



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

*Head Office, 349 Erie Avenue
Brantford, ON N3T 5V3*

Regular Board Meeting February 27 2012, 7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Trustees: R. Collver, Chair, J. Angus, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre, M. Macdonald, C.A. Sloat, D. Werden, P. Fleetwood (Student Trustee) B. Featherston (Student Trustee)

Administration: Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents — G. Anderson, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, M. McDonald, A. Nesbitt; Recording Secretary — D. Fletcher

REGRETS:

Trustees: A. Everets

Administration: Nil.

A – 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

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

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

D. Werden briefly explained that there should not be a conflict of interest for the OPSBA report on negotiations but trustees can make individual decisions.

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: C. Lefebvre

Seconded by: B. Doyle

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

Carried

Open Session reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

(d) **Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, R. Collver at 7:15 p.m.

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

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the Agenda be approved, as printed.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT Item E-1-a be approved.

Carried

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT Item E-1-b be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorial**

Nil.

(h) **Presentations**

Nil.

(i) **Delegation – Edith Stone re: Safety Patrollers**

Edith Stone presented her delegation regarding safety patrollers.

In response to D. Werden, E. Stone clarified what Brant County patrollers and Brantford patrollers pay for the end of year movie celebration, she also elaborated on the contributions made by CAA.

C.A. Sloat recommended that Senior Administration review the delegation and bring back a response to the Committee of the Whole No.1 meeting scheduled March 5, 2012.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board Senior Administration provide more information at the Committee of the Whole No.1 March 5, 2012.

Carried

B – 1 Approval of Minutes**(a) January 30, 2012 (Regular Board Meeting)**

It was noted that the meeting was called to order by D. Dean, Vice Chair.

Moved by: C. A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held January 30, 2012 be approved, as amended.

Carried

(b) February 6, 2012 (Committee of the Whole No.1)

FT3 Naming of schools, should read “with enduring”, not “with endearing”.

FT2 Major Construction Projects should read “superintendent, not “supervisor”.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting No.1, held February 6, 2012 be approved, as amended.

Carried

(c) February 13, 2012 (Committee of the Whole No. 2)

Moved by: C. Lefebvre

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole No.2, held February 13, 2012 be approved.

Carried

C – 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Minutes**(a) Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Midyear Report (October 17, 2011)**

B. Blancher, A. Nesbitt and W. Baker presented the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Midyear Update.

Lynn Abbey and Paul Kostelny shared the strategies and progress made to date for secondary schools.

Nancy Norton, Lori Barkans and Bill Valoppi were present to review the leveled literacy intervention in the elementary schools.

W. Baker presented the Special Education program.

Deneen Montour and Caroline VanEvery-Albert reported on the First Nations Metis Inuit (FNMI) students.

M. Macdonald invited trustees to view the Teachers Toolkit, and the aboriginal perspectives on the DVD.

In response to C.A. Sloat, L. Abbey confirmed data is shared with teachers and that the Cross Panel Resource leads us to conversations with teachers about the students' progress.

In response to M. Macdonald, L. Abbey confirmed those students are identified for short term literacy interventions throughout the school year and prior to requiring the EQAO assessment.

L. Abbey elaborated that Ontario Comprehension Assessment (OCA) assessments occur at the beginning of the year, with schools gathering information from the assessment in order to teach students requiring extra help based on classroom observations.

In response to R. Collver, L. Abbey noted that we are on target for smart goal and that special education is working with schools on accommodations with the Special Education Amount equipment.

In response to C.A. Sloat, P. Kostelny explained that parental support is very positive for the after school program. Parents are contacted by the student success teacher or guidance to invite students into the program.

In response to M. Macdonald, P. Kostelny commented that the after school programs are developed, with staff recruitment using a posting process. The after school program teacher has the opportunity to connect with the classroom teachers to gather classroom work and catch students up on missing classwork.

B. Doyle inquired if there are students who would like to sign up but can't due to unavailability of buses provided. P. Kostelny had not received any feedback and found in the past that parents are quite enthusiastic about making this program work and generally arrange for transportation much like they would for after school sports.

D. Dean expressed an interest in the student profile and inquired if many students are at risk of losing credits due to attendance? P. Kostelny added that attendance is tracked and after the first report, it will identify those students struggling. Some schools also track students who were invited and did not attend, and some of those students did change patterns to obtain those credits.

J. Angus arrived at 7:46 p.m.

In response to R. Collver, A. Nesbitt confirmed that the credit accumulation percentages in the report reflects the results for all students including those students who do not take credit bearing program or do not have a full timetable of credit bearing classes.

