



## Committee of the Whole Board

October 17, 2016  
Education Centre, Board Room

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# MINUTES

**Present:** T. Waldschmidt – Committee Chair, G. Anderson, R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle, A. Felsky, J. Harris, J. Richardson, C.A. Sloat, D. Sowers, T. Waldschmidt, E. Marr (Student Trustee), B. Newman (Student Trustee)

**Administration:** Director - B. Blancher; Superintendents - D. Abbey, W. Baker, L. De Vos, J. Gunn, D. Martins, S. Sincerbox, L. Thompson; Recording Secretary - D. Fletcher

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** K. Sandy

**Administration:** Nil.

**A – 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, T. Waldschmidt at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of conducting the In Camera Session.

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

Nil.

**(c) In Camera Session**

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss legal, property and personnel matters at 6:30 p.m.

**Carried**

**(d) Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, T. Waldschmidt at 7:15 p.m.

T. Waldschmidt introduced Denise Martins, Superintendent of Education and welcomed her to the Grand Erie team.

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



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Moved by: J. Harris  
Seconded by: G. Anderson  
THAT the agenda be approved.  
**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat  
Seconded by: B. Doyle  
THAT the Board confirm the Sale of Property for the Education Centre Surplus Lands.  
**Carried**

Moved by: A. Felsky  
Seconded by: J. Harris  
THAT the Board authorize the Board Chair, Director of Education and Superintendent of Business to sign a letter to the City of Brantford confirming the Boards interest in partnering in co-build project in South West Brantford.  
**Carried**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat  
Seconded by: R. Collver  
THAT the Board approve the recommendation to add to the Replacement/Casual Principal and Vice-Principal list, effective immediately.  
**Carried**

(g) **Delegations**

Delegations regarding the South East Elementary Norfolk Accommodation Review Committee were submitted and read at the meeting by:

1. Melissa Cosco
2. Kelly Begin
3. Yvonne Martin
4. Lynn Kitchen

Delegations regarding the South East Elementary Norfolk Accommodation Review Committee were submitted by Jack Bradfield and Janet Hartlen, who were not present to read.

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

(a) **South East Norfolk Elementary Accommodation Review Committee – Addendum Information**



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J. Gunn reviewed background, French Immersion- School Organizations, French Immersion- Transportation, Student Transportation – Elgin consolidation into West Lynn, West Lynn Development Plans, and Accommodating Students During Construction.

C.A. Sloat inquired if the Ministry would fund extra costs for portables required during the replacement of students for construction at Elgin. J. Gunn explained that it could be put forward in a capital request and that sometimes temporary accommodation costs are considered.

R. Collver inquired about traffic issues and if a traffic study has ever been conducted when a new school is being redesigned. J. Gunn expected that in either of the options for re-development, the County would require a site plan agreement and a traffic study.

D. Dean inquired about the assignment of French Immersion teachers. B. Blancher explained that since there are already teachers in place, they would be placed at Lakewood and at Walsh in proportion to the assignment of French Immersion students.

This will be brought back at the Regular Board meeting on October 24, 2016.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “South East Norfolk Elementary Accommodation Review- Addendum Information” as information.

**Carried**

### C – 1 Director’s Report

- Dates of Significance include:
  - Local Government Week: October 17-21, 2016
  - International Day for the Eradication of Poverty: October 17, 2016
  - School Bus Safety Week: October 17-21, 2016
  - Waste Reduction Week: October 17-23, 2016
  - National School Safety Week: October 17-23, 2016
  - Global Dignity Day: October 19, 2016
  - Go Purple Day (Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies) to support vulnerable children and youth: October 19, 2016
- EQAO will be offering a pilot of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) test online on October 20, 2016
- Commencements and Award Assemblies include:
  - Pauline Johnson Collegiate Awards Assembly: Oct 19, 2016
  - Tollgate Technological Skills Centre Commencement: October 19, 2016
  - Tollgate Technological Skills Centre Awards Assembly: October 20, 2016
  - Valley Heights Secondary School Commencement: October 21, 2016
  - Brantford Collegiate Institute Commencement: October 22, 2016



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D. Martins reported that an Itinerant Teacher for Indigenous Support with a focus on re-engagement strategies and establishing stronger community based connections with respect to instilling public confidence in our Board, has been hired in a term appointment. The successful candidate is Jeannie Martin.

