



MINUTES

Present: Board Chair D. Dean, Board Vice-Chair G. Anderson, R. Collver, B. Doyle, A. Felsky, J. Harris, J. Richardson (via teleconference), K. Sandy, C.A. Sloat, D. Sowers, T. Waldschmidt, J. Hsiao (Student Trustee), L. Kelly (Student Trustee)

Administration: Director - B. Blancher; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, L. De Vos, D. Martins, S. Sincerbox, L. Thompson, R. Wyszynski; Recording Secretary – L. Howells

Regrets:

Trustees: Nil
Administration: Nil

A – 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, D. Dean at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting the Open Session. D. Dean welcomed the 2017-2018 Student Trustees to their first meeting and congratulated them on their election.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

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

Carried

(d) Welcome to Open Session

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, D. Dean at 7:20 p.m.

(e) Memorials

Nil



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

Presented as printed. T. Waldschmidt requested the following item be added to the agenda.

E-1-e: Trustee Caucus Topics

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

(g) **In Camera Report** – moved to the end of the agenda

(h) **Presentations**

Nil

(i) **Delegation**

Nil

B – 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Regular Board Meeting – June 26, 2017**

Presented as printed. C.A. Sloat noted two corrections:

Items F-1-a should read June 12, 2017;

Item G-1- should read May 11, 2017

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held June 26, 2017 be approved, as amended.

Carried



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

(a) Multi-Year Plan Communication Evaluation

B. Blancher asked G. Rousell, System Research Leader to the table. B. Blancher referred to the Multi-Year Plan Communication Evaluation report and informed Trustees that as per Section 169.1 (1) of the Education Act, a Board must annually review the Multi-Year Plan. B. Blancher noted that under the leadership of the Grand Erie System Research Leader and the Manager of Communications and Community Relations, nine focus groups were held beginning in April 2017 for the purpose of assessing the 2016-2020 Multi-Year Plan Implementation and evaluating the level of staff understanding of and connections to the plans. Focus group participants included teachers, school administrators and CUPE members. An online survey was conducted with DECEs, PSSP and GEMST staff.

B. Blancher noted while there are some positive results coming out of the evaluation, the results also show that there is work to do and provided a brief overview on the next steps to ensure the Multi-Year Plan is a driver for positive change in Grand Erie.

C.A. Sloat noted on page 5, responses from PSSP but nothing from DECE. G. Rousell responded DECEs are included and that was an oversight.

A. Felsky expressed that this report is very helpful for her understanding of how the Multi-Year Plan is understood across the system.

J. Harris noted that part of this seems to highlight a communication issue on what has been received and how staff connect to the Multi-Year Plan. B. Blancher agreed and stated that she would be working with our new Manager of Communications, and at this time welcomed our new Manager of Communications, K. Newhouse, who will assist with new strategies around communicating the Multi-Year Plan. B. Blancher noted that one of the things the report revealed is that structures like our Annual Operating Plans which support the goals of the Multi-Year Plan are not shared with the system. She believes that sharing these items would help staff understand better how the goals of the Multi-Year Plan are put into operation on an annual basis.

R. Collver thanked everyone who participated in the focus groups and surveys. They provided good feedback and she believes that we need to improve our communication of the Strategic Plan. R. Collver noted that we need to ensure we are all on the same page on how to communicate. B. Blancher responded that once she has the opportunity to review this with K. Newhouse a report on our Multi-Year Plan communications for this year will be brought back to Board.



Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board request a report from Sr. Administration on the Communication Plan for the Multi-Year Plan at the October 30, 2017 Board Meeting.

Carried

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report, Multi-Year Plan Communication Evaluation.

Carried

(b) **Proposed Brant/Brantford Secondary ARC**

Moved by: C. A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve reintroducing the motion that approved the Pupil Accommodation Review for Brant/Brantford Secondary Schools in accordance with Bylaw 5, Section 14.

