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## MINUTES

**Present:** T. Waldschmidt, Committee Vice-Chair, G. Anderson, R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle, A. Felsky, J. Harris, J. Richardson, K. Sandy, C.A. Sloat, D. Sowers, M. Brown (Student Trustee), E. Creed (Student Trustee)

**Administration:** Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, A. Nesbitt, S. Sincerbox; Recording Secretary - D. Fletcher

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** Nil.

**Administration:** Nil.

**A – 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

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

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

C.A. Sloat declared a conflict of interest for item B-1-c.

**(c) In Camera Session**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Richardson

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

**Carried**

**(d) Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Vice-Chair, T. Waldschmidt 7:20 p.m.

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



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

June 8, 2015

Education Centre, Board Room

The Director's Report will be presented before Item B-1-a.

Moved by: C. A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the agenda be approved as printed.

**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board and the Norfolk Community Help Centre.

**Carried**

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Agreement for the Joint Use of Facilities between the Board and The County of Brant.

**Carried**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the plan to post the "French as a Second Language Teacher Consultant position as recommended.

**Carried**

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

(a) **Compensatory Education Plan (From March 9, 2015)**

On March 9, 2015, Trustees received the Compensatory Education report and draft plan for information and input. The report identified that there was a need for a clearly articulated and widely understood Compensatory Education evidence-based plan which addresses the need for sustained and enhanced financial, academic, social and early intervention strategies to address the poverty cycle to thereby improve student performance for all students. It also recognized that there is a need to develop awareness, understanding and commitment to enable us to make a difference, together.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

June 8, 2015

Education Centre, Board Room

The Compensatory Education Steering Committee and administrators from compensatory education schools have considered input from numerous groups to finalize the 2015/2016 action plan. Steering committee members are pleased with the progress to date and excited about the opportunities for the future. System stakeholders are appreciative of the differences that have been realized and share a sense of enthusiasm for the future.

D. Dean referred to reduced suspensions under Action & Timelines and is concerned about messaging to school administrations on expectations not to suspend. S. Sincerbox addressed his concern and explained the committee will continue to look at the impact other interventions have on suspensions. In addition, he explained monitoring and continued work with students around that anxiety and Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) hopes to improve student learning however may not discourage suspensions.

C.A. Sloat would like to see this action plan eventually include something for all schools but still see the continued effect of this committee. She referred to "Tell Them From Me" questions and inquired if they are different for the compensatory education schools.

W. Baker clarified that the questions are the same for all students.

S. Sincerbox further explained the review of this data will shows gaps in family of schools and in compensatory education schools.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2015/2016 Compensatory Education Plan as information.

**Carried**

### (b) **Quality Accommodations Update (From April 20, 2015)**

J. Gunn reviewed background and four accommodation options and explained how the Board needs to address accommodation issues for the French Immersion program. Although there is growth seen in this program, there is not growth seen in the school age population therefore we need to assess and find space within our schools for the growing interest in this program.

Recommendations A and B are similar, and he suggested that recommendation C would involve delegation meetings to hear from the community. Recommendation D would involve discussions on which school French immersion would reside in and would require communication to those parents affected. Community meetings would be held.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

June 8, 2015

Education Centre, Board Room

J. Gunn clarified that dates be determined after the first few weeks in September. Five weeks lead time would be required to provide information for those involved. Possible community dates could be scheduled at the end of September to early October with proposed options ready for January 2016 to provide parents ample time to prepare for fall of 2016.

Discussion involved the importance of community involvement, grandfathering of students, and our Board's success in offering French Immersion from junior kindergarten onward and maintaining a strong FI program.

It was agreed to bring a report back in September 2016 to set meeting dates.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Sowers

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

**Carried**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the following Accommodation Options as presented in Quality Accommodations Update dated June 8, 2015:

a) Accelerate the implementation of FI program at Burford Elementary by adding grades 5 and 6 in September 2016 and complete the implementation with grades 7 and 8 added in September 2017. Beginning with September 2016, all Brant County resident FI students would be assigned to the FI program provided in Brant County.

b) Implement a new dual track program at Branlyn for students residing in the Brier Park, Cedarland, Banbury and Branlyn school catchment area. The initial program would include JK to Grade 2 commencing September 2016 and be expanded in future years by adding one cohort per year.

c) Amend the North Ward and Cobblestone Boundaries to include the current catchment area of Paris Central School and assign FI students from north Brant County to Paris Central making it a single track FI school effective September 2016.

d) Establish a second FI program at North Park or Pauline Johnson in September 2016.

**Carried**



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

June 8, 2015  
Education Centre, Board Room

C.A. Sloat declared a conflict of interest for Item B-1-c.

(c) **Special Needs Strategy Report – Coordinated Service Plan Proposal (From June 1, 2015)**

S. Sincerbox referred to the report of June 1, 2015 and provided clarification on signing authorities and confirmed accuracy of data.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Needs Strategy Report – Coordinated Service Plan as information.