R. Collver requested that trustees receive the number of students from Grand Erie who are participating in the online OSSLT test.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of October 17, 2016 as information.

**Carried**

### D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

#### (a) Communications Ad Hoc Committee – Terms of Reference

B. Blancher referred to the background, Terms of Reference and Communication plan in the report.

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Communications Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference.

**Carried**

### D – 2 New Business – Information Items

#### (a) Enrolment Update

J. Gunn reviewed the enrolment report as of September 30, 2016.

The 2016-2017 projected Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) numbers for elementary show 17,519 with an actual of 17,727 which shows an increase of 208 students.

The trend is presenting very stable, relatively straight-line in the last five years.

The secondary schools show projected Full-time Equivalent (FTE) of 8461.4 by October 31, 2016. The revised with September 30/2016 actuals show 8437.6 with a decrease of 23.8 FTE students.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Enrolment Update as information.

**Carried**



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### (b) Data Report – EQAO Board Report

#### i. Primary/Junior

L. De Vos reviewed highlights in the report which included background, additional Information, Results for Participating Students: Primary Division, Results for Participating Students: Junior Division, Results Related to Gender, Longitudinal Gender Gap, Next Steps, and Communication Plan.

G. Anderson inquired if those schools who are producing very good scores can share their expertise with other schools who can improve their test results. L. De Vos shared that principal learn teams in the Family of Schools have an opportunity to work and share information with each other.

J. Harris requested clarification on what is known to be working or not working.

L. De Vos explained that based on the data to move forward, most schools are in a good position working through those area of needs with their School Improvement Plan. She addressed the Ministry's initiative "Renewed Math Strategy".

J. Harris asked what the system is doing to promote a culture of high expectations. L. De Vos explained how high expectations will be evident at every level through monitoring and measuring.

J. Harris referred to the curve in Math, and asked what the plan is to steer in the other direction. L. De Vos explained that 10 schools receive a very intense working model, and meet three times to learn how to effectively teach math. Student learning needs should drive educator learning needs.

D. Sowers left the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

C.A. Sloat inquired what the next goal of focus will be. L. De Vos stated that the next goal will be to further study the data for literacy.

D. Dean noted that in regard to mathematics, junior math levels are consistently lower than by the time students reach grade 9 in which they show dramatic improvement. L. De Vos explained that students move from memorizing formulas to explaining concepts as they move through the grades. Those who rely on memory will struggle more.

R. Collver asked if Grand Erie has a running theme or is it school based in terms of urgent student learning needs. L. De Vos explained the five strands of math, and the struggle our students experience in relationships. In comparison with the province, each board is slightly different, which is why work will be done individually with school teams.



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R. Collver asked for clarification on the observers in the classroom for the math strategy. L. De Vos clarified that the observers include math coaches, math coordinators, and principals who meet as the school team.

B. Doyle spoke of electronics in the classroom and limiting the use. L. De Vos explained that it should depend on what a teacher's intent is for the device and would depend on how the math classroom is designed.

E. Marr referred to her advanced functions class and the definite advantage using technology in the classroom, in particular Microsoft Office 365.

C.A. Sloat requested information regarding LearnStyle and PULSE. L. Thompson explained the partnership with a company LearnStyle who will come in and train students who have new SEA technology. She explained PULSE, an online tool will help students learn about their preferred learning styles.

R. Collver noted that the PULSE video was shown at a SEAC meeting and recommended viewing the video.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report – EQAO board Report of the 2015-2016 Primary Division and Junior Division Assessment Results as Information.

**Carried**

### ii. **Grade 9 Math**

D. Martins referred to Background, Additional Information, Summary of Results and Key Findings, Results for Students Taking Academic Grade 9 Math, Results for Students Taking Applied Grade 9 Math, and Results Relating to Gender.

J. Harris requested clarification on what is known to be working or not working. D. Martins elaborated on the work of the Student Success Team and the need to go deeper with evidence based instructional strategies, learner and class profiles, and evaluating if the students are where we need them to be and if not what are we going to do to change that.

C.A. Sloat referred to page 4 and inquired if the 15% of students in the academic pathway who were not at provincial standard in Grade 6 achieved the provincial standard in Grade 9, are actual students tracked by the OEN number back to grade 3. D. Martins explained that EQAO provides reports to the boards on individual success and how students performed in their individual data.