Carried

B. Blanche referred to the Proposed Brant/Brantford Secondary ARC report and provided a brief overview on the memorandum received from the Ministry of Education on June 28, 2017 outlining the Ministry plan to strengthen rural and northern education. B. Blanche further noted the Ministry's plan to review its Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines (PARG). Due to the proposed revisions, the Ministry states that "school boards will not start new Pupil Accommodation reviews until the reviewed PARG is complete...". Based on this direction, the recommendation is for Trustees to suspend the approved April 10, 2017 Committee of Whole meeting motion.

C.A. Sloat also noted that the Ministry of Education provided some funding for rural schools. B. Blanche responded that the June 28th memorandum did refer to additional funding and Grand Erie has received \$583,173 to fund initiatives in rural schools. Due to the timing of the information, no decisions have been made on how to spend this fund. The Senior Administration will be discussing how best to use the funding.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board suspend the motion to hold a Pupil Accommodation Review of Brant/Brantford Secondary schools approved by the Board on



April 10, 2017 due to a Ministry of Education moratorium on Pupil Accommodation Reviews, until such time as clear direction to proceed is provided by the Ministry.

Carried

C.A. Sloat asked for an update on the Confidentiality Agreement noted on the June 2, 2016 Privacy Information Management Meetings. L. De Vos responded that it is in the process of being completed and will be going live very soon.

D – 1 Director’s Report

Director’s highlights:

- Introduced R. Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer
- Director’s Kick off meeting will take place on Aug 29 at McKinnon Park Secondary
- Grand Erie Website - D. Abbey noted it has gone live and is AODA compliant. The Staff portal to be migrated by mid-September.
 - C.A. Sloat asked if there are items that need to be put back on, who are these directed to? D. Abbey responded they should be forwarded to Graphic Designer – Website Coordinator.
 - J. Harris asked as the transition period is mid-September, are we still working with the vendor. D. Abbey responded that we continuing to work the vendor. J. Harris further asked as we transition off the vendor support, are we staffed to support. D. Abbey that we have staff trained but will require a web designer
- Camp SAIL – offered this summer at 7 elementary schools; two programs have finished and the other 5 wrap up this week. There has been a great deal of social media coverage of these programs.
- Welcome to Secondary School – Grade 9 registration events are scheduled this week
- Focus on Youth – 32 Grand Erie students took part in the Focus on Youth summer employment program
- Ministry of Education Additional funding received. Requested D. Martins to provide Trustees with an update – Grand Erie applied for funding under the Ensuring Equitable Access to Post-Secondary Education Initiative and we are pleased to announce that we received funding for a Post-Secondary Education Navigation for Indigenous Students. The funding will be used for this position and field trips for students to visit post-secondary institutions and learn more about the various pathways available after secondary school. We also received additional funding for Achieving Excellence in Applied Courses which will allow us to expand our Renewed Math Strategy professional learning – have identified 3 schools to be involved which are SCC, BCI, McKinnon Park.



(a) **Multi-Year Video**

B. Blancher shared with Trustees two videos that will be presented at the Director's Kick Off Meeting to highlight our continued implementation of our 2016-2020 Multi-Year Plan.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of August 28, 2017 as information.

Carried

E – 1 **New Business – Action / Decision Items**

(a) **Approval of the 2017-2018 Committee of the Whole and Regular Board Proposed Schedules of Items**

B. Blancher referred to the Committee of the Whole Board and Regular Board Proposed Schedule report.

R. Collver liked the change of the look of this report. C.A. Sloat indicated the Director's Annual Report should be included in the December schedule. C.A. Sloat further noted S02 states an annual report is to be brought to the Board and asked when will Trustees see that report. B. Blancher responded she will look in this and report back.

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Proposed Schedules for the 2017-2018 Committee of the Whole Board and Regular Board Meetings.

Carried

(b) **OPSBA Membership Fee for 2017-2018**

Presented as printed.

