



Regular Board Meeting

September 29, 2014
Education Centre, Board Room

MINUTES

Present: C.A. Sloat, Board Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, E. Dixon, D. Dean, B. Doyle, A. Everets, M. Macdonald, C.A. Sloat, T. Waldschmidt, D. Werden, M. Brown (Student Trustee), E. Creed (Student Trustee)

Administration: Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, M. McDonald, A. Nesbitt, S. Sincerbox; Recording Secretary – D. Fletcher

Regrets:

Trustees: C. Lefebvre

Administration: Nil.

A – 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair C.A. Sloat at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of conducting the In Camera Session.

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

D. Dean declared a conflict of interest for In Camera item D-1-c.

(c) **In Camera Session**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

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

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session**

Board Chair C.A. Sloat welcomed everyone to the Open Session at 7:21 p.m.



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

Agenda Item I-1-a Correspondence was added to the agenda.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the agenda be approved as printed as amended.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board ratify the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding reached between the Grand Erie District School Board and the Ontario Principals' Council – Grand Erie, dated September 29, 2014.

Carried

(g) **Memorial - Daniel Felix Kivell Freisz, Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School**

The Memorial Statement was read by D. Dean.

(h) **Memorial - Catherine Hanson, Grand Erie Learning Alternatives**

The Memorial Statement was read by J. Angus.

(i) **Presentations**

Nil.

(j) **Delegations**

Nil.

B – 1 **Approval of Minutes**



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(a) **August 25, 2014 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held August 25, 2014 be approved.

Carried

(b) **September 8, 2014 (Committee of the Whole No. 1 Meeting)**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole No. 1 Meeting held September 8, 2014 be approved.

Carried

(c) **September 15, 2014 (Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting)**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting held September 15, 2014 be approved.

Carried

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

Nil.

D – 1 Director's Report

The Director highlighted:

- October 5, 2014 is World Teachers' Day, a day that reminds us to recognize and celebrate the wonderful teachers in the Grand Erie District School Board and to let them know how much we appreciate their work
- Superintendent Wayne Baker and the Council of Athletics of Grand Erie (CAGE), released a document that outlines elementary athletic activities for the 2014-15 school year. This document will be posted on the Board's website in the Student Athletic section



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- Grand Erie is hosting an evening to welcome School Council members from Brant, Brantford, Haldimand, and Norfolk. Members of the School Council will hear from the Director of Education and the Chair of the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee on how they can support parent engagement in their schools. Parents will also hear a presentation from Heather Carter, Grand Erie's Mental Health Lead, and Christine Bibby, Social Worker-Safe Schools on Building Healthy Relationships. The date is Wednesday, October 1, 2014, at 6:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m, Waterford District High School
- The School-College-Work Initiative is a co-operative effort with a mandate to assist in creating a seamless transition for students from secondary school to college. In addition to a wide array of learning and awareness opportunities for students, teachers, parents and the broader community, projects have been developed to provide dual credit programs for secondary students through the partnership of secondary schools and colleges.
- On Thursday, September 25, 2014, staff interested in the Leadership and Development program attended a celebration of Grand Erie's leaders. Those in attendance were inspired to hear the leadership stories Jeff Benner (VP McKinnon Park), Michelle Black (Principal Waterford Public), Atala Andratis (ESL Consultant), and Dave MacDonald (Principal Dunnville Secondary).

Patti McCleister Leadership Award

Patti McCleister was Grand Erie District School Board's Training and Development Officer who touched the lives of so many employees. On June 30, 2013, Patti lost her brave battle with cancer. In her memory, Grand Erie presented The Patti McCleister Memorial Award.

Four outstanding nominees attended the Board Meeting including Doreen Mels, Ruth Mills, Ron Tomczak and Kellie Thompson.

Elaine Thomas, Chair of the Leadership and Development Committee read why each individual were nominees and each demonstrated the following:

- A commitment to leadership, above and beyond the expectations of their role as it relates to engagement, environment and achievement
- Care and compassion for their fellow employees and all educational stakeholders in the Grand Erie community
- Diligence and perseverance in the pursuit of leadership and/or leadership opportunities for others
- A positive role model for the core values and mission of the Grand Erie District School Board.