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Moved by: J. Richardson

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report - EQAO Board Report of the 2015-2016 Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics as information.

**Carried**

### iii. OSSLT

D. Martins referred to Background, Additional Information, Summary of Results and Key Findings, Results for First-Time Eligible Students, Results for Previously Eligible Students, and Results of English Course Type.

J. Harris requested clarification for achieving excellence in applied courses.

D. Martins spoke about initiatives from special Ministry funding that will close the gap. Several secondary schools are being evaluated, in terms of assessment testing and further work with teach teams for grade 10 applied and locally developed.

Teachers will learn through shared practices with the academic teachers.

C.A. Sloat inquired about Special Education and that gifted students are not included in the data. L. Thompson confirmed that there are no discussions throughout the province regarding the inclusion of EQAO data for gifted students.

C.A. Sloat inquired about the use of technology. L. Thompson referred to LearnStyle and how it would help students and teachers.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Data Report - EQAO Board Report of the 2015-2016 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test as information

**Carried**

### (c) Data Report – Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification (SO16)

B. Blancher referred to background, additional information, Number of Students (Self-Identified), and Summary.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Data Report – Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification” as information.

**Carried**



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### (d) Primary Class Size Report

J. Gunn reviewed Background and Grand Erie Statistics for 2016-17.

G. Anderson referred to Walter Gretzky kindergarten class numbers and the growing area. S. Sincerbox confirmed that HR is aware and continues to monitor the growth in west Brant.

R. Collver inquired if the needs of particular schools is reviewed in terms of having smaller class sizes to meet the needs of the school. S. Sincerbox confirmed that a great amount of consideration is given.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Primary Class Size Report as information.

**Carried**

### (e) 2016-2017 Board Action Plan for First Nations Métis Inuit (FNMI)

B. Blancher reviewed Background and Additional Information and noted that this plan is a living document that will be continuously updated.

She noted that #7 on Page 5 of the plan that the MIND project needs to be removed from Column C as we are not engaging with that program this year.

J. Harris inquired about addressing gaps. B. Blancher noted that she continues to work with Stacey Hill, who is very new to the role of Native Advisor.

J. Harris inquired about high expectations and embedding culture of high expectations in this document.

B. Blancher explained the requirement of a culture change will start off with the Board Improvement for Student Achievement, School Improvement Plans, and mandating that all professional learning sessions include a focus on high expectations. The committee work must reflect that and demonstrate to the community that renewing and building a culture of high expectations is important to our Board.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2016-17 Board Action Plan on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education report as information.

**Carried**





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### (f) **Public Meeting Schedule for Special Education Annual Review**

L. Thompson reviewed Background, Additional Information and Communication Plan.

C.A. Sloat inquired if any other information in addition to the plan would be shared.

L. Thompson explained that the committee has been focusing on a range of topics and not specifically just the plan.

R. Collver further added that there is a need to educate parents about the plan and then other topics to be further discussed at Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meetings. She asked for further clarification on what the survey will ask parents regarding the plan and what materials will be shared at the schools.

L. Thompson explained that the same information shared at monthly SEAC meetings will be sent out to schools.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report "Public Consultation Plan for Special Education Plan Annual Review" as information.

**Carried**

### (g) **Compensatory Education Plan**

L. Thompson referred to the plan now referred to as the "Higher Improvement in Performance Schools Strategy 2016 - 2017".

The plan contains four pillars: Achievement, Community, Equity, and Well-Being. Each pillar addresses Indicators, Actions, Strategies/Implementation, Evidence/Outcomes, and Group/Person Assigned.

J. Harris asked for specific information on what is and isn't working in the schools.

L. Thompson reflected on what they learned upon visits they made to the Compensatory Education schools together and that each administrator will work to remove barriers in a safe and positive manner while it is stressed that every child can succeed. The report containing data will be brought back to the Board in June 2017.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Higher Improvement in Performance Schools Strategy for 2016-2017.

**Carried**



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### E – 1 Bylaw/Policy/Procedure Consideration - Action/Decision Items

#### (a) **BL8 Committees of the Board (Compensatory Education Steering Committee) Terms of Reference**

L. Thompson reviewed Background and Additional Information. Committee members requested the addition of community agencies and stakeholders, as they would be a valuable addition to the committee. Minutes will also be brought to the board meeting in draft format as information.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the amendment of the Terms of Reference for the Compensatory Education Steering Committee.

