



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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

Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Meeting March 19, 2012, 7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

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

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

REGRETS:

Trustees: A. Everets, D. Werden

Administration: Nil

A – 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

Roll call was taken.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

E. Dixon declared a conflict of interest concerning an In Camera property matter.

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: C. Lefebvre

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss Personnel, Labour Relations and Property Matters at 6:30 p.m.

Carried

(d) Welcome to Open Session

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, C.A. Sloat, at 7:15 p.m.

R. Collver welcomed Brock University students to the meeting.

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

R. Collver added Item E-1-b Trustee Learning Sessions and Item E-1-c Informal Meeting with Mayor of Brant County.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Nil.

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

Nil.

C – 1 Director's Report

J. Forbeck focused his report on Engagement – Grand Erie Parent Engagement Symposium on March 31, 2012. There are approximately 200 attendees registered so far, with registration extended to March 26, 2012.

M. McDonald spoke about Achievement and his school visits to the Brantford/Brant Secondary Family of Schools. His observations include engaging in conversations with Students and staff while walking through the school. His framework is based on the Multi-Year Plan.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate Vocational School uses the school effectiveness framework; it is the first school that has gone through that process. Goals and high level strategies are discussed at staff meetings. Goals are posted in the classroom that may tie to student behavior.

Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School has a fitness centre that is used every academic period, lunch, before and after school. The Physical Education staff envisions this as a way to involve students and staff to participate in physical education.

Tollgate Technological Skills Centre through the school improvement plan makes sure pathways are used and this includes the six magnet programs. It is used as a way of integrating students from self-contained classes in other schools.

In all three schools, the integration of the multi-year plan is being seen in the initiatives.

J. Angus arrived at 7:31 p.m.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of March 19, 2012 as information.

Carried

D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

(a) Allocation of Self-Contained Classrooms for 2012-2013

W. Baker stated how the special education personnel have attempted to minimize changes for the 2012-2013 school years where they continue to redefine classrooms to support the specific needs of an individual exceptionality.

He outlined demographics in elementary and secondary schools in Brant North, Brant South, Haldimand Family, and Norfolk family.

In response to M. Macdonald, W. Baker explained there are about 15-16 students in each gifted class.

In response to R. Collver, W. Baker explained that we meet the needs for grade 4-7 in Delhi public, by offering early interventions at Lynndale Heights. By grade 3, they are going back to their home schools.

In response to R. Collver, W. Baker indicated that the busing costs and needs of special needs students are evaluated on an on-going basis as the classes change their composition frequently. W. Baker also stated that Phil Kuckyt uses criteria to evaluate how long a special needs student rides the bus.

He explained that there is a maximum of eight students for the room at Bellview, serving two specific groups including those who suffer mental illness and high level of anxieties. Safe school students, may fall into that category although some issues are behavioral, sometimes they are also mental health.

G. Anderson explained the Safe School Model and provided some positive outcomes of students that were moved from their school to these classes.

In response to R. Collver, G. Anderson explained that over a period of time, a student can be stabilized from one to three months; this will not be a static classroom.

In response to J. Angus, G. Anderson provided clarification on the Safe School Program with half a day and an elementary school teacher.

W. Baker elaborated on the possibility of a teacher going to alternative sites with a virtual classroom concept.

J. Angus recommended the executive council review the number of students in a specialized classroom versus a caseload approach and if we are limiting the number of students in these classes.

In response to M. Macdonald, W. Baker confirmed the age range is elementary.

In response to D. Dean, W. Baker explained that extensive background and qualifications required would be in special education in particular behavior.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the locations and number of self-contained classrooms for 2012-13, as outlined, pending budget deliberations.

Carried

(b) **Compensatory Education Plan**

J. Forbeck explained how this plan was initially started in 2004. Recently all superintendents and principals of the 16 Compensatory Education schools have met to develop this new plan for Grand Erie District School Board.

He detailed the following components of the report: definition, literature review, Grand Erie Demographics, Grand Erie student achievement data, provincial and national practices perspective, current Grand Erie resource supports, communication plan, budget impact information, and next steps for Executive Council.

The draft plan consists of four components: leadership and advocacy, achievement, engagement and environment.

In response to J. Angus, J. Forbeck explained that last year a number of positions were resourced by compensatory approval. Differences in terms of allocators, and factors may be applied to other formulas. In terms of the budget, J. Forbeck spoke about transition for the budget year this year, and there are specific dates in collective agreements that are considerations.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Compensatory Education Plan for information.

Carried

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the establishment of a Compensatory Education Steering Committee for September 2012. The committee will be constituted as a standing committee of the Board as outlined in Bylaw 8.

Carried

D – 2 New Business – Information Items**(a) Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk – Annual Report**

J. Gunn invited Phil Kuckyt to present the Annual Report on the consortia activities. He outlined the route statistics, student data, consortium update and STSBHN's plan for going forward.

