



Committee of the Whole Board No.2

November 10, 2014
Education Centre, Board Room

MINUTES

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

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

Teleconference: E. Creed (Student Trustee)

Regrets:

Trustees: C. Lefebvre

Administration: Nil

A – 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, J. Angus at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of conducting the In Camera Session.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

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

The Open Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, J. Angus, at 7:29 p.m.

J. Angus thanked everyone and mentioned that this was her last meeting as chair of CW2. She has enjoyed her many years as trustee and will miss the challenges



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Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the agenda be approved as printed.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Nil.

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

(a) **Haldimand Secondary School Accommodation Review –Committee Report and Senior Administration Report** (from June 9, 2014)

This report was initially presented to the Board in June 2014, and is presented tonight for decision recommendations provided by the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) and Senior Administration Report.

B. Doyle, as Chair of the ARC, thanked the committee members, principals, H. Causyn and A. Nesbitt.

J. Forbeck explained that trustees will review both sets of recommendations and may choose pieces from both in their decisions.

A. Nesbitt clarified that the recommendations were provided focused on more of the programming component and less on transportation.

Discussion points from trustees included:

- Demographics similar to many other boards in province
- There are no coterminous secondary schools in the Haldimand area, there is a potential to attract those students who go out of Haldimand communities to attend the coterminous schools
- Reaching out to community members for partnership opportunities will be critical
- Concern of long bus rides in the bussing situation
- The implementation of these recommendations will take time. An implementation plan with timelines will need to be developed



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- MPSS Turning Point program – offering outside of the building. Administration of this program has been transferred to Hagersville Secondary
- Resources have been allocated in the 2014-15 budget to help develop partnerships
- Removing Queen Elizabeth Hall (Dunnville SS) was discussed given the concerns voiced by the community. J. Gunn suggested that most of the use of this facility is community recreational in nature and that the County should be consulted about supporting the community need for recreational facilities
- Consultation process should be started immediately
- Concern about adding portables to MPSS when empty spaces exist in other schools
- R. Collver suggested the need for Senior Administration to bring an implementation plan back to the Board in February or March 2015

A. Nesbitt agreed that the Turning Point program administration side of program could be open to change to help balance enrolment between schools.

J. Gunn indicated that the province is addressing right-sizing buildings by making capital available for consolidations and demolition of portions of buildings rather than just for growth opportunities.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Senior Administration recommendations for each school in the Accommodation Review:

Cayuga Secondary School (CSS)

1. Seek partnerships with post-secondary institutions, local businesses and the federal government to locate a skills training centre on site.
2. Encourage the Haldimand Public Library Board to consider the benefits of locating the new Cayuga Public Library Branch at Cayuga Secondary School as a shared use facility.
3. Encourage Haldimand County to consider consolidation of county services and sub-offices by relocating them to Cayuga Secondary School.
4. Investigate possible implementation of an agricultural focus program.

Dunnville Secondary School (DSS)

1. Encourage the Haldimand Public Library Board to consider the benefits of locating the Dunnville Public Library Branch at Dunnville Secondary School as a shared use facility.
2. Engage Haldimand County in a lease of QE Hall as a county recreational facility or consider right sizing the building by removing Queen Elizabeth Hall and adjoining classroom space.
3. Investigate and develop a partnership with Haldimand War Memorial Hospital which may include locating administrative offices and staff development and training facilities in surplus space at Dunnville Secondary School.



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4. Investigate and develop a partnership with Grandview Lodge which may include locating a staff development and training centre in surplus space at Dunnville Secondary School.

Hagersville Secondary School (HSS)

1. Investigate and develop a partnership with West Haldimand General Hospital which may include locating administrative offices and staff development and training facilities in surplus space at Hagersville Secondary School.
2. Pursue the possibility of locating the Haldimand-Norfolk Safety Village at Hagersville Secondary School.
3. Investigate and develop partnerships with daycare providers who would utilize excess pupil space in Hagersville Secondary School.
4. Investigate possible implementation of a First Nation Focus Program at Hagersville Secondary School aligning with the Environment, Engagement and Achievement including native language, cultural programming and elders in residence.
5. Consider implementation of a specialist high skills major program at Hagersville Secondary School for Not for Profit Sector Administration including business, economics and political science programming.
6. Implement School within a College dual credit programs in Foods and Native Language.
7. Implement a sports focus program featuring Lacrosse.