**Carried**

### C – 1 **Director’s Report**

The Director highlighted:

- Track and Field Meets, Volunteer Appreciation teas, and Fun Fairs are being held throughout the Board

#### **Presentation: Mental Health Symposium**

Student Mental Health and Well-Being Symposium: Mental Health Lead, Heather Carter, along with Simcoe Composite School student Brett Moffit and teacher Jason Dale attended the Board Meeting to share with the Trustees about the two-day symposium that took place at the Six Nations Polytechnic on May 6 and 7, 2015. The student-designed, youth orientated symposium allowed students to discuss and learn about topics associated with mental health promotion and well-being. ). The symposium had a First Nations Metis and Inuit focus and activities included: keynote speakers and a variety of workshops (how to talk to friends in need, art therapy, yoga, accessing resources in our communities and more. The outcome of the symposium was to create a “mental health and well-being team” within each of the Board’s secondary schools that is willing to be active within their school.

#### **Presentation: Tell Them From Me**

Tell Them From Me Survey: The Board’s Researcher, Sally Landon, and Social Worker – Safe Schools, Christine Bibby, delivered a presentation based on the results from the survey, implemented in all schools this year. The survey is called Tell Them From Me and it measures school climate and matters related to bullying, school safety and student engagement. Designed by Dr. J. Doug Willms and The Learning Bar, the survey provides an anonymous and reliable data to support school improvement planning.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

June 8, 2015

Education Centre, Board Room

Trustees were appreciative of the presentation and pleased to see many strands of data. They look forward to a detailed report in the future.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of June 8, 2015 as information.

**Carried**

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

#### (a) Annual Review of the Special Education Plan

S. Sincerbox reviewed background and addition information and referred to the Special Education Plan and Components Checklist which will be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan, and the submission of the Special Education Report Components Checklist to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education.

**Carried**

#### (b) 2015-2016 Operating Budget

J. Gunn thanked Cindy Smith, Manager of Business Services for her efforts to provide a balanced budget. Budget highlights were reviewed from the report.

C.A. Sloat inquired about \$750,000 new to the Budget allocated from School Condition Improvement Funding to support the renewal of specialized program classrooms across the Board. J. Gunn explained that senior administration plan to discuss in the fall before the program rolls out and under the leadership of the new Director. Implementation plans will be presented for board approval before the new program proceeds.

Trustees were pleased with J. Gunn and team to ensure resources were aligned with goals and resources.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

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Education Centre, Board Room

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2015-2016 Operating Budget of \$299,607,816.

**Carried**

### (c) **Student Recognition Award Program**

J. Forbeck spoke about how important it is to recognize those students who go above and beyond greater than the system level.

This program was developed by the Communications and Engagement Committee and is requesting feedback on the name of the award, visual representation and development of sub-committee group.

Suggestions/input provided by trustees included:

- Incorporate celebrations into GALA event
- Students be involved in the design of the certificate
- Logo cannot be changed and belongs to the Board
- Superintendent to take the lead on this initiative
- Application form needs to be simple
- Refer back to Communications and Engagement committee to agree on logo and provide final consideration for trustee to approve
- Full report to come back in the fall including application form

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: A Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Student Recognition Award Program in principle.

**Carried**

### (d) **Capital Priorities**

J. Gunn referred to Ministry memorandum 2015:B12 Request for Capital Priorities Business Cases that calls on Boards to submit Capital Priorities identifying their major capital needs. He reviewed priority recommendations recommended by Senior Administration.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

June 8, 2015

Education Centre, Board Room

D. Dean inquired about priority recommendation 2.3. J. Gunn explained that Hagersville Secondary School was constructed with sprayed on asbestos on structural steel and underside of roof decking including most ductwork in ceiling spaces. The removal is labour intensive and the space will need to be sealed off for safety and could take up to 3 years to complete over the summer months.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

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

**Carried**

### D – 2 New Business – Information Items

#### (a) Category III Trips (SO105)

J. Forbeck reviewed the Category III trips approved between January and May 2015.

D. Sowers inquired if these education related trips are approved for elite students or all students in board in all those classes. J. Forbeck clarified that these trips are typically elective trips for example a drama class visiting New York City. Most trips will involve fundraising. Category II trips (overnight) trips such as camping typically have more students involved.

He referred to situations in compensatory education schools, where the Board has provided support so that students can participate in elective trips.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Category III Trips as information.

**Carried**

#### (b) Implications of 2015-2016 Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Events on the Port Dover area students

W. Baker reviewed rationale/background, options considered, recommendations and communication plan.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

June 8, 2015

Education Centre, Board Room

For clarification purposes, the options were explained:

**Option 2** - Transportation Runs in Port Dover/Lakewood Elementary School Remains Open. In warm weather this option is not practical given the traffic situation and the difficulty school buses will have traveling in and out of Port Dover that day. The safety issues for students who walk to school would remain. During the colder months, transportation concerns and student safety issues are significantly reduced; November 13, 2015, is such an occasion.

**Option 3** - Cancel Transportation in Port Dover/Lakewood Elementary School Closed to Students - Staff Reports to School/Group Stops for Secondary Students. This option addresses the transportation issues for both staff and students. In this option, staff would be expected to report to school where they will be engaged in professional activities. This is a practical solution for warm-weather Friday the 13th events; May 13, 2016, is such an occasion.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Option 2 for November 13, 2015; and THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Option 3 for May 13, 2016.

**Carried**

### E – 1 Other Business

Nil.

### F – 1 Correspondence

Nil.

### G – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C. A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

**Carried**

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Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Vice-Chair, Tom Waldschmidt