obtain loans at any one time up to a maximum of $10,500,000, to provide for short term financing of Good Places to Learn Stage 1 and 2 projects as needed.
Carried

F – 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Summary of Accounts — January 2008**

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of January 2008, in the amount of $7,011,205.43 as information.
Carried

(b) **Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes — January 2008**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: R. Collver
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee, held January 16, 2008, as information.
Carried

(c) **Communications/Marketing Committee Minutes — February 2008**

In regard to the on line survey, concern was expressed that email addresses are being collected of those people who requested kindergarten and secondary school transition kits for follow–up contact by Board staff without indicating this information is being collected. It was agreed there will be a disclaimer check box added. J. Wibberley thinks this is a good way to target an audience to whom to send the survey.

In the question "Have you decided on which high school you'll attend?", it was agreed to direct this to grade 8 students and their parents and to ask if they plan to attend a Grand Erie secondary school.

Concern was expressed with the amount of time to download the questionnaire on dial-up web access, due to the pictures included in the document.

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: M. Macdonald
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Communications/Marketing Committee, held February 5, 2008, as information.
Carried

(d) **Workforce Report**

A. Nesbitt responded to questions from trustees. He noted that, in some situations, program funding has arrived, but staff have not been assigned as of January 31, 2008.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Workforce Report of January 31, 2008 as information.
Carried

G – 1 **Correspondence**
Nil.

H – 1 **In Camera Session**

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss a legal matter and a personnel matter at 8:26 p.m.
Carried

Open Session reconvened at 8:54 p.m.

H – 2 **In Camera Report**

No report.

I – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: S. Cann
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:55 p.m.
Carried

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Board Chair, Bill Johnston