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

Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting
September 8, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:
Trustees: S. Cann, Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, B. Doyle, A. Everets, M. Hurley, B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre, M. Macdonald, C.A. Sloat, D. Werden, N. Chambers (Student Trustee), B. Hladysh (Student Trustee)
Administration: Director — J. Wibberley; Superintendents — G. Anderson, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, A. Nesbitt, D. Pyper; Recording Secretary — J. Grincevicius

REGRETS:
Trustees: Nil
Administration: Nil

A – 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call/Welcome**

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

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
None declared.

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

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Agenda be approved, as amended.
Carried

B – 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**
Nil.

C – 1 **Director's Report**

J. Wibberley noted that there has been a smooth opening to the school year. He expressed appreciation to all Facility Services staff for ensuring schools were ready for students on September 2nd. He particularly noted the efforts in having BCIVS ready.

An enrolment report will be provided to trustees at the Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 meeting next week.

J. Gunn provided information on testing for lead in water. This new test must be completed annually in all schools. He noted that twelve schools have higher lead levels after flushing than allowed. Bottled drinking water is being provided in those schools. The majority of our schools had acceptable reports.

Moved by: M. Hurley
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of September 8, 2008 as information.
Carried

D – 1 **Bylaw/Policy/Procedure Consideration — Action/Decision Items**

(a) **F106 Donated Appliances, Equipment, Furnishings and Supplies**

J. Gunn indicated this new Administrative Procedure has been developed to provide clarification for donors and school staff to ensure donated items are consistent with what the school system requires and that health and safety concerns are met.

B. Johnston expressed concern that the Procedure's wording is not friendly and may deter donors.

D. Werden noted that the word "Board" has a variety of meanings in the Board's policies and procedures.

It was noted that a principal cannot accept a donation without superintendent approval.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure F106 — "Donated Appliances, Equipment, Furnishings and Supplies" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2008.
Carried

(b) **FT1 Major Construction Projects**

J. Gunn indicated this Policy needed more clarity and has been totally rewritten. There was discussion concerning the roles of the Transition and Project Committees. D. Werden questioned if a student should be a member of the Project Committee.

C.A. Sloat noted that duties of the Transition Committee need to be developed in order to clarify the accommodation review process.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT Policy FT1 — "Major Construction Projects" be forwarded to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2008.
Carried

(c) **FT2 New School Construction Projects**

J. Gunn indicated that this Policy needed more clarity and has been totally rewritten. "Trustee" was removed from the list of members in No. 7.

Moved by: M. Hurley
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT Policy FT2 — "New School Construction Projects" be forwarded to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2008.
Carried

(d) **FT3 Naming of Schools**

J. Wibberley highlighted the proposed changes.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT3 — "Naming of Schools" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2008.
Carried

(e) **FT105 Playground Equipment**

J. Gunn stated that the wording of this Procedure has been changed to reflect actual practice.

A number of changes were made.

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure FT105 — "Playground Equipment" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2008.
Carried

(f) **SO108 Community Service Providers in Schools**

B. Blancher stated this new Administrative Procedure was developed by the Board's Outsourcing Committee.

J. Angus indicated that the Student Support Leadership Coordinator who is involved with the safe schools program will play a key role in establishing protocols between the Board and community agencies.

B. Johnston noted a change on page 4.

In response to a question, B. Blancher indicated that a principal can terminate a partnership without notice if there is a perceived risk to students and/or staff.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure SO108 — "Community Services Providers in Schools" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2008.
Carried

(g) **SO14 Equity and Anti-Racism**

J. Wibberley indicated this Policy will be shared with principals, who, in turn, will share the document with staff and students. This Policy will form the basis of program and the Board's way of doing business.

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT Policy SO14 — "Equity and Anti-Racism" be approved.
Carried

(h) **BL24 Capital Expenditure Finance**

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 24 — "Capital Expenditure Finance".
Carried

D – 2 Procedure Consideration — Information Items

(a) SO120 Student and Visitor Injuries/Accidents

In response to a query from D. Werden, it was noted that critical injuries are defined by the Ministry of Labour.