McKinnon Park Secondary School (MPSS)

1. Initiate a review to explore reducing the number of portables at MPSS.
2. Consult with Six Nations Education Council to determine an appropriate capped number of students for acceptance at grade nine. A cap of 35 grade nine students would result in 155 tuition agreement students at McKinnon Park Secondary School in four years (a reduction of 100 from 2013-14).
3. Initiate an attendance boundary review for pupils of the board and stand firm on the defined school boundary.
4. Grandfather all current students enrolled until graduation
5. Consider re-assigning the McKinnon Park Secondary School Turning Point program, located at the Iroquois Lacrosse Arena, to Hagersville Secondary School.

Carried

- (b) **BL9 Processes for Development of Bylaws, Policies and Administrative Procedures (from October 20, 2014)**

J. Forbeck explained that a report on Policy and Procedure came to the board on October 20, 2014, he reviewed revisions made to BL9.

D. Dean and C.A. Sloat spoke to the Policies area and that stronger words than beliefs and values are required to ensure that policies are followed.

It was suggested that additional revisions may need to be made at a later date.



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Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve BL9 Processes for Development of Bylaws, Policies and Administrative Procedures, as amended.

Carried

C – 1 Director's Report

The Director highlighted:

- All schools across Grand Erie District School Board will participate in Remembrance Day assemblies, presentations and moments of silence to remember the members of the armed forces who have fallen in the line of duty. All flags will be at half-mast
- Friday, November 14, 2014 will be a professional Activity Day for elementary and secondary schools

Superintendent Scott Sincerbox provided an update about the Ontario Special Needs Strategy and shared the focus of the strategy to place the needs of children and youth at the center of all policy, program and service delivery decisions.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of November 10, 2014 as information.

Carried

D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

(a) Contract Award – Snowplowing and Salting Contract Services

J. Gunn explained that a competitive process with coterminous board was undertaken regarding snowplowing services and the hope is that we have some synergy with common contractors. The contracts provide for a fixed amount per event with an average of 25 snow events per season. The contract is only for 2014-15 winter season but can be extended for two of one year terms.

There is a minimum amount of snowfall required to fall for snow removal, we still need to ensure that fire routes and municipal sidewalks are cleared on holidays and non-school days.



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Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the award for Snowplowing and Salting Contract Services for the 2014-15 season with contract extension, options for two one year extensions for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons.

Carried

D – 2 New Business – Information Items

(a) Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) Annual Report

A. Nesbitt explained this is the first GELA annual report. The report highlights a large amount of information and data sets that provides a look into the breadth and depth of programs offered at GELA. He introduced the principal of GELA, Lindsay Williams.

He reviewed a series of charts that highlighted various recommendations from the GELA report. He reviewed the status updates for each of the recommendations.

He highlighted the following:

- GELA's programs and services grouped by specific ministries
GELA's Alternative Day School
- Continuous Intake Model /Blended or e-Learning Model
- Dual Credit Courses
- Career Link – intention to help over 800 people that seek assistance form the employment service areas
- GELA graduates – GELA has one of the largest graduating classes in the area for adult students

M. Macdonald inquired about the impact of the Brantford Jail closing. L. Williams explained that Section 23 had been removed from the jail and that ILC's are provided for inmates. Courses are being completed through continuing education.

C.A. Sloat asked for clarification regarding which programs currently at Market Street may be considered for movement. A Nesbitt responded that Career Link is not being considered for relocation. The programs on the lower level at Market Street are being considered for relocation.

A. Nesbitt clarified that rebranding of GELA would be considered at a later date.



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Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School receive the Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) Annual report as information.

Carried

(b) **Health and Safety Annual Report 2013-2014**

J. Gunn reviewed the report and highlighted that the accident statistics remain about the same as last year, although some groups are trending higher. Slips, trips and falls are still the biggest area of concern.

J. Gunn explained that student aggression may result in a suspension for the student's action. A significant portion of students who are known as aggressors have safety plans and protective wear in place for staff when working with these students.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Health and Safety Annual Report for 2013-14 as information.

Carried

(c) **Data Report – Student Suspensions 2013-2014**

W. Baker highlighted the report and noted that the trend is moving downward for the number of suspensions. He highlighted the difference between elementary and secondary and that there is a significant decrease in secondary.

