



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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

Committee of the Whole Board No.2 Meeting October 17, 2011, 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

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

REGRETS:

Trustees: D. Dean
Administration: G. Anderson

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.

R. Collver declared a conflict of interest concerning item D-1-a.

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: C. A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

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

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session**

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

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

Nil

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried

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

(a) **Draft Revised 2011-2012 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement**
(from September 19, 2011)

B. Blancher discussed how the plan now reflects Resources, Monitoring and Evaluation.

The Mission, Belief, and Vision and Values have also been added, as well as School Effectiveness Framework components and indicators. Six goals are also referred to.

Nesbitt noted that the Multi Year Plan and draft Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement have been received very well, and ties into individual school plans.

W. Baker spoke to special education with emphasis on classroom teachers and self contained teachers. He reviewed the special education supports and practice.

In response to M. Macdonald, B. Blancher explained that marker students are those selected students that are involved in different strategies; the teachers will bring forward data that will allow tracking of the impact on those same students throughout the year at teacher learning sessions.

M. Macdonald referred to the School Support Initiative (SSI) and queried how this will be implemented and the timeframe.

A. Nesbitt confirmed this is in the early planning stage, and more dialogue needs to occur with D. Montour and how the draft Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement will be shared with Aboriginal Communities.

In response to M. Macdonald, A. Nesbitt listed all the schools in SSI, and if group one or two. He stated that Group one schools are funded by the Ministry of Education.

In response to M. Macdonald, A. Nesbitt confirmed Group one have the modules running and are in year two.

M. Macdonald inquired about grade 9 and 10 applied levels of English. A. Nesbitt referred to literacy targets.

In response to R. Collver, A. Nesbitt explained how Group one schools are determined. There is a three year commitment with the Ministry of Education, and recommendations were made based on school achievement data. He also explained the costs for existing schools and new schools added to the project.

In response to R. Collver, J. Forbeck confirmed that an update on implementation strategies will be presented to the Board in February 2012, and any significant changes to the plan before then would be brought back to the Board.

In response to R. Collver, J. Forbeck confirmed a high consistency in report cards and EQAO results. Conversations are occurring with principals to discuss these results with their teachers.

In response to M. Macdonald's question regarding summer reports for grants application, J. Forbeck explained how summary reports are part of the grant and are required. Once received, a summary will be brought to the board.

C.A. Sloat referred to Bill 177 and the Board's responsibility for student achievement, and queried if this plan requires board approval.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Draft Revised 2011-2012 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement as information.

Carried

(b) FT4 Use of School Facilities (from October 3, 2011)

J. Gunn provided clarity around the booking and permit costs and how the policy evolved became too liberal, requiring a review of these costs.

He discussed the categories and how they are prescribed by the ministry as well as those schools that are earmarked as Priority Schools by the province in the core in the city of Brantford.

In response to C.A. Sloat, J. Gunn noted that in relation to the subsidized funding, it can be tracked and capped at \$10,000. Upon booking, the estimated cost of the

booking is provided.

J. Angus arrived at 8:02 p.m.

J. Gunn provided clarification on priority schools, listed them out and the amount provided by ministry for each school.

A. Everets inquired if there are plans to promote or advertise the rental of the priority schools. J. Gunn explained that a designated person as outreach co-coordinator frequently shares this information and that representatives from the Parks and Recreation departments have met regarding this.

In response to D. Werden, J. Gunn will bring back information on those type of groups that will be capped at \$10,000.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward "FT4 Use of School Facilities" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by January 6, 2012.

Carried

C – 1 Director's Report

J. Forbeck recapped the events that were held this week. He visited Caledonia Centennial School to see the progress on the Early Learning Program in both English and French. The GrEAT session was held for principals with guest speaker Steven Katz, and focused on how principals can promote and participate in teacher learning and improvement planning at their school.

The director outlined the Launch of the Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy and how it will help educators enhance mental health indicators especially in the 10 champion schools.

J. Forbeck is pleased to announce the School Council workshops that are being held October 19th and 20th. The toolkit created ties in with parent engagement and will be shared with representatives from the school councils and school administrators.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of October 17, 2011 as information.