In response to D. Werden, A. Nesbitt explained that he is not able to predict if the credit accumulation results will go up in the second semester. It is a difficult prediction to make as each year and semester is different.

In response to M. Macdonald, A. Nesbitt indicated that all regular composite schools in the board are involved in the SSI project. Sprucedale and GELA are not involved.

In response to D. Dean, A. Nesbitt confirmed that credit accumulation is an indication of how well students are doing in courses in Grand Erie. It was noted that last year there was an increase in credit accumulation and EQAO results. A lot of work is taking place to ensure that teacher assessment practices are in line with Ministry expectations. He explained that the EQAO math results that were higher last year indicates that more students are achieving at a higher level, moving to a 3-4 level.

In response to D. Dean, A. Nesbitt explained that with regards to out of classroom professional days for teachers, all principals are sensitive to this fact and try to plan accordingly. As a system we are trying to move teacher practice from private practice to team practice. B. Blancher recognized the concern, and suggested that technology such as videotaping of training could be an option.

In response to R. Collver, A. Nesbitt commented that there is a lot of evidence available in the SSI project that would indicate it is having a positive impact on student achievement. The SSI is a highly supported project that is highly funded and resourced from the Ministry. Not all projects have these financial resources. We look for evidence of impact from our strategies in many ways including School Effectiveness Framework visits where we look for evidence in the classrooms, EQAO results, and report card results.

In response to R. Collver, A. Nesbitt also added that in addition to indicators such as the EQAO results, SMART goals are currently into the Multi Year Plan which provides an element of accountability. Strategies need to be developed and implemented that help the GEDSB achieve the stated goal.

In response to D. Werden, B. Blancher noted that when we look at the improvement trend in report cards, and compare data to last year, there is a 4% improvement in reading. By reviewing the grade 5 student data last year and this year for grade 6, reading has improved by 3%.

In response to R. Collver, N. Norton explained that a student is chosen for the LLI Program by readiness such as letter identification and concepts of print.

L. Barkans spoke about the collaborative schools inquiry, and referred to marker students.

B. Featherston left at 8: 25 p.m.

D. Dean believes that in relation to teaching mathematics using problem solving mode, that basic function of skills must be in place. There is a minimum level of mechanical and operational knowledge required before you get into that.

L. Barkans added that an inquiry based problem solving approach is not in place of basic skills, and that is focuses on how students learn math developmentally.

In response to D. Werden, N. Norton confirmed that a post survey to teachers will be created in mid-June and will address “What does success actually mean”. W. Baker noted that the special education strategies discussed applies to students with special needs are involved in all plans.

D.Montour explained that the FMNI students are also within the capacity building strategies that provide the required data.

In response to R. Collver, C. VanEvery-Albert confirmed that \$20,000 has been funded to train a few teachers from each school, approximately 150 in total.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Midyear Update as information.

Carried

D – 1 Director’s Report

J. Forbeck highlighted the Student Voice Conference which will be held on Thursday March 1, 2012 and “Celebration of Pink Shirt Day” in Brantford on February 29, 2012 in support of anti-bullying.

B. Blancher introduced the Educational Technology Team of Norma Bingham, Jeff Dumoulin and Lynda Kilpatrick to present how Twitter is used as a professional learning tool and has been recently introduced to teachers for their professional development. Resources and tutorials for teachers were reviewed.

The draft Code of Digital Citizenship was reviewed and feedback is requested from trustees by March 31, 2012.

In response to C.A. Sloat, B.Blancher confirmed the Code of Digital Citizenship will be reviewed and revised with the Communications departments prior to coming to board.

P. Fleetwood left at 9:15 p.m.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of February 27, 2012 as information.

Carried

E – 1 Committee Reports

(a) Committee of the Whole No.1 – February 6, 2012

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole No.1 Report dated February 6, 2012 as follows, as amended:

Carried

1. FT5 Pupil Accommodation Reviews

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board defer Policy FT5 – “Pupil Accommodation Review” to a working committee to be established by Board Meeting on February 27, 2011. The committee will bring a report back to the Committee of the Whole No.1 Meeting on April 2, 2012.

2. Director’s Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of February 6, 2012 as information.

3. BL4 Agenda

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 4 – “Agenda”, as amended.

4. BL16 Suspension, Revision or Repeal of any Bylaw, Policy or Administrative Procedure

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 16 – “Suspension, Revision or Repeal of any Bylaw, Policy or Administrative Procedure”, as amended.

5. FT1 Major Construction Projects

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT1 – “Major Construction Projects” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 4, 2012, as amended.

6. FT2 New School Construction Projects

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT2 – “New School Construction Projects” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 4, 2012, as amended.

