



Committee of the Whole Board No.1

September 8, 2014
Education Centre, Board Room

MINUTES

Present: D. Dean, Committee Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, E. Dixon, 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 Committee Chair, D. Dean at 7:15.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

(c) In Camera Session

Nil.

(d) Welcome to Open Session

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

(e) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Agenda item E-1-a Kiwanis Field Update was added to the agenda.



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Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt
THAT the agenda be approved as amended.
Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Nil.

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

Nil.

C – 1 **Director's Report**

The Director highlighted:

- The Director thanked staff across the Board for their patience and tremendous efforts as they learn the new Student Information System (PowerSchool). He also acknowledged staff for their support during the transition of photocopiers and showed his appreciation to the staff for learning two new systems during an already busy time of year
- Get Yourself in the Picture Campaign: OPSBA launched a website and poster campaign to promote the role of trustees and the 2014 municipal and school board elections. On Monday, October 27th, municipal and school board elections will be held throughout the province. In every town, city and region, voters will choose school trustees for 72 school boards.
- Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants: PRO grants are used to encourage parents to become involved in their children's education and to help support student learning. Grand Erie District School Board is the recipient of 29 grants for the 2014-15 school year. Congratulations to Grand Erie's 2014-15 grant recipients.
- In an effort to create more awareness of electricity consumption and conservation opportunities, Brantford Power, Brant County Power, Haldimand County Hydro and Norfolk Power assembled recently to present the Grand Erie District School Board with 140 power plug meters for their school libraries. Elementary and high school students will be encouraged to borrow the meters to take home and see the exact amount of electricity their electronics, appliances and other devices use.
- Information was received that funding is in place for our two Parent Family Literacy Centres (PFLC). There was no information regarding additional sites



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- Chinese delegates will meet with the Mayor of Brantford and representatives from Grand Erie on September 12, 2014 to discuss possible education partnerships in Brantford

In response to a trustee who has voiced parents' concerns regarding the Student Insurance Form, J. Forbeck clarified the purpose and intent for parents is to inform the school if a student has accident insurance from another source. Insure My Kid is a company that provides insurance to parents to cover above and beyond school board insurance.

J. Gunn added that for clarification, parents should be aware of what the board liability Insurance actually covers.

R. Collver suggested sending a letter to the Ministry expressing our appreciation of the Parent Family Literacy Centres. The letter will express the value to our children and the support from the communities with the need to expand the program in Grand Erie. Karen Calligan, Child Care Advisor for the London Region of the Ministry to be copied.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the GEDSB forward a letter to the Ministry regarding Parent Family Literacy Centres.

Carried

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

Carried

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

(a) HR1 Bereavements

M. McDonald reviewed the proposed minor word changes.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

Carried

(b) SO21 School Food and Beverages

B. Blancher explained that this policy is based on the Ministry of Education's School Food and Beverages policy. The change proposed is to remove Appendix A – PPM150 from the policy, this PPM can be found on the Ministry website.



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B. Blancher clarified that there were minimal issues with PPM150 when it was implemented four years ago. She explained how each school provides a food tracker form that records 10 events per year that veers away from this policy in terms of food.

She further explained that any breakfast or nutrition program follow their own provincial guidelines for student nutrition programs.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

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.

Carried

(c) **F5 Advocacy**

J. Gunn noted that no comments were received from stakeholders.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

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

Carried

(d) **FT11 Facilities Partnerships**

J. Gunn is requesting approval to rescind Administrative Procedure FT118, as the procedures have been encompassed into FT11. He highlighted comments and suggested amendments.

He explained one further revision is to remove 3.5 Public Meetings under notification process from the policy, as it is already stated under guidelines 3.3.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy FT11 – Facilities Partnerships, as amended.

Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Administrative Procedure FT118- Facilities Partnership.

Carried



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(e) **HR2 Consideration of Employee Concerns**

M. McDonald noted that one comment was received.

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy HR2 – Consideration of Employee Concerns.

Carried

D – 2 **Administrative Procedure Consideration - Information Items**

(a) **SO112 Appropriate Student Dress**

S. Sincerbox noted that no changes are made.

He clarified that the idea of implementing uniforms in schools should require an 85-90% rate of support from parents. He referred back to past experience as a principal and agreed to benefits of wearing uniforms.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Werden

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.

Carried

(b) **SO118 Opening and Closing Exercises at Schools**

S. Sincerbox noted that no changes are made.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Doyle

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.

Carried

(c) **F102 Purchasing Card Program**

J. Gunn noted that no comments were received. A suggested amendment is to add that privileges may be suspended or cancelled under item 5.c



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Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure F102 – Purchasing Card Program as information, as amended.

Carried

(d) **F103 Travel and Expense Claims**

J. Gunn reviewed the comments received as outlined in the report.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure F103 – Travel and Expense Claims as information.

Carried

(e) **FT112 Disposal of Surplus Furnishings and Equipment**

J. Gunn referred to the comments received as outlined in the report.

It was suggested to change title of procedure to include “damaged and obsolete” furnishings and equipment.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure FT112 – Disposal of Surplus Furnishings and Equipment.

Carried

E – 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Kiwanis Field Update**

D. Dean provided a verbal update that a proposal for funding by the City of Brantford council was passed. He recognized the efforts of Councillor Bucci and Councillor Neumann for their invaluable support moving this initiative forward.

F – 1 **Correspondence**

Nil.



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G – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Carried

Committee of the Whole Board No.1 Chair, David Dean