He discussed possible causes of this trend and cited that principal training is one of the main reasons and that discipline has become more than punishment. Reduced suspensions may be due to better student behaviour. Tribes, Roots of Empathy, Days of Dignity are some of our programs that are teaching students to display more empathy.

Other individualized programs for students such as GELA and Turning Point enable students to be happier because they are engaged in programs that are of interest to them.

W. Baker explained that principals have different philosophies and sometimes behaviour does warrant it.



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D. Dean pointed out that fewer suspensions are not a good thing according to his philosophy and asked if we are accepting of more unacceptable behaviour in the classroom?

W. Baker discussed how in some situations, schools deal with student mental health challenges and other behavioral concerns rather than simply suspend.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report – Student Suspensions 2013-2014 as information.

Carried

(d) **Data Report – Student Expulsions 2013-2014**

W. Baker reviewed the report and noted that the majority of expulsions are due to trafficking of drugs and weapons.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report – Student Expulsions 2013-2014 as information.

Carried

(e) **Parenting and Family Literacy Centres (PFLC) Update**

B. Blancher introduced B. Mitchell, PFLC Coordinator who works all year to promote the program and attends summer events.

She referred to the data in the charts of GEDSB – Monthly Average 2013-2014 and GEDSB – Monthly Averages 2014-2015.

B. Blancher confirmed that the “Kindergarten Ready, Set, Go Calendar” was still being distributed during Kindergarten registration.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report Parenting and Family Literacy Centres Update as information.

Carried



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(f) **Draft Annual Update, Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2012-2017**

S. Sincerbox explained that this five year plan must be reviewed annually.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Draft Annual Update, Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2012-17.

Carried

(g) **Review of Gradual Entry to Kindergarten**

B. Blancher referred to the feedback provided by 73% of the elementary schools. She was pleased to report that the schools responded in less than a week of this request. She reviewed some of the summary of responses in Appendix A.

B. Blancher clarified that the principals were not asked to report benefits. They were asked to share what plans they put in place to create a smooth transition for new Kindergarten students without gradual entry and to report on challenges experienced.

J. Forbeck spoke to the number of children that attend school who are not toilet-trained, and referred to a time when a child couldn't attend school unless they were toilet trained, however this is no longer the case.

B. Blancher added that we have younger children now attending school than years ago and are some are not toilet trained.

D. Dean wondered if we need to review the continuation of non-gradual entry.

A. Everets explained that one of the challenges is that our board had one of the longest graduated entry programs. She suggested that there may be other ways to look at Kindergarten transitions other than graduated entry.

D. Werden spoke to the number of challenges and asked if we will share the best practices collected to prepare for next year.

B. Blancher explained that this report was prepared as an easy way to share information and noted some brilliant ideas that came forth.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Review of Gradual Entry to Kindergarten as information.

Carried



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E – 1 Bylaw/Policy/Procedure Consideration – Action/Decision Items

(a) SO23 Accessibility – Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR)

S. Sincerbox explained that the committee met and that they are in the process of passing regulation. He clarified that the intent of what training will look like is still being considered.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO23 – “Accessibility – Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by February 13, 2015.

Carried

(b) F6 Purchasing

A recent AODA Review has identified minor changes to Policy F6 to ensure compliance. It was suggested that the review date remain the same to keep in the same three year cycle. The Board discussed the need to apply Bylaw 9 given the minor nature of the changes.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board suspend Bylaw 9.

Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy F6 - “Purchasing”.

Carried

(c) F107 Purchasing

A recent AODA Review has identified minor changes to Administrative Procedure F107 to ensure compliance. It was suggested that the review date remain the same to keep in the same three year cycle. The Board discussed the need to apply Bylaw 9 given the minor nature of the changes.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board suspend Bylaw 9.

Carried



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Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure F107 -
"Purchasing" as information.
Carried

F – 1 Other Business

(a) OPSBA Report

D. Werden noted that a meeting at the end of the month is scheduled and a report will come following that meeting.

G – 1 Correspondence

(a) Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario

Moved by: D. Dean
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive correspondence as information.
Carried

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss personnel matters at 9:42 p.m.
Carried

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: M. Macdonald
THAT the Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting continue past 10:00 p.m. to deal with remaining items on the agenda.
Carried

H – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: M. Macdonald
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:09 p.m.
Carried

Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Chair, Jane Angus