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

Regular Board Meeting
November 24, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:
Trustees: B. Johnston, Chair, J. Angus, S. Cann, R. Collver, B. Doyle, A. Everets, M. Hurley, 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

A – 1 **Opening**

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

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

Reflections of a Trustee

C.A. Sloat indicated that she has sat on school councils in three different boards. She believes that being a trustee is the most rewarding role, so far. She stated that she believes Grand Erie staff, in whatever capacity they serve, go above and beyond to meet the needs of students. She enjoys attending school commencements as she can see first hand that the graduating students received what they needed to move on in their lives. Being involved in interviews for upcoming principals and vice principals is rewarding because of their display of enthusiasm.

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

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

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

(d) **Memorials**
Nil.

(e) **Presentations**
Nil.

(f) **Delegations**
Nil.

B – 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **October 27, 2008 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held October 27, 2008, be approved, as amended by changing "THAT the following motion: "THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the reallocation $8,000.00 of the $21,000.00 transfer from contingency approved on September 29, 2008 to the Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School athletics program." be reconsidered." to "THAT the following motion: "THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the transfer of $21,700 from the contingency budget to fund an additional 0.5 FTE vice principal to the end of semester one in the 2008–09 school year." be reconsidered." on page 9; and by changing "Moved by: , Seconded by: THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the reallocation $8,000.00 of the $21,000.00 transfer from contingency approved on September 29, 2008 to the Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School athletics program." to "Moved by: D. Werden, Seconded by: R. Collver THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the reallocation $8,000.00 of the $21,700.00 transfer from contingency approved on September 29, 2008 to the Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School athletics program."
Carried

(b) **November 3, 2008 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held November 3, 2008, be approved.
Carried

(c) **November 3, 2008 (Committee of the Whole No. 1)**

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting, held November 3, 2008, be approved, as amended by changing "The meeting was called to order by Chair, S. Cann, at 7:00 p.m." to "The meeting was called to order by Chair, S. Cann, at 7:17 p.m."
Carried

(d) **November 10, 2008 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held November 10, 2008, be approved.
Carried

(e) **November 10, 2008 (Committee of the Whole No. 2)**

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Meeting, held November 10, 2008, be approved, as amended by changing "The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, D. Werden, at 7:00 p.m." to "The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, D. Werden, at 7:18 p.m.".
Carried

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

C – 1 **Director's Report**

(a) **Corrie Way and Trish Currie re SMART Board Technology**

J. Wibberley introduced Corrie Way and Trish Currie, teachers who use SMART boards. They indicated that this tool supports student engagement and can be used with teacher development opportunities, as well. They demonstrated lessons on creative writing and mathematics. It was noted that the Learning Coaches have been using this technology for about two months. Teachers can use the lesson plans included with the software or modify them to suit their specific classes.

D. Pyper and G. Anderson stated that every Compensatory Education school has a SMART board. It provides students with opportunities to use the internet that they may not have at home. The tool can be used by all ages.

(b) **Other**

J. Wibberley stated that D. Pyper and B. Blancher are leading an Education Technology Visioning Committee, a group of technologically skilled staff. The group is developing a vision for the Board regarding technology as it is believed the Board needs to do advanced planning so that staff are not always in catch up mode.

J. Wibberley indicated that he heard a cognitive scientist from IBM recently who helps IBM develop technology based on how the brain works.

B. Johnston stated that he attended the Student Senate meeting last week. He noted that he was very impressed by the outstanding demeanor of the students in attendance. He commended N. Chambers and B. Hladysh on doing a great job of chairing the meeting.

B. Johnston indicated that he, C.A. Sloat and R. Collver attended a recent Brant County Council meeting to support the Paris Central students in their bid to have a school safety zone established in front of the school. County Council members provided an immediate positive response.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of November 24, 2008 as information.
Carried

D – 1 **Committee Reports**

(a) **Committee of the Whole No. 1 — November 3, 2008**

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Report, dated November 24, 2008, as follows:

1. **Teeterville Home and School Association — Proposed Fundraising**
   THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report regarding Teeterville Home and School Association as information.

