



## GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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

### **Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting March 5, 2012, 7:15 p.m.**

#### **MINUTES**

#### **PRESENT:**

**Trustees:** D. Werden, Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, A. Everets, M. Macdonald, C.A. Sloat, 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:** B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre

**Administration:** Nil

#### **A – 1 Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

Roll call was taken.

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

Nil.

(c) **In Camera Session**

Moved by: C. A Sloat

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss a negotiation matter at 6:30 p.m.

(d) **Welcome to Open Session**

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

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

Marion Macdonald noted the correct time of the Native Advisory Committee meeting to be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 is 1:00 p.m.

Item D-1-e BL40 Borrowing Bylaw: Ontario Financing Authority Permanent Financing Long Term Capital Financing is removed from the agenda.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Nil.

(g) **Memorials**

Nil.

(h) **Presentations**

Nil.

(i) **Delegation- Steve Talos re: Extension of Benefits to Educators 65 Plus**

Mr. Talos read his delegation on Extension of Benefits to Educators 65 Plus. As an educator with Grand Erie District School Board for approximately forty years, Mr. Talos will no longer be receiving benefits when he turns 65 years of age during the month of Month 2012. He referred to Bill 211, the “Ending Mandatory Retirement Statute Law and Amendment Act, 2005”. He spoke of other boards of education such as Toronto, Thames Valley, Waterloo and Niagara who have undertaken proactive and responsible measures to eliminate age discrimination in receipt of teacher benefits. He recommended that the trustees eliminate discriminatory workplace policies and procedures for teacher benefits which impose an adverse effect on senior workers sixty five and older; and ensure the workplace is free of ageism assumptions and stereotypes and ensure that older workers are afford the same opportunities as their younger counterparts.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie School Board receive the “Delegation – Steve Talos re: Extension of Benefits to Educators 65 Plus” as information.

**Carried**

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

(a) **Response to delegation – Edith Stone re: Safety Patrollers** (from February 27, 2012 )

J. Forbeck referred to the response to the delegation that was brought forward on February 27, 2012 from Edith Stone regarding safety patrollers. He recapped the

safety patroller event that is scheduled to be held in spring 2012, and outlined the differences for Brantford and Brant County safety patrollers.

His response is based on information obtained from discussions with the police services:

- There are 987 eligible safety patrollers, 222 in Brant County and 756 in Brantford
- Each school has a different number of safety patrollers
- There is no safety patroller programs currently in Haldimand with very few programs in Norfolk

The safety patroller program is recognized and valued in all communities of the Board, however the celebration event does not include all students from all areas of the Grand Erie district School Board therefore system level funding would not be appropriate. J. Forbeck will speak with elementary principals on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to provide background and rationale for Trustees decision and support for local school community efforts on behalf of County safety patrollers.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board recognizes and values the contributions of our safety patrollers in all communities of the Board. As this event does not encompass all areas of the Board funding will not be provided. The Board is supportive of an equitable opportunity for Brant County safety patrollers through local school and/or community fundraising initiatives.

**Carried**

## **C – 1 Director's Report**

J. Forbeck spoke about the Student Voice conference held on March 1, 2012, and was pleased the event made the front page of the Brantford Expositor. He commended P. Fleetwood and B. Featherston of successfully running the conference which involved approximately 140 students.

B. Featherston and P. Fleetwood were very impressed with the engagement of students, and pleased to receive positive comments.

R. Collver stated that the opening of Walter Gretzky Elementary School will be celebrated on April 12, 2012, with Mr. Walter Gretzky attending.

She acknowledged the commitment of time and focus to detail that J. Forbeck, D. Dean and S. McKillop have provided.

The Director reported on his visit to Central Public School. The school focuses on tribes training and a high level of parent engagement.

During his visit to Grandview Public School, the Director was given a tour by two students who showed him the many changes made to the physical building. All

classrooms are connected, and run television announcements. He spoke about the Prezi Program, a high level power point program that the grade eight students are using.

Moved: J. Angus

Seconded: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of March 5, 2012 as information.

**Carried**

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

(a) **Bylaw 9 - Guidelines for Development of By-Laws, Policies and Administrative Procedures**

Some recommendations made include changing Guidelines to Processes in the title of the Bylaw and changing administration to Executive Council throughout the Bylaw 9.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 9 – “Guidelines for Development of By-Laws, Policies and Administrative Procedures”, as amended.

