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## MINUTES

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

**Administration:** Director B. Blancher; Superintendents – D. Abbey, L. De Vos, J. Gunn, A. Nesbitt, L. Thompson; Recording Secretary - D. Fletcher

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** Nil.

**Administration:** W. Baker, S. Sincerbox

### A – 1 Opening

#### (a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by (Acting) Chair, T. Waldschmidt 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: D. Sowers

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 (Acting) Chair, T. Waldschmidt at 7:15 p.m.

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



## Committee of the Whole Board No.2

May 9, 2016

Education Centre, Board Room

Agenda item C-1 Director's Report will be presented after agenda item A-1-g.  
Agenda items D-2-b Student Senate Report and D-2-c Student Trustee Selection will be presented after the Director's report.

Moved by: G. Anderson  
Seconded by: D. Sowers  
THAT the agenda be approved as printed.  
**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: R. Collver  
Seconded by: G. Anderson  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Major Ballachey Community HUB Agreement between the Board and the Corporation of the City of Brantford.  
**Carried**

(g) **Delegation – H. Cartmel Re: Proposal to keep the Developmentally Delayed Program at North Park**

Hali and Brandon presented the delegation.

A. Felsky thanked them for sharing their views in a thoughtful and articulate manner and recognized the all of the benefits experienced of having this class at their school.

R. Collver agreed with A. Felsky and explained that difficult decisions are made to determine what is best and beneficial for all students in the Board. We are sure that PJ students will have a similar positive experience as NPC has enjoyed.

Moved by: B. Doyle  
Seconded by: G. Anderson  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the delegation as information.  
**Carried**

D. Sowers left the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

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

(a) **2016-2010 Multi-Year Plan Update (From November 9, 2015)**

B. Blancher referred to highlights in the report from background, committee composition, meetings, development of annual operating plans, communication plan and acknowledgement of attendees.



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B. Blancher requested trustees to formalize thoughts on the graphics and choose the preferred one and provide feedback on them. The next steps following final approval is the development of Annual Operating plans.

When questioned about the colours of the graphics and if they meet the SO25 (Visual Identity) policy, S. McKillop explained that the board logo consists of two colours and those colours are to be protected. The multi-year plan graphic is a style of the Visual Identity and can use various shades of the logo colours but not alter the logo. The intent of the policy, which includes information related to Bylaw 19, is to protect the colours of the logo.

Discussion involved the Indicator Statements and Goals for the plan and trustees provided feedback on the following:

- Equity – five adjectives, are they all required?/ spell out GEDSB
- Technology – connecting to staff and student learning/understanding and addressing limitations to the Ed Tech initiative
- Achievement - balance equation to include students

B. Blancher confirmed that a Communications plan would be presented to Board.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

**Carried**

(b) **École Fairview School Council – Request for Name Change of Coronation Public School (From November 9, 2015)**

L. Thompson reviewed background, additional information, recommendations and the communication plan.

On April 14, 2016 the Renaming Committee proposed three new names for consideration by Trustees:

- École Mayfair
- École Confédération
- École Béatrice Déloges

L. Thompson explained that advertising methods included the board website, local radio stations and signage outside of the school. The committee felt they did a good job in reaching out to the community; in addition students brought information home.

Once 17 names were chosen, the Re-naming Committee voted twice resulting in the three names proposed for consideration.



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Discussion involved the school mascot, and the importance of the mascot to the students.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rename the school previously known as Coronation to École Confédération.

**Carried**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board disband the Renaming Committee at École Fairview.

**Carried**

### C – 1 Director's Report

The Director highlighted:

- Three Grand Erie students - Mikenzie Sandy of Hagersville Secondary School, Jazzmine Thomas of McKinnon Park Secondary School and Tobias March of Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School attended the Minister's Student Advisory Council as new members. These students shared their ideas and provided advice to the Minister on a variety of topics regarding Ontario's education system. The council meets directly with the Minister of Education and gathers twice a year, once in May in Toronto and once in August at a leadership camp.
- Brett St. was officially renamed to Kiwanis Way. Grand Erie District School Board trustees were on hand when the City of Brantford officially renamed Kiwanis Way (formerly known as Brett St.). Council approved the name change in February 2016 in recognition of the Kiwanis Club's tremendous contribution to the development of Kiwanis Field, a new state of the art Turf Field at the school expected to officially open in late June/early July.
- The inaugural secondary school Grand Erie Games will be held on May 18, 2016 at Cayuga Secondary School. The Games will be a fun-filled day for our Special Education Secondary Self Contained classes (Autism, Developmentally Delayed, and Multi-Handicapped students). The event will begin with an Opening Ceremony at 10:15 am, followed by individual and team events that students can participate in. The day will end with a brief awards assembly and an interactive video dance that will allow students to meet new friends from other schools.



