



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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

Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting May 7, 2012, 7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Trustees: D. Werden, Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, A. Everets, B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre, C.A. Sloat, B. Featherston (Student Trustee),
Administration: Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents — G. Anderson, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, McDonald, A. Nesbitt; Recording Secretary — D. Fletcher

REGRETS:

Trustees: M. Macdonald, P. Fleetwood (Student Trustee)
Administration: Nil

NO

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.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

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

(d) Welcome to Open Session

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

(e) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

R. Collver stated that the Chairs Committee added some agenda items to tonight's agenda to off-set the May 14, 2012 agenda.

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: C. Lefebvre
THAT the agenda be approved, as printed.
Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat
THAT Item C-1-a be approved.
Carried

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

(a) **FT5 Pupil Accommodation Reviews** (from February 6, 2012)

C.A. Sloat, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee reviewed the changes made.

Further suggestions included:

- Clear statement of the mandate and formation of the ARC
- Terms of Reference should align with the policy
- Remove program under policy statement
- Addition of “to provide input into the valuation template” under Roles of members: Federation/CUPE

Any other recommendations should be forwarded to the Ad Hoc Committee.

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy F5 – “Pupil Accommodation Reviews” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by October 5, 2012, as amended.
Carried

C – 1 Director’s Report

J. Forbeck continued visits to some compensatory schools over the past few weeks.

Tollgate Technical Skills Centre was appreciative of the the value of the Educational Technology Initiative and the hands-on program. School Effectiveness Framework visits were taking place that week, and the school is looking at programs in place to improve attendance.

Graham Bell-Victoria Public School shared information about the school’s role as champion school for Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy. They felt a better connection was developed through the social worker. The leveled literacy intervention results were impressive.

A grade four class at Woodman-Cainsville School shared their reading experiences in an interactive reading activity. The grade one class used technology to skype with a grade one class about baby chicks in their class.

Prince Charles Public School focused their Parents Reaching Out grant by inviting parents and their children to cooking classes, led by a chef. The leveled literacy intervention is delivered by the grade one teachers.

Agnes Hodge Public School's kindergarten class focused on learning about the life cycle. A parent's night involved parents assessing achievement of the learning goal and success criteria for the children's artwork.

The Director highlighted a number of events happening for Education Week and Mental Health week. He acknowledged the Education Week Committee in their commitment of planning many events. The Art Soup video, created by a grade seven student was shown.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of May 7, 2012 as information.

Carried

D – 1 Bylaw/Policy/Procedure Consideration — Action/Decision Items

(a) Bylaw 13 - Signing Authorities of the Board

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 13 – “Signing Authorities of the Board”.

Carried

(b) BL17 – Communication with the Board

Discussion involved the purpose of the bylaw, and process of communication to the board. It was recommended to explain and detail the process of submitting correspondence to the Board.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board refer BL17 – Communication with the Board to Senior Administration to revise and bring to the Committee of the Whole No. 1 Meeting on June 4, 2012.

Carried

(c) **BL18 Personnel Matters to be Considered In Camera**

J. Forbeck explained the process has been revised to show a better flow.

It was recommended that under b) to remove the word “proceedings” and add “In Camera Session”.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 18 – “Personnel Matters to be Considered In Camera”, as amended.

Carried

D – 2 Administrative Procedure Consideration — Information Items

Nil.

E – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

(a) **Section 23 — Woodview Day Program Transportation**

J. Gunn provided a brief summary of the request for courtesy bussing, an initiative that has been happening since 2010.

In response to C.A. Sloat, J. Gunn confirmed there has been a request to support transportation to Pauline Johnson, and the projected needs come from the transportation department.

In response to R. Collver, J. Gunn explained transportation would be notified by the Board, and arrangements are made.

It was recommended to include 2012-2013.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board extend home to school transportation to students enrolled in the Section 23 Woodview Day Treatment Programs at Graham Bell-Victoria School and PJCVS where courtesy transportation is not available for 2012-2013.