B. Doyle noted his concern with the fee increase.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2017-2018 OPSBA Membership Fee of \$65,691.42 plus HST for payment.

Carried



(c) **Capital Priorities Project Funding Submissions**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Capital Priorities Project Funding Submissions report and informed Trustees that as per Memorandum 2017:B7 Requests for Capital Priorities Project Funding Submissions, the Ministry has requested Board to submit business cases identifying their urgent and pressing pupil accommodations needs. Guided by the Boar Long Term Accommodation Plan – March 2017, R. Wyszynski reviewed the recommended business cases that be submitted:

1. Priority One – New School Project for the Southwest Brantford area to accommodate the current and future enrolment and would eliminate the portable classrooms in use now and in future school-years at Walter Gretzky and Ryerson Heights schools.
2. Priority Two – New Joint Elementary School Project for Caledonia with the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board to serve the new Avalon (McClung Road) development.

C.A. Sloat asked how did we come up with the Caledonia Joint Elementary School Project and when was this approved. B. Blancher responded that the combined schools were very clear during the boundary review.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the School Consolidation Capital Priorities for submission to the Ministry of Education.

Carried

(d) **Contract Award – Pauline Johnson Hospitality Program**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Contract Award – Pauline Johnson Hospitality Classroom report and provided the Trustees with a brief overview on the Tender 2017-247-T process to interior renovations for Multiple Handicapped Classroom and Hospitality Classroom at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School. R. Wyszynski noted 12 companies attended the mandatory site meeting and 6 companies submitted bids. Due to the end of June timing for the bid submissions, the Director and Superintendent of Business approved the award of the contract to Abcott Construction in July, as per Procedure F107- Purchasing, section 3.5.

C.A. Sloat noted the contract award came in above budget, leaving only \$50,000 for equipment. B. Blancher responded it has and that Superintendent Abbey and Martins will be speaking with the staff regarding the reduced amount for equipment.



C.A. Sloat asked did the Chair or the Vice chair sign the contract as per BL13? B. Blancher responded that past practice has been that the Chair and Vice Chair have not signed when the request to tender is brought to the Board for approval.

J. Harris noted if that is the case, what do we need to do to bring BL13 out of cycle to reflect the correct process. C.A. Sloat responded this impacts BL13, F6 and F107. J. Harris recommends this be put back to the Secretary of the Board to review and bring back recommendation.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on the Contract Award – Pauline Johnson Hospitality Classroom.

Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board send Bylaw 13: Signing Authorities of the Board, Policy F6: Purchasing and Procedure F107: Purchasing back to Sr. Administration to review.

Carried

(e) **Trustee Caucus**

T. Waldschmidt indicated there was discussion at Chairs meeting regarding the issue on Privacy. B. Blancher reminded Trustees that a consultant was hired to complete a Privacy Audit. The audit has been completed and we have received the report. B. Blancher believes this is something that needs to come back to Trustee sooner than later and it was suggested that a Trustees Caucus occur on September 18th to review the report in detail.

C.A. Sloat asked for clarification on this proposal. B. Blancher responded that the Trustees need more time to discuss the report that may not occur during a Board meeting.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve a Trustee Caucus on Monday, September 18, 2017 to review the Privacy Audit report.

Carried



E – 2 **New Business – Information Items**

(a) **Major Construction Update (FT2)**

R. Wyszynski provided a status update for the 2016-2017 Major Construction Project Process as follows:

Thompson Creek Addition: Create (4) new classrooms to facilitate the consolidation of Anna Melick Memorial School Students effective September 1, 2017:

- While masonry repair was underway, large quantities of asbestos containing vermiculite were discovered. Services of asbestos consultant were engaged and it was determined a type 3 outdoor removal method using asbestos abatement contractor was required. Asbestos removal has been completed.
- Deterioration of the foundation - Engineer instructed the Board to install shoring on both floors to strengthen the wall and in addition, weeping tile was added to redirect water
- Project timeline – on schedule
- Capital Priority Grant Budget for the addition is expected within the approved budget, however wall/foundation deterioration and asbestos removal will result in an additional cost of \$500,000 and will be funded from School Condition Improvement

B. Doyle is very pleased to see that the asbestos has been removed. C.A. Sloat asked if occupancy in the four classrooms will occur on September 5. L. De Vos responded that the occupancy will not occur and the plan has been communicated. L. De Vos noted hoping occupancy to occur the week of September 18th. B. Doyle suggested that communication by a letter home to parents be sent the first week of school.