A statement will be added indicating that the Director of Education or designate will notify the family of a student or visitor who passes away while on Board property.

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO120 – "Student and Visitor Injuries/Accidents" be received for information.
Carried

(b) SO121 Flexible School Boundaries

C.A. Sloat requested that a reference to Procedure FT115 be added.

There was discussion regarding the purpose of the Procedure and the compliance being exercised by schools. D. Pyper indicated there is very high compliance for elementary students, but noted that the "Request to Attend a School Outside the Home School Area" form is not usually completed for secondary school students. At secondary schools, once a student fills in a course selection sheet he/she is considered part of the school.

A. Everets thinks that with open access, it is not necessary to have secondary students complete this form; however, they would be responsible for their own transportation.

J. Wibberley indicated that school boards have the authority to define school catchment areas. Parents need to be aware there are school boundaries as migrating students affect the staffing process.

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: R. Collver
THAT Administrative Procedure SO121 — "Flexible School Boundaries" be referred to Administration for revision and placement on the October 6, 2008 Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting agenda.
Carried

(c) **SO124 Use of Service Dogs in Schools**

J. Wibberley highlighted the changes made to this Procedure.

Changes to include more direction regarding staff who require the use of service dogs will be made.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO124 — "Use of Service Dogs" as information.
Carried

E – 1 **Other Business**

(a) **OPSBA Regional Meeting — September 13, 2008**

B. Johnston invited all trustees to attend the OPSBA Regional Meeting on September 13, 2008, where declining enrolment will be the major agenda item. This information will be provided to D. Levac's declining enrolment working group.

Moved by: B. Johnston
Seconded by: D. Werden
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the OPSBA report as information.
Carried

(b) **Transportation Concerns**

J. Gunn indicated that some parents have expressed concern with the requirement outlined in Administrative Procedure FT108 "Transportation Expectations and Responsibilities"that students are to be picked up and dropped off at the same location. The Transportation staff are trying to make the situation work by being more flexible, i.e. parents providing a schedule of pick up and drop off points to the school. He noted that a form is being developed for parents to complete. In trying to mitigate risk for students, schools need to know which bus each student should be on at all times.

J. Gunn noted that if a student goes home on a different bus than the one on which he/she arrives, then two seats are held for that student. Although this is not an efficient use of seats, it is necessary to accommodate working parents requiring day care. D. Werden questioned if this should be considered courtesy transportation.

A. Everets and C.A. Sloat believe the Board needs to accommodate working parents who require day care.

D. Werden thinks the procedure needs to be enforced consistently among principals and bus drivers.

A. Everets indicated that many parents have expressed concern with the six–day cycle for kindergarten students in place at some schools. G. Anderson stated that small schools have more difficulty covering planning time and the five–day schedule exacerbates this problem.

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report regarding the enforcement of Administrative Procedure FT108 "Transportation Expectations and Responsibilities" as information.
Carried
Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT Administrative Procedure FT108 "Transportation Expectations and Responsibilities" be placed on the October 6, 2008 Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting agenda for review.
Carried

(c) **Tuition Agreement with INAC**

M. Macdonald indicated that a meeting was held this summer with the Six Nations Education Council regarding the tuition agreement. Members of the Education Council wish to have a meeting with trustees in order to present their position.

J. Gunn stated that the provisions of the former agreement continue to determine the fees being paid to the Board.

M. Macdonald noted an invitation has been extended to J. Wibberley and J. Gunn to attend an Education Council meeting on December 3, 2008 where the main agenda item will be the high drop out rate of native students.

(d) **Mentors for Student Trustees**

B. Johnston indicated the following trustees have been appointed as mentors for the student trustees: C.A. Sloat for Brontie Hladysh and D. Werden for Nolan Chambers.

F – 1 **Correspondence**
Nil.

G – 1 **In Camera Session**

Moved by: M. Hurley
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss a negotiations matter at 8:46 p.m.
Carried

Open Session reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

G – 2 **In Camera Report**
No report.

H – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: D. Werden
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:09 p.m.
Carried

Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Chair, S. Cann