7. **FT3 Naming of Schools**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT3 – “Naming of Schools” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 4, 2012, as amended.
8. **SO9 Cyberbullying**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO9 – “Cyberbullying” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 4, 2012, as amended.
9. **F106 Donated Appliances, Equipment, Furnishings and Supplies**
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 May 4, 2012.
10. **FT105 Playground Equipment**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure FT105 – “Playground Equipment” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 4, 2012.
11. **P103 Learning Resource Selection**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure P103 – “Learning Resource Selection” as information, as amended.
12. **SO101 Pediculosis (Head Lice)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO101 – “Pediculosis (Head Lice)” as information.
13. **SO107 Physical Intervention Restraint**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO107 – “Physical Intervention Restraint” as information, as amended.
14. **SO120 Student and Visitor Injuries/Accidents**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO120 – “Student and Visitor Injuries/Accidents” as information.
15. **SO124 Use of Service Dogs**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO124 – “Use of Service Dogs” as information.
16. **Transition Committee for Russell Reid Public School**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the establishment of a Transition Committee for Russell Reid Public School.

17. **2012 Strategic Leadership Conference Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “2012 Strategic Leadership Conference Report” as information.
18. **Correspondence**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the correspondence as information.

Recommendations were made to the following policies:

FT3 Naming of schools, should read “with enduring”, not “with endearing”.

FT2 Major Construction Projects should read “superintendent, not “supervisor”.

(b) **Committee of the Whole No. 2 – February 13, 2012**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole No. 2 Report dated February 13, 2012, as follows:

Carried

1. **Director’s Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of February 13, 2012 as information.
2. **Draft Proposed School Year Calendars**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the “Draft Proposed School Year Calendars for 2012-2013 for submission to the Ministry of Education”.
3. **RFP Award – Window and Exterior Doors**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the award of the Window and Exterior Door retrofit work set out in tender T11-11FS to Windspec. in the amount of \$574,133 plus applicable HST.
4. **Joint Use Agreement – Walter Gretzky Elementary School & St.Basil Elementary School**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Joint Use Agreement – Walter Gretzky, St. Basil’s School and authorize the Board signing officers to sign the Agreement as attached.
5. **Employee Assistance Program Annual Report (HR112)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Employee Assistance Program Annual Report (HR112)” as information.
6. **Public Meeting Schedule for Special Education Annual Review**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Public Meeting Schedule for Special Education Annual Review report” as information.

7. **Privacy and Information Management Task Force**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Privacy and Information Management Task Force report” as information.
8. **Early Development Instrument Update**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Early Development Instrument (EDI) -2012 Update report” as information.
9. **OPSBA**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “OPSBA report” as information.

F – 1 New Business

Nil.

G – 1 Other Business

(a) **Summary of Accounts – January 2012**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Summary of Accounts – January 2012” as information.

Carried

(b) **Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – February 16, 2012**

J. Gunn highlighted the positive trends outlined in the Workplace Violence Survey.

In response to D. Werden, J. Gunn confirmed there are employees working in the Norfolk Facility Services and that inspections for this facility have not been completed in 2012.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – February 16, 2012”.

Carried

(c) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – January 12, 2012**

W. Baker presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – January 12, 2012” as information.

Carried

(d) **Native Advisory Committee Minutes – January 17, 2012**

Presented as printed

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Native Advisory Committee Minutes – January 17, 2012” as information.

Carried

(e) **Workforce Report**

M. McDonald outlined the Workforce Report and acknowledged that names were omitted of some employees that retired in January 2012. Those names will be added to the April report.

In response to D. Werden, J. Gunn confirmed funding of 4.5 in Teachers-Elementary can be contributed to either underestimating the funding adjustment of the EPO grant or there was more enrollment than predicted in the budget. In this case, it was increased enrolment in early childhood education.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Workforce Report with data as of January 31, 2012” as information.

Carried

H – 1 Correspondence

(a) **Minister of Education re: Transportation Task Force**

D. Werden commented that the Minister of Education did not provide a release date when this was addressed at the OPSBA meeting.

(b) R. Bateman – Valley Heights Plaque

J. Forbeck briefly explained the mystery surrounding this missing plaque and is pursuing other avenues for a replacement. Estimated cost is \$300.00 - \$350.00

In response to R. Collver, J. Gunn stated there is a protocol to follow when rooms are renovated and items are packed up.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

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

Carried

I - 1 In Camera Session

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. A. Sloat

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss personnel matters at 9:45 p.m.

Carried

Open Session reconvened at 10:07 pm

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Regular Board meeting continue past 10:00 p.m. to deal with the remaining item on the agenda.

Carried

I – 2 In Camera Report

Nil.

J – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair, R. Collver