2. **Accommodation Recommendations for Brantford South**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board, in accordance with Board Policy FT5, approve a renovation project at Bellview Public School at a cost not to exceed $477,500 (as set out in Appendix D of the report); and that Administration be directed to proceed to issue a Request for Proposal for a Construction Manager in accordance with Board Policy FT1 following approval.

3. **Accommodation Recommendations for Norfolk West**
(a) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board, in accordance with Board Policy FT5, approve renovation/addition projects at Delhi Public School as outlined in Appendix "D" and Teeterville Public School as outlined in Appendix "D" of the report at a combined cost not to exceed $925,000; and that Administration be directed to proceed to issue a Request for Proposal for a Construction Manager in accordance with Board Policy FT1 following approval.

(b) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board begin discussion regarding the development of Grand Erie standards for school facilities at the January 12, 2009 Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 meeting.

4. **Director's Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of November 3, 2008 as information.

5. **BL31 Borrowing By-Law re: Good Places to Learn**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 31 "Borrowing Bylaw re: Good Places to Learn".

6. **SO15 Student Trips**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy SO15 – "Student Trips".

7. **P105 Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure P105 – "Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition" as information.

8. **Interim Financing of Capital Projects**

(a) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board authorize the signing authorities of the Board to establish temporary credit facilities to permit the borrowing, on an interest only, revolving basis to finance the BCI-Redevelopment Project expenditures up to $14,300,000 to be repaid by OFA debenture financing under PTR Capital Funding no later than February 28, 2010.

(b) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board authorize the signing authorities of the Board to establish temporary credit facilities to permit the borrowing, on an interest only, revolving basis to finance the Paris Elementary School Project expenditures up to $8,600,000 to be repaid by proceeds of disposition, FRG grants and OFA debenture financing under PCS Capital Funding no later than February 28, 2010.

Carried

(b) **Committee of the Whole No. 2 — November 10, 2008**

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Report, dated November 24, 2008, as follows:

1. **Director's Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of November 10, 2008 as information.

2. **Paris Central School Safety Zone**
THAT a letter be written to Brant County Council indicating the Grand Erie District School Board's support for designating Broadway Street in front of Paris Central School as a school safety zone.

3. **International Cooperative Education Program at Delhi District Secondary School**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the offering of the International Cooperative Education (ICE) program at Delhi District Secondary School in the 2009-2010 school year.

4. **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.

5. **Trustee Honoraria (F4)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Trustee Honoraria for the period from December 1, 2008 to November 30, 2009 as presented.

6. **Trustees' Travel and Professional Development Expenses**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Report on Trustee Travel and Professional Development Expenses as information.

7. **Student Suspension Report (SO6)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Suspension Report for 2007-08 as information.

8. **Student Expulsion Report (SO7)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Expulsion Report 2007-08 as information.

9. **Enrolment vs Projections Update**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Enrolment vs Projections Update as information.

10. **Health and Safety Annual Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Health and Safety Annual Report as information.

11. **Transportation Consortia Minutes**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Transportation Consortia, held March 27, 2008 and October 24, 2008, as information.

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

D. Werden requested that Recommendation No.3 be separated from the main report.

A vote was taken on Recommendations No. 1, 2 and 4 to 12.
Carried

In regard to Recommendation No. 3, D. Werden expressed his opinion that having the ability to pay or fund raise for the associated fees should not be a criteria for participation.

A recorded vote was taken on the following:

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the offering of the International Cooperative Education (ICE) program at Delhi District Secondary School in the 2009-2010 school year.

The results are as follows:

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

Carried

E – 1 **New Business**

(a) **Organizational Board Meeting — Set Date, Time and Place**

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT (a) the Nominating Committee meeting be held in the Board Room at the Head Office on December 1, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.; (b) the 2009 Organizational Meeting be held in the Board Room at the Head Office on December 1, 2008, at 7:15 p.m.; and (c) the 2009 Inaugural Meeting be held in the Board Room at the Head Office on December 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
Carried

F – 1 **Other Business**

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

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of October 2008, in the amount of $11,042,529.44, as information.
Carried

(b) **Safety Audit Tracking Report**

In response to a query from D. Werden, J. Gunn indicated that it is not an option to complete a safety audit. The Brantford School Support Centre completed two audits in October 2008 to make up for the missed one in September.