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- Friday May 13, 2016: As per the recommendation approved by Trustees at the Committee of the Whole 2 meeting in June 2015, Lakewood Elementary School will be closed to students. Teachers will attend school for professional development

K. Sandy was pleased to report there were five First Nation Students chosen out of 60 students for the Minister's Student Advisory Council.

R. Collver commended the Communications and Engagement team for their promotion of "Chalk it Up" during Education and Mental Health week. The numbers of schools involved were impressive.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of May 9, 2016 as information.

**Carried**

### D – 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

#### (a) 2016-2017 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule

B. Blancher presented the annual report that is provided each May to set the meeting dates for the next school year. This schedule is developed with two meetings per month, and is contingent on approval of BL3 Annual Organizational Meeting and BL5 Board and Committee of the Whole Board Meetings - Rules of Procedure, at the May 30, 2016 Board meeting.

Extra dates were provided to be considered for trustee caucus sessions, and it was agreed by trustees to set those dates at a later date.

C. A. Sloat referred to the short turnaround time in October 2016 and January 2017.

B. Blancher explained that the EQAO report that comes each October will not be ready for Oct 3, 2017 and the data needs to be released publicly before it comes to Board.

Trustees agreed to change the Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> date to Jan 30, 2017. Discussion included changing the meeting time, however due to travel time and work schedules; it was agreed that the meeting times will remain the same.

It was suggested that the current committee chairs alternate the role of committee chair for the three fall meetings.



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Education Centre, Board Room

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2016–17 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule, as amended.

**Carried**

### (b) Allocation of Educational Assistants

L. Thompson referred to the report and provided highlights from rationale, options considered, budget implications, and communication plan. She noted that the motion should reflect “302” Educational Assistants.

Julie White, Principal Leader of Special Education was introduced and joined the discussion. She explained that self-contained classes are 95% capacity and that the report details those students with extreme support requirements.

C.A. Sloat inquired about how often criteria is reviewed and within what parameters is it determined. J. White explained there are some situations with low enrolment in the classroom and as a result, two fulltime EAs are not required. It is more transparent to add “at capacity” and should needs change over the school year, then the allocation of the EA of that particular class would need to be changed at that time.

L. Thompson confirmed that this has been a consideration in past practices.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the allocation of 302 Educational Assistants, as outlined in the report “Allocation of Educational Assistants 2016- 2017”, pending final budget approval.

**Carried**

## D – 2 New Business – Information Items

### (a) Facility Partnerships – Annual Facility Status Report

J. Gunn referred to Policy FT11 Facility Partnerships and how this annual status report identifies facilities that may be suitable for facility partnerships with respect to new construction and unused space in schools and administrative buildings.



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He referred to successful partnerships: Major Ballachey hub, artificial turf sports fields at Pauline Johnson and North Park, and Today's Family Child Care Centre at Lakewood Elementary School.

Appendix A identifies schools with surplus space. A summer student has already started and will be visiting schools to complete a facility use survey.

He explained that HR conducted advertising in search of a consultant for the board to engage in discussions with community stakeholders.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Facility Partnerships Report as information

**Carried**

(b) **Student Senate Report**

M. Brown referred to the report which details the Student Senate meeting held on April 19, 2016.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Senate Report (Minutes of April 19, 2016) as information.

**Carried**

(c) **Student Trustee Selection**

A. Martindale introduced Elizabeth Marr, from Waterford District High School who was elected as the student trustee representing the South for the 2016-2017 school year.

M. Brown introduced Brett Newman, from Paris District High School who was acclaimed as the student trustee representing the North for the 2016-2017 school year.

B. Blancher congratulated B. Newman and E. Marr and looks forward to their participation next year. An orientation meeting will be held in late August 2016.



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The new trustees, when asked what motivated them to get involved, shared that this is a new opportunity to get involved and make a difference.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Senate's report on the appointment of the following Student Trustees for 2016-17:

Grand Erie North: Brett Newman

Grand Erie South: Elizabeth Marr

**Carried**

(d) **Data Report – Learner Intervention Tracking for Excellence (LITE) – Referrals for Professional Services**

L. Thompson reviewed the background in the report and elaborated on the data in the charts: Number of Referrals (2013-14 to 2015-16), Elementary Referrals by Professional Group (2013-14 to 2015-16), Number of Referrals – Secondary (Behavior, Communication, Psych & ROKS) 2013-14 to 2015-16, and Number of Referrals-Secondary (Attendance, CYW, Social Worker) 2013-14 to 2015-16.

