



Committee of the Whole Board

March 7, 2016
Education Centre, Board Room

MINUTES

Present: G. Anderson – Committee Chair, R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle, A. Felsky, J. Harris, J. Richardson, K. Sandy, C.A. Sloat, M. Brown (Student Trustee), A. Martindale (Student Trustee)

Administration: Acting Director (S. Sincerbox); Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, L. De Vos, J. Gunn, A. Nesbitt, L. Thompson; Recording Secretary – D. Fletcher

Teleconference: D. Sowers

Regrets:

Trustees: T. Waldschmidt

Administration: B. Blancher

A – 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, G. Anderson 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: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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 Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, G. Anderson 7:15 p.m.

(e) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval



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Agenda item D-2-a Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk (STSBHN) – Annual Report will be presented after Agenda Item D-1-a Board Approved Transportation Review

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

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**

Be Well Campaign: (S. Sincerbox)

Students have responded well to the Be Well Campaign that brings wellness into the heart of the conversation about mental health.

Syrian Newcomer Update: (L. De Vos and A. Andratis)

Grand Erie District School Board is welcoming newcomer students and families. Our Board has much experience in supporting immigrant and refugee children at school, and we can draw on a number of best practices to support the students and families. Atala Andratis, ELL Teacher Consultant updated the Board of Trustees about Grand Erie's involvement and response to support the families.

Trustees were appreciative to Atala Andratis and her team and how wonderful it is to hear how our students are being very open and welcoming to these families.

Parenting & Family Literacy Centres Update: (L. De Vos)

The Ontario government released information in February that delivers on their commitment to make access to child and family programs easier by announcing the launch of Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres. These hubs will offer parents and their children a suite of high-quality early years programs, as well as local services tailored to their communities. Parenting & Family Literacy Centres have a role in this announcement and there is a two-year period of status quo while a review is conducted.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of March 7, 2016 as information.

Carried



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D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

(a) Board Approved Transportation Review

J. Gunn invited P. Kuckyt, Manager of Transportation to review the report.

He reviewed key points from the following in the report:

- Background
- Out-of-Boundary Students (Norfolk Secondary, Oakland-Scotland to WDHS Express Route, Caledonia to Cayuga Secondary Express Route, Students attending River Heights, Out of Boundary Students attending Houghton PS)
- Out of District Schools (Norwich/Otterville students attending Delhi District SS, Princeton/Drumbo students attending Paris DHS)
- Section 23 Students – Woodview Program
- Addition Information

R. Collver inquired about the Norwich students attending Delhi. P. Kuckyt explained how the boundaries are determined depending on which side (East or West) of Hwy 59 students live.

R. Collver inquired how catchment areas are treated for Princeton and Drumbo home pickups. J. Gunn explained the boundaries with Thames Valley DSB determine which students attend Paris DHS.

In regards to Houghton, he further explained that information has been collected for next year for capacity. Historically, the numbers at Houghton in September look very different than in March. We recognize the uniqueness of the program that Houghton offers and will continue to try to accommodate those students wishing to attend Houghton.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the transportation route exceptions listed in this report for the 2016-17 School Year.

Carried

(b) Allocation of Self-Contained Classrooms for 2016-2017

L. Thompson highlighted key points from the following in the report:

- Rationale
- Changes made to meet the needs of changing student population at various elementary and secondary schools
- Teacher Consultants
- Additional Information
- Budget Implications
- Communication Plan



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B. Doyle referenced the capacity/enrolment #'s for the gifted program at Jarvis and inquired at which point it is determined that a gifted class will not be offered.

L. Thompson explained a class will be provided if there is a need and we can provide without undue hardship and ensure the resources are put in the right place.

A. Felsky inquired why Graham Bell was chosen as the school to offer a class for autistic students. L. Thompson explained that this school can provide large enough space and also it offers another large alternate area for the students.