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Safety Audit Tracking Report for October 2008 as information.
Carried

(c) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes — October 2008**

R. Collver indicated that Janet Penner from the Ministry of Education, London Office, is coming to the December 2008 SEAC meeting.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held October 9, 2008, as information.
Carried

(d) **Native Advisory Committee Minutes — September 2008**

J. Angus noted that this is the first time the Native Advisory Committee Minutes have been at the Board table. She believes it is important for all trustees to have this information.

J. Gunn indicated that Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) funds the services provided under the Tuition Agreement.

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: M. Hurley
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Native Advisory Committee, held September 22, 2008, as information.
Carried

(e) **Workforce Report**

A. Nesbitt reviewed the contents of the funding adjustments column.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Workforce Report as at October 31, 2008 as information.
Carried

(f) **Major Construction Update (FT2)**

In response to a question from J. Angus, J. Gunn noted that the construction at BCIVS is on schedule and is expected to be finished by January 2010.

Following a question from S. Cann, J. Gunn stated that the over budget costs at Delhi District Secondary School will be funded through the Facilities Renewal budget.

R. Collver congratulated Facilities staff for bringing projects in on budget and on time.

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: S. Cann
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Update as information.
Carried

(g) **Preliminary 2007–08 Year End (F2)**

J. Gunn indicated that this reported was not completed until this afternoon.

The Board enjoyed an in–year surplus of $1.5 million; however, it did not eliminate the overall deficit, as hoped. The Board still has a $3.5 million deficit entering the 2008–09 year. The Board continues to have a contingency of $800,000. J. Gunn reported that 35 students were reported incorrectly. This resulted in $300,000 less funding than originally planned. Central staff continue to work with schools regarding the ONSIS reporting process. Incorrect reporting of students affects almost all funding lines. He noted that the Transportation Consortia agreement resulted in an increase revenue of $968,586. He also stated that many of the expenditure variances are directly tied to specific grants.

The revised estimates report will be available at the January 12, 2009 Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 meeting along with the Auditor's report.

B. Johnston believes it will not be any easier to deal with the continued deficit due to the country's current economic climate. This needs to be considered during the budgeting process.

The 2007–08 year end report will be discussed further at the December 8, 2008 meeting. Included in that report will be a list of the major differences that did not allow the Board to decrease its deficit as much as planned.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Preliminary 2007–08 Financial Statements as information.
Carried

(h) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes — November 2008**

J. Wibberley indicated that the parent focus group session held at MPSS were well received by parents. These sessions will be held again in the Norfolk area in the Spring of 2009.

R. Collver noted that the focus group was very successful due to efforts of J. Wibberley and T. Iavarone.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: D. Werden
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee, held November 13, 2008, as information.
Carried

(i) **OFIP (Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership) Update**

B. Blancher stated that schools marked with an asterisk in the chart outlining OFIP schools indicates schools new to OFIP or new to the particular category of OFIP schools.

She also noted that the Literacy/Numeracy Secretariat has decided to remove Year 3 schools from the OFIP list in an effort to provide a gradual release of responsibility to these schools. Grand Erie will continue to support these schools this year.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership (OFIP) Update as information.
Carried

(j) **Tuition Agreement Update**

J. Gunn stated that a recent meeting was organized by INAC to discuss moving ahead with the tuition agreement. Details concerning the funding were provided to the Six Nations Education Council.

Moved by: M. Hurley
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Tuition Agreement Update as information.
Carried

(k) **Surveys**

C.A. Sloat made a request that the Board formalize its survey approval and implementation process. The process would include Board–generated surveys and those conducted by outside agencies.

J. Wibberley explained the process used to vet surveys from outside agencies. Internal surveys vary from system–wide ones through to ones conducted by individual schools. Executive Council determines whether surveys from outside agencies are conducted.

J. Angus questioned the value of developing a policy or procedure and having administration preparing regular reports on the matter.