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Ted McCleister, Patti's husband, attended the Board Meeting to reflect on Patti's love of leadership and extend his appreciation to recipients. Congratulations is extended to Ruth Mills and Doreen Mels for being the co-recipients of this year's award.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of September 29, 2014 as information.

Carried

E – 1 Student Trustee's Report

No report.

F – 1 Committee Reports

(a) Committee of the Whole No.1 – September 8, 2014

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole No. 1 Report dated September 29, 2014 as follows, as amended.

1. Director's Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of September 8, 2014 as information.

2. HR1 Bereavements

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy HR1 – Bereavements to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2014.

3. SO21 School Food and Beverages

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO21 – School Food and Beverages to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2014.

4. F5 Advocacy

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy F5 – Advocacy.



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5. **FT11 Facilities Partnerships**
 - i. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy FT11 – Facilities Partnerships, as amended.
 - ii. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind the Administrative Procedure FT118 – Facilities Partnerships.
6. **HR2 Consideration of Employee Concerns**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy HR2 – Consideration of Employee Concerns.
7. **SO112 Appropriate Student Dress**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure SO112 – Appropriate Student Dress to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2014.
8. **SO118 Opening and Closing Exercises at Schools**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure SO118 – Opening and Closing Exercises at Schools to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by November 28, 2014.
9. **F102 Purchasing Card Program**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure F102 Purchasing Card Program as information, as amended.
10. **F103 Travel and Expense Claims**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure F103 Travel and Expense Claims as information, as amended.
11. **FT112 Disposal of Surplus Furnishings and Equipment**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure FT112 – Disposal of Surplus, Damaged or Obsolete Furnishings and Equipment as information.

Carried

D. Dean requested that recommendation No.10 be separated from the main report.

A vote was taken on recommendations No. 1-9 and No.11.

Carried

J. Gunn explained the amendment made to F103 Travel and Expense Claims to address concerns that came forward regarding travel for system professional development activities.

A vote was taken on recommendation No.10.

Carried



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(b) **Committee of the Whole No. 2 – September 15, 2014**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole No. 2 Report dated September 29, 2014 as follows, as amended:

1. Director's Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of September 15, 2014 as information.

2. Fairview/Coronation Capital Project

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the striking of a project team for the Fairview/Coronation Capital Project.

3. Municipal Elections Compliance Audit Committee

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the appointment of Brian Cochrane, Shannon McMannis and Martin Titmus to the Compliance Audit Committee for the purposes of Section 81 of the Municipal Elections for the period December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2018.

4. Trustee Honoraria (F4)

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Trustee Honoraria for the period from December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2015 as presented.

5. Enrolment Update

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

6. Data Report – Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification (SO16)

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Data Report - Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification" as information.

7. Data Report – Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Annual Report (P104)

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Data Report - Supervised Alternative Learning" as information.

8. Trustee Attendance Records

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Trustee Attendance Records Report as information.



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9. **BL33 Borrowing Bylaw: Financing Capital Projects**
 - i. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve BL33 Borrowing bylaw – Financing Capital Projects as amended.
 - ii. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Borrowing Bylaw 34 – BL34 Bridge Financing-Cobblestone Elementary

10. **Correspondence**

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

Carried

J. Angus requested that recommendation No.4 be separated from the main report.

A vote was taken on recommendations No.1-3 and No. 5-10.

Carried

A letter was received by the Chair last week regarding Trustee Honoraria. (See correspondence I-1-a). The Trustee Remuneration Calculations report has been revised and is attached.

An amendment to the recommended action was purposed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B Doyle

That 'by Ministry Direction' be added to the recommended motion.

The question was called on the amendment.

Carried

A vote was taken on amended recommendation No.4.

Carried

The amended motion is:

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the revised Trustee Honoraria for the period from December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2015 due to Ministry of Education direction.