**Defeated**

R. Collver requested more review on the purpose and responsibility, and committee membership. She sees the committee including core people who will advise the Board on what is best to move forward in student achievement. Other members could be used as resources when needed.

Trustees shared further comments around concern of the committee composition. It was agreed to bring back to the committee for further review.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board refer the Terms of Reference for the Compensatory Education Steering Committee back to the committee for review.

**Carried**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting continue past 10:00 p.m. to deal with remaining items on the agenda.

**Carried**

#### (b) **BL8 Committees of the Board (Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee) Terms of Reference**

B. Blancher reviewed Background and Additional Information. Major changes are related to membership.

D. Dean inquired about a maximum number of years that a person can serve as the Chair.

R. Collver highlighted 5.5 that a parent member shall not exceed two years.



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Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee, as amended.

**Carried**

(c) **BL8 Committees of the Board – Removal of Communications and Engagement Committee as a Standing Committee**

B. Blancher reviewed Background and Additional Information.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Bylaw 8 – Committees of the Board – Removal of Communications and Engagement Committee as a Standing Committee.

**Carried**

(d) **BL19 Use of Board Logo, Grand Erie Name, and Grand Erie Design Banner**

B. Blancher reviewed the comments received and responses to address them.

R. Collver requested clarification regarding the banner. S. McKillop explained “Success for Every Student” is considered a tagline and not a banner that can be positioned anywhere on a publication or document.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 19 – “Use of Board Logo, Grand Erie Name, and Grand Erie Design Banner”.

**Carried**

(e) **BL26 Chairs’ Committee**

B. Blancher reviewed comments received and responses to address them.

J. Harris suggested that it would be beneficial for the Vice-Chair of the Committee of the Whole to be added to the membership for learning and continuity purposes.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 26 - “Chairs’ Committee” as amended.

**Carried**



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(f) **BL29 Student Trustees**

B. Blancher reviewed comments received and responses to address them.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 29 - "Student Trustees". As amended.

**Carried**

(g) **F7 Disclosure of Wrongdoing (Whistleblower) Policy**

J. Gunn noted that this new policy drafted was in response to a recommendation coming from the Audit Committee.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: C. A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy F7 – "Disclosure of Wrongdoing (Whistle-Blower)" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by January 13, 2017.

**Carried**

(h) **HR3 Staff Development**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy HR3 – "Staff Development Model" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by January 13, 2017.

**Carried**

(i) **P1 Special Education Guiding Principles**

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy P1-"Special Education Guiding Principles" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by January 13, 2017.

**Carried**

(j) **FT10 Green School Construction and Renovation**

J. Gunn reviewed comments received and responses to address them.

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat



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THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy FT10 – “Green School Construction and Renovation”.

**Carried**

(k) **FT11 Community Planning and Facility Partnerships**

J. Gunn reviewed comments received and responses to address them.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy FT11 – “Community Planning and Facility Partnerships”.

**Carried**

(l) **SO2 School Councils**

B. Blancher reviewed comments received and responses to address them.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve SO2 – “School Councils”, as amended.

**Carried**

(m) **SO4 Distribution of Materials in Schools**

B. Blancher reviewed comments received and responses to address them. There has been a significant re-write due to the number of comments and a revised name to “Distribution of Materials in Schools”.

C.A. Sloat addressed about advertising materials sent to schools regarding valuable events ie: fairs, etc. B. Blancher explained that this is covered in Procedures – Approvals #3.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve SO4 – “Distribution of Materials in Schools”.

**Carried**

E – 2 **Administrative Procedure Consideration – Information Items**

(a) **FT117 Green School Construction and Renovation**



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J. Gunn explained that this procedure is redundant now that Policy FT10 Green School Construction and Renovation has been revised to include this procedure.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Procedure FT117 – “Green School Construction and Renovation”.

**Carried**

### F – 1 Other Business

#### (a) OPSBA Report

C.A. Sloat updated the trustees on the Central West meeting to be held next week in Niagara. Information was provided to trustees from OPSBA.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Dean

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

**Carried**

### G – 1 Correspondence

#### (a) Peel District School Board

#### (b) Bluewater District School Board

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

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

**Carried**

### H – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

**Carried**

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Committee of the Whole Board Chair, Tom Waldschmidt