J. Wibberley indicated that a report of external surveys allowed and not allowed could be prepared, if required.

A. Everets suggested formalizing the external survey process only into a procedure.

D. Werden expressed concern with the potential access of any student personal information by outside agencies. Both J. Wibberley and B. Blancher indicated that Executive Council is very careful concerning this issue when reviewing research requests. It was also noted that research from marketing agencies is not allowed.

Regarding the web–based teaching tool, it is necessary to track the involved students to ensure they have trained teachers.

Regarding the collection of personal student data for EDI, C.A. Sloat expressed her concerns and questioned if there is informed parental consent.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: R. Collver
THAT senior administration write an appropriate administrative procedure concerning surveys and other data gathering being conducted in our schools, and this be brought back to the Board at the March 2, 2009 Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 meeting.
Withdrawn

G – 1 **Correspondence**

(a) **One School System Network re Single Non–Sectarian Public System**

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board send a letter to the One School System Network indicating the Board does not support their organization.
Carried

(b) **Port Dover Composite School Council re Vice Principal Allocation**

C.A. Sloat is disappointed that the Port Dover Composite School Council did not approach the trustees first regarding the vice principal allocation at the school.

It was noted that the funding formula for administrator positions cannot be directly applied because it would cause unworkable bits and pieces of staff in most schools. Boards have autonomy to determine the appropriate levels of staff in administrator positions. J. Gunn indicated the calculations are based on students' average daily enrolment and not the enrolment number of a specific date, i.e. October 31.

B. Johnston noted the School Council is asking why Delhi District Secondary School and Waterford District High School have full time vice principals, whereas this option was not considered for Port Dover.

It was noted that the enrolment at the school is partially elementary students and partially secondary schools. This affects the funding of vice principals. However, in many ways, it operates as a full secondary school.

J. Gunn reminded trustees that the School Foundation Grant increased the allocation of vice principals and clerical staff.

A. Everets noted that, over the years, larger Grand Erie secondary schools have allowed considerable flexibility with staffing smaller schools.

Moved by: A. Everets
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT a letter be sent to the Port Dover Composite School Council expressing appreciation for its concern regarding the current vice principal allocation at the school; indicating the Board makes every effort to use all its financial resources in an equitable way across all the Board's schools; and, stating the funding formulas will be considered in the development of the allocation for vice principals for 2009–10.
Carried

H – 1 **In Camera Session**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: R. Collver
THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss negotiations matters and personnel matters at 9:25 p.m.
Carried

Open Session reconvened at 10:22 p.m.

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Committee of the Whole Board meeting continue past 10:00 p.m. to deal with the remaining items on the agenda.
Carried

H – 2 **In Camera Report**

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the terms and conditions, including salary increase, for GEMST (Grand Erie Management Support Team), effective September 1, 2008.
Carried

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the terms and conditions, including salary increase, for the Principals and Vice Principals, effective September 1, 2008.
Carried

Moved by: C. Lefebvre
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the terms and conditions, including salary increase, for Senior Administration, effective September 1, 2008.
Carried

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board ratify the terms of the Memorandum of Settlement reached between the Grand Erie District School Board and CUPE 5100 (Educational Assistants), dated November 15, 2008.
Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board ratify the terms of the Memorandum of Settlement reached between the Grand Erie District School Board and CUPE 5100 (Facility Services), dated November 15, 2008.
Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: J. Angus
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board confirm the appointments to the Elementary Principals' pool, as outlined.
Carried

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: D. Werden
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board confirm the appointments to the Elementary Vice Principals' pool, as outlined.
Carried

Moved by: S. Cann
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board confirm the appointments to the Secondary Principals' pool, as outlined.
Carried

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board confirm the appointments to the Secondary Vice Principals' pool, as outlined.
Carried

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: S. Cann
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report regarding the Elementary Principal and Vice Principal Placements as information.
Carried

I – 1 **Other**

A Caucus Session for trustees only was scheduled for January 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

A second meeting of the trustees involved in Accommodation Review Committees was scheduled for January 5, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. The purpose is to continue the review of Policy FT5 "Pupil Accommodation Reviews".

J – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:31 p.m.
Carried

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Board Chair, Bill Johnston