19 vendors took our document for review, with 12 moving on to the evaluation process. J. Gunn noted that the Request for Proposal recommendations will be included in the board package next week as an attachment to the STSBHN meeting minutes of March 12, 2012 minutes.

In response to R. Collver, P. Kuckyt provided clarification on vehicle utilization and explained that the cost of using Mini vans is significantly less than using a bus. The vans are used depending on needs.

In response to B. Doyle, P. Kuckyt reviewed how the same routes travelled in the morning and afternoon is different due to the different bell times for the public and catholic schools. He also explained that going forward, this annual report can show the data broken down to reflect Grand Erie District School Board statistics.

In response to E. Dixon, P. Kuckyt explained how a hazard area is defined and its' effect on bus routes

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk – Annual Report" as information.

Carried

(b) Dual-Track French Immersion Enrollment Update

B. Blancher provided a background of the Dual-track French Immersion programs that were created in September 2011 at Burford District Elementary, Caledonia Centennial and Walsh Public Schools. She also invited Donna McArthur to share the report.

B. Blancher explained updated numbers confirmed for Burford in junior kindergarten are 16, senior kindergarten are 16, and grade one is 13.

In response to D. Dean, B. Blancher stated that it is a possibility that 11 of the grade 1 students at Walsh will be resolved in the following year by a split class.

In response to C.A. Sloat, B. Blancher indicated that we do enter at junior kindergarten, senior kindergarten and grade one and there is ongoing communication occurring. She added that the numbers have increased from last year.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report “Dual-Track French Immersion Enrollment Update” as information.

Carried

(c) **Third Party Providers for Early Learning Kindergarten (ELK) for Before and After School Program**

B. Blancher reviewed background and pointed out how the viability threshold has changed and there are schools with third party providers with less than 20 students.

A request for proposal process was completed this year, with a deadline of January 20 2011. Four providers submitted a proposal. There are currently eight schools without providers.

In response to R. Collver, B. Blancher indicated that when a request for proposal goes out, qualifications and types of programs are stipulated as required by legislation.

In response to C.A. Sloat, B. Blancher confirmed that if a school has 20 or above students, families are notified that this is a board run program at a cost of \$26.00 day.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report “Third Party Providers for ELK Before and After School Programs” as information.

Carried

(d) **Draft Children’s Aid Services (CAS) Protocol**

W. Baker spoke of the long standing relationship with Grand Erie District School Board and the Children’s Aid Society (CAS) of Brant and Children’s Aid Society (CAS) of Haldimand and Norfolk.

He provided background and how the CAS protocol touches on 4 major areas: child protection investigations, transitions/school registration, case management and school based CAS workers.

He referred to Appendix A and the definition of a child in need of protection. Appendix B outlines the steps in the duty to report.

In response to M. Macdonald, W. Baker explained that the CAS acts as a parent/guardian for the student and it would still be the school that would make the request for the student's Ontario School Record.

In response to C.A. Sloat, W. Baker stated that although the majority of schools are in the core of Brantford, there are plans to add more, and that conversations are occurring with the CAS of Haldimand and Norfolk

In response to D. Dean, W. Baker explained that although it shows the expenses for both boards are paid in different manner, that expenses that are incurred by our board will be expensed by the CAS. J. Gunn confirmed that we are not paid for the space we provide to the CAS.

B. Featherston and P. Fleetwood left the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Draft Children's Aid Services (CAS) Protocol" as information.

Carried

(e) **Draft Tragic Event Protocol**

W. Baker reviewed the background and explained how the draft Tragic Event Protocol is the result of cooperation between staff from Six Nations of the Grand River Social Services and the Grand Erie District School Board.

He focused on the four major areas of the protocol: guiding principles, involving the Six Nations Event Response (TERT), role definition, responsibilities, consent and confidentiality, communication and informing schools, accountability and dispute resolution.

In response to R. Collver, W. Baker stated that this relates to students who live on the reserve but attend Grand Erie District School Board schools.

R. Collver recommended adding our policy statement under consent and confidentiality. W. Baker will clarify the role of the social work and TERT coordinator when used throughout the protocol.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Draft Tragic Event Protocol" as information.

Carried

E – 1 Other Business**(a) OPSBA Report**

C.A. Sloat provided a verbal report and briefly reviewed some points listed in the OPSBA report regarding fee structure.

Moved by: C. Lefebvre

Seconded by: B. Johnston

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

Carried

(b) Trustee Learning Survey Sessions

R. Collver spoke about the Trustee Learning Survey and the completion deadline of March 27th, 2012.

(c) Informal Meeting with the Mayor of Brant County – Apr 24th

R. Collver asked for confirmation for those planning on attending the informal meeting tentatively scheduled for April 24, 2012.

F – 1 Correspondence

Nil

G – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Carried