Fairview Avenue Redevelopment: construction of new elementary school to accommodate the consolidation of Fairview Avenue PS and Grandview Central PS and will included child care and child and family program spaces.

- Tender was issued on August 25, 2017
- Capital Priority Grant approval \$10,619,020 has been received from the Ministry of Education

R. Collver requested clarification of why Fairview has taken so long to go to tender. B. Blancher responded that we submitted our plan and it was pushed back to us and we resubmitted. B. Blancher also noted this is the first time construction has included the child care facility.



R. Collver requested confirmation that other than the timeline change were there any changes to the design. B. Blancher confirmed the original design was approved.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate Hospitality Program: renovate space at Pauline Johnson Collegiate to accommodate a new Hospitality and Tourism Program

- Tender was closed on June 29, 2017
- Work has commenced and is expected to be completed by 2nd week of September

C.A. Sloat asked that this construction included a multi handicapped room and will it be ready for occupancy on September 5th. B. Blancher responded it will.

C.A. Sloat asked for an update on Elgin Ave rebuild. B. Blancher responded that the Request for Proposal is in the works.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Project Report as information.

Carried

(b) **2015-2016 Energy Consumption / Conservation Report**

R. Wyszynski explained that this annual report is provided with assistance from Katie Hashimoto, Supervisor of Energy & Environmental Conservation and Facility Services. He provided highlights from background, report data and variables, energy demand and conservation and summary.

J. Harris asked on page 4 there is breakdown on energy, what is it that the new schools are using the same amount of energy as 25-year-old school? B. Blancher responded that our newer schools have air conditioners and the older schools do not and could explain the reason why. C.A. Sloat asked if there is anything else we are planning to do to reduce energy usage. B. Blancher responded that this is answered on page 5 under occupant behaviours.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2015-2016 Energy Consumption/Conservation Report as information.

Carried



F – 1 Other Business

(a) Summary of Accounts – June 2017

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the months of June 2017 in the amount of \$11,627,042.74 as information.

Carried

(b) Summary of Accounts – July 2017

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: K. Sandy

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the months of May 2017 in the amount of \$7,038,765.87 as information.

Carried

(c) Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) – June 27, 2017

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) – June 27, 2017 as information.

Carried

G – 1 Correspondence

(a) Peel District School Board Letter – June 20, 2017

(b) Brantford Police Service Letter – July 7, 2017

(c) Ministry of Children and Youth Services Letter – July 31, 2017

C.A. Sloat commented on the Peel letter about the funding for Section 23 and does that align with our issues with Sprucedale. B. Blancher responded that we are paying close attention



Regular Board Meeting
August 28, 2017
Education Centre, Board Room

to this. C.A. Sloat asked if we have heard anything further from Ministry of Children and Youth Services. B. Blancher responded we have not.

R. Collver requested for clarification, was the Ministry of Children and Youth Services part of the teleconference. B. Blancher responded they were not on the call.

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: J. Harris

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

Carried

D. Dean requested that Trustees submit their 2016-2017 Expenses by September 11, 2017.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Board move back into In Camera Session to discuss personnel, legal and property matters at 9:00 p.m.

Carried

Open Session resumed at 9:15 p.m. Trustee Richardson had left the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

(j) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Director's Operational Goals for 2017-2018.

Carried

H – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Harris

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair, David Dean