G – 1 **New Business**



(a) **Major Construction Update**

J. Gunn referred to the report which includes details of construction projects that are nearly complete at nine schools to support the completion the final phase of full day kindergarten implementation.

All new classrooms are open and actively receiving students with the exception of the two new rooms at River Heights Elementary.

Total approved capital provided by the Ministry for all 2014 (Year 5) FDK additions and retrofit projects excluding Ecole Fairview is \$6,239,024. Overall estimated project budgets are within this allocation.

D. Werden commended the Board on the leadership and a job well done in completion of projects.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Report as information.

Carried

(b) **2013-2014 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Goals**

The 2013-2014 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement goals were provided.

Elementary Program:

B. Blancher discussed the target, outcome and observations for the smart goals in the Elementary Program.

The following outcomes from 2014 EQAO data were seen for primary and junior students:

- o Reading Grade 3 – 61% of participating students achieved level 3 or 4
- o Reading Grade 6 – 73 % of participating students achieved level 3 or 4
- o Writing Grade 3 – 68% of participating students achieved level 3 or 4
- o Writing Grade 6 - 68% of participating students achieved level 3 or 4
- o Math Grade 3 – 57% of participating students achieved level 3 or 4
- o Math Grade 6 – 43% of participating students achieved level 3 or 4



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D. Werden explained that OPSBA was reassured by EQAO that the test is not more challenging than in the past.

B. Blancher further explained that there is a difference with the way students are assessed on math day to day compared with how they are assessed on EQAO and she did note that a number of factors can explain the results of EQAO and that students are aware that the results have no effect on their report card results.

D. Dean acknowledged that the problem with math is a provincial and national problem, and that we need to recognize why the schools are not where they should be in terms of results.

C. A. Sloat inquired about Jump Math. B. Blancher explained that this will be reviewed for the schools who participated, however does not have analysis data because this is not our project.

E. Creed added that the focus is high on reading and writing, and wondered how we increase the enthusiasm on math for students.

Student Success/Secondary Program

A. Nesbitt discussed the target, outcome and observations for smart goals in the Secondary Program.

The following outcomes from 2014 EQAO data were seen for secondary students:

- Accumulation of 8/8 credits in grade 9 remained at 81%
- Accumulation of 16/16 credits in grade 10 increased from 74% to 78%
- Participating students in applied grade 9 math increased to 47% achieving the provincial standard
- Participating students in academic grade 9 math decreased from 82% to 80% achieving the provincial standard
- Students in grade 10 applied English achieving the literacy graduation requirement on the grade 10 OSSLT increased from 46% to 47%
- Grade 7 student achieving level 3 or 4 in mathematics on their report cards has increased from 66% to 69%
- Grade 8 student achieving level 3 or 4 in mathematics on their report cards has increased from 64% to 66%



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A. Nesbitt responded to a question regarding the difficulty students are having with mathematics. He spoke to the curriculum changes made in 1999 and how the consolidation of curriculum has adjusted the learning expectations at each grade. Students are now required to engage in some challenging mathematical skills at earlier grades.

R. Collver addressed the smart goal to improve achievement in grades 9-12 mathematics and inquired if the results relate to one strand of problem solving or for all students? A. Nesbitt explained that the problem solving is interwoven to all strands.

Special Education in Elementary and Secondary Program

S. Sincerbox discussed the target, outcome and observations for the following SMART goal as embedded in the Elementary and Secondary Program.

The following outcomes from 2014 EQAO data were seen for special education needs at levels 3 and 4 for elementary students:

- o Reading Grade 3 - results decreased by 4% to 34%
- o Writing Grade 3- results increased by 1% to 50%
- o Math Grade 3 – results decreased by 2% to 28%
- o Reading Grade 6 – results increased by 3% to 49%
- o Writing Grade 6 – results increased by 3% to 42%
- o Math Grade 6 – results decreased by 4% to 19%

The following outcomes from 2014 EQAO data were seen for special education needs at levels 3 and 4 for grade 9 assessment of mathematics:

- o Applied Grade 9 math – results increased by 4% to 37%
- o Academic Grade 9 math – results decreased by 2% to 75%

Other outcomes include:

- o The success rate for first time eligible students identified with Learning Disabilities decreased by 10% to 17%
- o Grade 9 – 72% of students with special education needs achieved 8 or more credits by the end of Grande 9, and increase of 7% from the previous year
- o Grade 10 – 75% of students with special education needs achieved 16 or more credits by the end of Grade 10, an increase of 6% from the previous year

C.A. Sloat inquired if gift students are excluded and if their results have ever been reviewed. S. Sincerbox stated that they would typically show a high rate of success 98 – 100% for grade 3 to 6.



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Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2013-2014 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Goals report as information.

Carried

(c) **2014-2015 Draft Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA)**

B. Blancher presented the draft plan, and it was noted that only baselines will be shown. Many boards have moved away from setting targets, and Grand Erie will also follow this process.

The Elementary Program goals for improvement were reviewed.

D. Werden queried if we could include and show results that are equivalent or better than provincial levels.

In regards to the Student Work Study, B. Blancher clarified that we are currently in year 2 support, learning cycle in schools with no additional release time. The Student Work Study teachers would be happy to present to trustees the reports they share with the Ministry. She explained that the system has learned through the student work study initiative and embedded the learning in the SSI/JI program and informs direction in other initiatives.

A. Nesbitt reviewed the Secondary Program goals for improvement.

A. Nesbitt clarified that the tuition agreement students for grades 7 and 8 are included with in the cross panel resource for math, and are organized in clusters, including Six Nations students as well. J. Forbeck further explained that information and data for tuition agreement students can be seen in the presentation slides on First Nation Metis Inuit (FMNI).

A. Nesbitt explained that tutors in the classrooms could be those who have graduated from facility of education, in class in conjunction with certified teacher. In regards to why tutors would be used in the later grades and not earlier grades, he explained that the early grades receive funds for EPO grants with certain limits and would not be able to use those funds for tutors.



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B. Blancher further explained that EPO grants, have much tighter perimeters directed at capacity building and not for staffing. She referred to volunteers as a means of helping but acknowledged maybe it would be time to develop.

S. Sincerbox reviewed the Special Education slides.

S. Sincerbox clarified that assistive technology was piloted in three schools to focus in on EQAO type of questions, and will broaden the scope across the system if the project goes well.

J. Forbeck reviewed the First Nation Metis Inuit (FNMI) slides. He noted that the FNMI students are involved with elementary and secondary program teams.

D. Dean inquired if it is within our limited capacity for decision making to increase the amount of instructional time in mathematics and if so, have we considered that? He also suggested that math be presented at the beginning of the draft plan.

B. Blancher explained that there are 60-80 minutes of instructional time, which is the requirement. She agreed there is a need of focus for numeracy across the curriculum.

A formal written report will come back on October 20, 2014.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the draft 2014-2015 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement as information.

Carried

(d) **OPSBA Report**

Nil.

H – 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Summary of Accounts – August 2014**



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Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of August 2014 in the amount of \$ 6,992,007.03 as information.

Carried

(b) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – June 5, 2014**

Presented as printed.

S. Sincerbox clarified that the consent (referred to on page 3), will become more formalized, and include the legal opinion and/or that of a consultant.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – June 5, 2014” as information.

Carried

(c) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes - June 12, 2014**

Presented as printed.

J. Gunn clarified that buildings where people are working during the summer months should be inspected.

D. Werden asked if we have custodians working during the summer in all buildings? J.

Gunn explained that schools that do not host summer programming have never had inspections during the summer.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – June 12 2014” as information.

Carried



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(d) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – Special Meeting August 29, 2014**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – Special Meeting August 29, 2014” as information.

Carried

(e) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee - Inspection Report (Summer 2014)**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the “Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee – Inspection Report (Summer 2014)” as information.

Carried

I -1 **Correspondence**

(a) **Minister of Education – Honoraria for District School Boards.**

J – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair, Carol Ann Sloat