D. Dean voiced a concern about the growth in number of Special Education students from 56 to 81 entering kindergarten. L. Thompson explained that number constitutes names that came forward through community partners such as Speech and Language and Woodview. Meetings are held in January to identify those students.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the locations and number of self-contained classrooms for 2016-2017, as outlined, pending budget deliberations.

Carried

(c) **Compensatory Education Action Plan**

L. Thompson presented the report and invited Greg Rousell, System Research Leader to the table.

The following was reviewed:

i) **Compensatory Education Plan**

- Background
- Areas of noted progress in 2015/2016
- Focus Areas for Steering Committee in 2015/2016
- Grand Erie District School Board Student Achievement Data
- School Climate Data
- Members of the Compensatory Education Steering Committee 2015-2016
- Compensatory Education Action Plan 2015-2016: Evidence of Progress
- Draft Compensatory Education Action Plan 2016-2017

J. Harris requested the following information:

- The report to reflect: success stories happening at the schools as a result of Compensatory Education supports, What are we doing? Why are we doing? And is it working?
- Dollars spent on the plan?
- Can data be captured through other methods?



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R. Collver commented:

- As a member of the steering committee, R. Collver explained the challenges of developing relationships when the number of representatives continually change
- It would be beneficial for the Compensatory Education plan if the following reports could come to Board in February: LLI, Empower, LITE

D. Dean requested

- Evidence of success
- Consistency of teachers in Compensatory Education schools remains vital
- Teacher's needs are support in the classroom and not outside of classroom or school

L. Thompson explained that the Learning Resource Teacher (LRT) provides the time needed to take small groups into reading intervention programs (LLI, Empower) which are held at the school. The program requires consistent implementation of one hour daily to dramatically show improvement. Without that extra LRT support, it would be impossible to have that time every day for the students.

G. Rousell noted that other methods of data could be collected through interviews held at the school, speaking with students, and a possible review of the program.

S. Sincerbox commended L. Thompson on the efforts of the committee in dealing with the many challenges associated with Compensatory Education such as economic realities, and frequent changes of staff.

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the 2015/2016 Compensatory Education report and the 2016/2017 draft Compensatory Education Plan for information.

Carried

A. Felsky left the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

ii) School Selection

L. Thompson reviewed Elementary and Secondary Schools in Order of Need Compensatory Schools Index (CSI), Social-Economic Risk by Neighbourhood, School Selection according to Demographics in Grand Erie – elementary schools and secondary schools, Elementary and secondary schools in order of need (compensatory schools index (CSI)).



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G. Rousell explained that previously Grand Erie DSB has used Census data from 2006 to 2011. This year the board purchased data from Environics that provides additional, reliable and more up-to-date data than the most recent census. The following five variables are combined into a single score – the Compensatory Schools Index (CSI):

- Median Income
- Low Income – Percentage of households with low incomes (less than \$30,000)
- Renters: Percentage of households that rent vs. own their home
- Lone Parent Families: percentage of families with single parents
- Low Education: Percentage of 25-64 olds without a high school diploma

The index is calculated at the Dissemination Area (DA) level and range from 0 (lowest economic risk) to 100 (highest economic risk):

It was requested that a full listing of all schools be provided to trustees.

R. Collver noted that poverty isn't as visible in Haldimand and Norfolk as it is in downtown Brantford.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the designation for high and moderate needs Compensatory Schools for 2016/17.

Carried

iii) Funding Direction Report

The following was reviewed:

- Background
- Resource, details and potential funding source
- Recommendations for 2016/2017

J. Harris requested an explanation of the cost implication to the Board to provide supports. J. Gunn referred to the pre-budget meeting held with trustees where it was discussed and agreed that a full costing of all resources required to support the Compensatory Education Program would be provided during the Budget Review Meetings.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: R. Collver



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THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the direction for staffing and resource enhancements for compensatory education schools for 2016/2017, subject to final budget approval.