Carried

E – 2 New Business – Information Items

(a) **Ministry Budget Implications for Students Who Take 35 or More Credits**

A. Nesbitt explained this is a follow up report to an enrolment report that was presented by Superintendent Gunn at a previous meeting. He briefly explained the changes that have evolved since the guiding policy “Ontario Secondary Schools: Program and Diploma Requirements” was introduced in 1999.

He referred to the chart that outlines the three year trend data on the number students achieving 35 or more credits for Grand Erie 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and 2010-2011.

In response to D. Dean, A. Nesbitt explained that for grade 11 and grade 12 students, they can drop a course five days after mid-term report card is complete, and the transcript will not reflect the dropped course. Students who remain in a course beyond “full disclosure day” will have their mark recorded on their transcript. The mark that is calculated stands.

B. Featherston added that when a student “drops” a course after “full disclosure day” the transcript will indicate that the course was dropped.

A. Everets was pleased to see the amount of students under 200.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report “Ministry Budget Implications for Students Who Take 35 or More Credits” as information.

Carried

(b) **Full Day Kindergarten Before and After School Programs**

B. Blancher provided an update since the report brought on March 19th, 2012 that outlined the regulatory requirements for school boards regarding Third-Party Before and After School Programs.

She referred to the list of schools and the programs for 2012-2013. Eight schools will not provide this program.

In response to D. Dean, B. Blancher explained that the Boys and Girls club is still operating but not running the Early Learning Kindergarten Program.

In response to C.A. Sloat, B. Blancher noted that last year’s programs are still running, and when Elgin Avenue discontinued the program in October 2012, the six families affected when notified. Elgin Avenue is the only school that will not run the program next year.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Full Day Kindergarten Before and After School Programs report as information.

Carried

(c) **Dunnville Central Transition Committee Report**

B. Blancher provided a brief update of those persons involved, dates of meetings and items addressed at the meetings.

In response to C.A. Sloat, B. Blancher confirmed that the committee work is completed and agreed disbandment of the committee is a good idea.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Dunnville Central Transition Committee Report as information.

And;

Moved by: C. A Sloat

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board disband the Dunnville Central Transition Committee.

Carried

(d) **Bellview Public School Hub**

G. Anderson provided a background about the neighborhood surrounding Bellview Public School and Princess Elizabeth Schools and how the lack of accessible services creates barriers to successes in the families that attend these schools.

In response to R. Collver, Monique Goold, Principal of Bellview explained that the project is to be more of a concept, rather than location. She explained that the city planner hired by the city facilitates the services that are needed.

J. Angus added that a survey provided to parents identified the top areas of need such as family, safety and health. Contract Brant would use the location for services as needed.

In response to C.A. Sloat, M. Goold identified the key stakeholders as G. Anderson, Grant McKinnell, Monique Goold and Annette Blake.

She explained this project was started when a need was realized in Eagle Place that there were no services available. Further discussion with a school health nurse helped to identify some of the school's needs.

A. Everets agreed it was a very good program, and suggested using the word neighborhood in place of school.

J. Angus felt it was great to engage the city in broad partnerships.

R. Collver acknowledged M. Goold and G. McKinnell for taking this initiative on and is pleased with this program.

Information regarding the "Building Bridges for a Better Tomorrow" event held June 6th, 2012 will be forwarded to trustees.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report, "Bellview School Hub" as information.

Carried

(e) **Communication Audit Report**

J. Forbeck provided an overview of the Communication Audit and listed recommendations from the auditors and Communication and Engagement Committee.

D. Dean stated that the report is extraordinarily detailed and provided good ideas for consideration.

R. Collver discussed how the next step is to develop a clear mission and strategic plan for the Communication program.

C.A. Sloat referred to the suggestions that present barriers and queried if we asked the media how well we communicated.

In response to A. Everets, S. McKillop confirmed that external stakeholders were invited to participate.

A major point was the lack of awareness of the Board and its role.

R. Collver suggested to arrange a caucus and will establish a date that works for everyone.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Communication Audit Report as information

Carried

F -1 Other Business

Nil.

G – 1 Correspondence

(a) Ontario Federation of Home and School Association

(b) Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

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

Carried

H - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Carried