Carried

D – 1 New Business — Action/Decision Items**(a) Early Learning Program – Year 5 Capital Requests**

J. Gunn detailed the Capital Need Analysis for Year 5 report.

In response to B. Johnston, J. Gunn explained that Burford District Elementary School already have three classrooms that won't hold all of the Junior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergartens students, and that the school will be full in 2014-15.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the "Early Learning Plan – Years 5 Capital Requests" for submission to the Ministry of Education.

Carried

D – 2 New Business — Information Items**(a) Enrolment Update**

J. Gunn discussed enrolment report as of last day in September 2011. The elementary enrolment has not changed significantly; the gain over projected enrolment is basically in the JK/SK division. The secondary enrolment is right on budget, as projected.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Enrolment Update" as information.

Carried

(b) 2011 GELA Summer School Summary Report

M. McDonald reported the venues, processes, enrollment numbers and challenges.

In response to C.A. Sloat, M. McDonald agreed that communication could be improved for registration. A major factor is the short turnaround date from end of school to beginning of summer school, and stated that the portal could assist with this.

Moved by: C. Lefebvre

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “2011 GELA Summer School Summary Report” as information

Carried

(c) **EQAO Board Report**

(i) Primary/Junior

B. Blancher introduced Nancy Norton and Lynn Abbey to present the EQAO results for Primary/Junior division reading, writing and mathematics.

They also presented Grade 9 mathematics, and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test results. The results for Grand Erie District School Board were compared with the provincial results.

In response to R. Collver, B. Blancher explained that the results over time for special education are included in a report that will be coming to the SEAC committee.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “EQAO Board Report of the 2010-2011 Primary and Junior Division Assessment Results” as information.

Carried

(ii) Grade 9 Math

As presented by Nancy Norton and Lynn Abbey.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “EQAO Board Report of the 2010-2011 Grade 9 Math Assessment Results” as information.

Carried

(iii) Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

As presented by Nancy Norton and Lynn Abbey.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “EQAO Board Report of the 2010-2011 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test Results” as information.

Carried

(d) **Audit Committee Minutes – September 13, 2011**

As presented.

C.A. Sloat offered to share the Ministry power point presentation for those interested.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Audit Committee Minutes - September 13, 2011” as information.

Carried

(e) **Brantford Field of Dreams Community Partnership**

J. Gunn presented as information and asked for direction on continuation and trustee involvement.

He reviewed how this is a project Pauline Johnson had under an AVIVA grant last year, finished as semifinalist but not selected in the final for funding. J. Gunn referred to the policy and procedure related to Capital Related Fundraising, and explained how there is no dollar value for the Board to consider at this point and the significance of our provision of the land.

In response to M. Macdonald, J. Gunn confirmed the Physical Education department has a draft plan, and that the school has likely mapped out where the seating will be provided.

C.A. Sloat agreed that trustee involvement would be a positive thing to keep the Board apprised of any new developments.

In response to D. Werden, J. Gunn explained there is no application as of yet, it is dependent on the board’s interest in pursuing this project, and would require a third party to facilitate the funding.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board support the “Brantford Field of Dreams Community Partnership” conceptually and agree to have a trustee representative on the committee.

Carried

(f) **Educational Technology Initiative Update**

B. Blancher discussed how this initiative is moving quickly and discussed phases 1 and 2. She highlighted the orientation sessions and invited trustees to attend.

In response to C.A. Sloat, B. Blancher confirmed there are two special education technology classes that have equipment. B. Blancher explained that the team must have a plan to be fiscally responsible with equipment.

In response to R. Collver, B. Blancher noted there is no timeframe for self contained classes, but there is continual work to be done in relation to this.

W. Baker added that F. Adams is having conversations and one option is not to place net books in one of those classes.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Educational Technology Initiative Update” as information.

Carried

E – 1 Other Business

(a) **OPSBA Report**

Moved By: C. Lefebvre

Seconded: E. Dixon

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

Carried

F – 1 Correspondence

(a) **Letter from Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration – Adult Non-Credit Language Training Program**

J. Gunn stated this money supports the program at the Joseph Brant Learning Centre.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: B Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Letter from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration regarding Adult Non-Credit Language Training Program” as information.

G – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Carried

Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Chair, Don Werden