Carried

D – 2 New Business – Information Items

(a) **Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk (STSBHN) – Annual Report**
(This agenda item was discussed after D-1-a)

J. Gunn invited P. Kuckyt, Manager of Transportation to review the report.

P. Kuckyt, reviewed and explained the following:

- Route Breakdown by Vehicle Class
- Route Costs by Type
- Vehicle Utilization by Vehicle Type
- Student Data - Walkers, Bussed, Hazard, Out of Boundary, Out of District
- Courtesy Transportation by Panel
- Student Ride Times by Range
- Consortium Update
- STSBHN Internal Goals and Objectives
- STSBHN Going Forward

C.A. Sloat inquired why courtesy Transportation has decreased from 820 (2014) to 478 students for elementary and increased from 212 (2014) to 386 for secondary students.

P. Kuckyt explained secondary is dependent on the classification of individuals who attend a secondary school outside of their catchment area. There is not a clear understanding of why elementary has decreased however the numbers continue to get tracked for future understandings.

B. Doyle inquired about drastic changes in fuel costs and how it is reflected in the providers' costs. P. Kuckyt explained that the Ministry provides a funding based on the price of diesel fuel. The transportation department contract with their bus operators aligns with this funding leaving the Board responsible for the non-refundable HST.

D. Dean inquired about the feasibility of the reduction in students who ride the bus for more than 75 min. P. Kuckyt spoke to the GPS that compares plan versus actual and can identify actual ride times. J. Gunn added that the Board Approved Transportation Review report attributes to some of those exceptions.



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Moved by: J. Richardson

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk (STSBHN) – Annual Report as information.

Carried

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

(a) **BL8 Special Education Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference**

L. Thompson explained that there is no mechanism for midterm approval and the need to determine alternate members and referred to proposed revisions.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the amendment of the Terms of Reference for the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Carried

(b) **SO1 Fund-Raising**

J. Gunn referred to comments received and revisions made.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy SO1 – “Fund-Raising”.

Carried

(c) **SO9 Cyberbullying**

W. Baker reported that this policy will be going out to stakeholders input and reviewed the changes proposed by the Equity and Inclusive Committee.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO9 - “Cyberbullying” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 27, 2016.

Carried

(d) **SO30 Management of Potentially Life-Threatening Health Conditions in Schools**

L. Thompson explained that new Bill 135 Ryan’s Law required boards to create policies and management plans to support this law to ensure asthma friendly schools, similar to that of Bill 3 Sabrina’s Law (to ensure safety of students who experience life threatening allergic reactions). SO30 is a new policy to address Bill 3 Sabrina’s Law, Bill 135 Ryan’s



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Law and other medical concerns such as diabetes and seizure disorders. The four management plans were reviewed.

M. Brown left the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO30 - "Management of Potentially Life-Threatening Health Conditions in Schools" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 27, 2016.

Carried

(e) **SO31 Accessibility**

L. Thompson explained that this new policy will include an accessibility awareness manual to replace the four accessibility procedures: SO135, SO137, SO138, and SO139.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO31 - "Accessibility" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 27, 2016.

Carried

E – 2 **Administrative Procedure Consideration – Information Items**

(a) **HR110 Hiring Procedures**

S. Sincerbox reported that this procedure will be going out to stakeholders input. He addressed a few revisions suggested to include the need for job related criteria to be developed and consistently applied when processing applications.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: K. Sandy

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure HR110 – "Hiring Procedures" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 27, 2016.

Carried

(b) **SO102 Request for School Assistance in Health Care**

L. Thompson explained that SO102 was not scheduled for review until sept 2017 but should be brought the same time as Policy SO30 to reflect requirements of Ryan's Law and the new policy.

Page 6 – Diabetes – remove the word inhaler, add "medication" to manage symptoms.

Moved by: D. Sowers



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Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure SO102 - "Request for School Assistance in Health Care" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 27, 2016, as amended.

Carried

F – 1 Other Business

(a) OPSBA Report

C.A. Sloat reviewed the report and highlighted key points.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

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

Carried

G – 1 Correspondence

(a) Response Letter to City of Brantford re: French Immersion

H – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Carried

Committee of the Whole Board No.2 Chair, Greg Anderson