L. Thompson noted the following revision to wording in paragraph two “Student Support Plans and Transportation Plans Modules have been developed and will be used to document health plans for students with medical needs at school and on school buses”.

K. Sandy left the meeting at 8:26 pm.

C.A. Sloat inquired if there are more referrals waiting for service in the schools. L. Thompson confirmed that there would be more that need to go through the school and resource team process.

C.A. Sloat inquired about the decrease if ROKS referrals. L. Thompson explained that there is a strong need for the ROKS process, with a long list of students who can be accessing these supports.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive “Data Report – Learner Intervention Tracking for Excellence (LITE) – Referrals for Professional Services” as information.

**Carried**





(e) **Levelled Literacy Intervention (LLI) and Empower Reading Report**

L. De Vos and L. Thompson reviewed the report and addressed the background, additional information (LLI and Empower), Observations and Key Findings, and Next Steps.

L. De Vos highlighted key points regarding LLI:

- Background remains the same
- Reviewed the data
- Surveys sent out this year to 60 elementary principals using LLI and 16 secondary principals using Empower
- Responses included positive trends and patterns
- An improvement was seen in the student's reading level,
- The pattern shows an increased confidence

L. Thompson highlighted key points regarding Empower:

- Empower is a similar type of program as LLI, although it targets a different group of students
- Is supplementary to a comprehensive literacy program
- Targeted at compensatory education schools
- Data shows similarities around implementation challenges

J. Harris requested an explanation regarding the variance in the numbers versus students at the same level, as shown on the chart on page four. L. Thompson explained that different levels of progress are reflective of the fact that the students may be at different weeks in the program.

L. De Vos explained that through consultation with the System Research Leader, it was determined that a plan should be developed to track student progress after they exited the LLI program. At the current time, it has not been established how that plan will look.

R. Collver inquired about lack of reliable data, challenges of obtaining the data and if there is a standard assessment tools for teachers' use.

B. Blancher referred to PPM155 "Diagnostic Assessment in Support of Student Learning" and explained that teachers can select the type of diagnostic testing to use in their classroom. A principal can request data at any time but cannot dictate when or how an assessment is conducted. DRA is a standard assessment that is used consistently across our system.



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R. Collver inquired about the relationship with Sick Kids Hospital. L. Thompson explained there is a service agreement between them and our board. They provided the Empower Program along with trainers and materials.

C.A. Sloat inquired about the plan going forward regarding collection of data.

L. De Vos explained that the plan is to meet with the System Research Leader to ensure consistent data is provided.

R. Collver inquired about early reading programs in Kindergarten. B. Blancher explained that reading is developmental and the teacher needs to assess when the student is ready for programming.

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Levelled Literacy Intervention and Empower Reading Report as information.

**Carried**

### (f) **Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA) Update**

B. Blancher referred to the annual report, and presented on behalf of the System Research Leader.

She reviewed the background and that the Ministry of Education requires that board MISA projects focus on 2 out of 4 priority areas:

1. High priority common core projects relating to human resources, data management, or technology (referring to the "Common Core Capacities Continuum" which outlined the original MISA focus at the project's inception in 2005).
2. Creating more effective integration and collaboration with system leaders in activities related to board improvement planning, monitoring, assessment and evaluation.
3. Promoting prioritized availability and usability of information for end-users having regard for privacy protection.
4. Data quality management projects that will improve the timeliness, accuracy and completeness of board data and information to OnSIS (Ontario School Information System).



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C.A. Sloat referred to priority area #3 and inquired about a plan going forward to ensure that schools can access data easier.

B. Blancher explained that the System Research Leader has determined that the work is minimal going forward once the reports are created. Report card data has been presented to elementary schools, and with the use of EQAO tools now available in the schools, he will be able to support the schools.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the MISA Update as information.

**Carried**

### E – 1 Other Business

Nil.

### F – 1 Correspondence

Nil.

D. Dean updated trustees and superintendents that they will be receiving a survey this week for the Director's performance appraisal to be completed by May 26, 2016.

### G – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

**Carried**

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Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 (Acting) Chair, Tom Waldschmidt