**Carried**

(b) **FT9 Transition Committee**

J. Gunn noted that this policy will be going out for stakeholder comment, and the only change is the addition of “Additional members of the Chair of the Committee deems appropriate” to the composition of the Transition Committee.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT9 - “Transition Committees” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 25, 2012.

**Carried**

(c) **HR5 Harassment**

M. McDonald outlined how this policy deals with duties and processes around harassment, and referred to the changes made with regards to Bill 168. One minor change is recommended.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy HR5 - "Harassment" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 25, 2012.

**Carried**

**(d) SO15 Student Trips**

J. Forbeck discussed how the Category III report will be including the number of student trips. Principals will be asked to audit the number of trips and communicate this with their superintendent.

Discussion involved the ongoing concern about teachers withdrawn from the classroom for other purposes than class trips. Financial aspect on parents was a concern. Class trips should be an extension of the educational experience of what is learned in the classroom, and must be available to everybody. Another concern voiced was the number of movies played in the classroom.

J. Forbeck recommended the trip audit as part of the superintendents' role when visiting schools.

It was agreed that Executive Council will address the concerns about the number of movies played in classrooms and discussions with principals regarding student trips will begin at the next monthly principals meetings.

It was recommended that the three points relating to the school trip approvals be added to the policy as a guideline.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy SO15 – "Student Trips", as amended.

**Carried**

**(e) SO16 Voluntary Aboriginal Self-identification**

J. Forbeck recapped the comments provided.

A change in the definition was recommended to read "First Nation Métis Inuit students".

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy SO16 – "Voluntary Aboriginal Self-identification", as amended.

**Carried**

**(f) HR111 Personal Protective Footwear**

J. Gunn referred to changes made to Principal/Manager Responsibilities.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure HR111 – “Personal Protective Footwear” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 25, 2012.

**Carried**

**(g) HR119 Progressive Discipline**

M. McDonald outlined the purpose of this administrative procedure. No changes are recommended at this time.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure HR119 – “Progressive Discipline” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 25, 2012.

**Carried**

**(h) FT4 Use of School Facilities**

J. Gunn noted several amendments made and highlighted a few of them. Appendix A now lists all schools available for community use and Supervision Condition has been revised in Appendix B.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy FT4 “Use of School Facilities”.

**Carried**

**D – 2 Administrative Procedure Consideration — Information Items****(a) P105 Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR)**

A. Nesbitt stated most revisions were related to wording, and not content.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure P105 – “Prior Learning Assessment Recognition” as information.

**Carried**

**(b) SO115 Anaphylaxis**

W. Baker reviewed the comments received. The Resource Package contains all materials and instructions necessary to respond to the presence of anaphylactic students in the school.

He clarified the wording of Epi-Pen, as a brand name of the auto-injector.

R. Collver addressed the criteria for success and the staff in-service training.

Recommended changes are to add “Annual” to staff in-service training and that “The Grand Erie District School Board adheres” to Sabrina’s Law.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO115 – “Anaphylaxis” as information, as amended.

**Carried**

**(c) SO132 Voluntary Aboriginal Self-identification**

J. Forbeck noted changes made and reflected clarification around data collected and stored.

Under implementation, a change was recommended to read “First Nation Métis Inuit students”.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO132 – “Voluntary Aboriginal Self-identification” as information, as amended.

**Carried**

**E – 1 Other Business****(a) Implications of Friday, April 13, 2012 on Port Dover Composite School and Doverwood Public School**

W. Baker recommended option #3 after speaking with staff and Executive Council

C.A. Sloat inquired if parents have ever been given the option of what they prefer. G. Anderson noted that getting students to and from school is a challenge and even more so if they needed to leave during the day. For safety reason, it is very difficult to get the buses through.

Moved by: B. Doyle  
Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report “Implications of Friday, April 13, 2012 on Port Dover Composite School and Doverwood Public School” as information; and

THAT the Grand Erie District school Board approve Option 3: Cancel transportation/Close Doverwood and Port Dover Composite School for students. Staff members are to report to home schools.

**Carried**

#### F – 1 Correspondence

##### (a) **Haldimand County Police Services Board**

A.Everets asked if there had ever been split costing. J. Forbeck explained that he is not aware of any arrangements and that local police services fund their own liaison officers and he will follow up and respond to the letter.

Moved by: J. Angus  
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

**Carried**

#### G - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C. A. Sloat  
Seconded by: M. Macdonald  
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:56 p.m.  
**Carried**