



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015  
(Held on February 9, 2015)  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

### MINUTES

**Present:** A. Felsky, Committee Vice-Chair, R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle, J. Harris, J. Richardson, C.A. Sloat, D. Sowers, M. Brown (Student Trustee), E. Creed (Student Trustee)

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

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** G. Anderson, K. Sandy, T. Waldschmidt

**Administration:** B. Blancher, J. Gunn

**A – 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Vice-Chair A. Felsky at 6:30 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: D. Dean

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 Vice-Chair, A. Felsky at 7:15 p.m.

A. Felsky extended a warm welcome to Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario President and students from Brock University, who were in attendance.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015

(Held on February 9, 2015)

Education Centre, Board Room

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

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the agenda be approved.

**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the resignation of John Forbeck, Director of Education, for the purpose of retirement, effective the end of the day on August 31, 2015, be accepted with regret.

**Carried**

D. Dean extended congratulations to J. Forbeck on an outstanding job as Director and is pleased to see how our students have benefitted tremendously in academics and achievement under his leadership.

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

Nil.

**C – 1 Director's Report**

J. Forbeck thanked everyone for their kind words. He has seen his role in this wonderful board as the pinnacle role of his career. He was proud of the camaraderie and passion shown in good news and celebrations of student achievements. He looks forward to spending more time with family, friends and fishing.

The Director highlighted:

- The Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM) Registration has begun. This program allows a student to customize high school to fit with the student's career interests. Offered in Grade 11 and 12, an SHSM allows students to get a special diploma seal when they graduate that is recognized in that particular sector
- Centralized Communication Notification System: Dave Abbey, Assistant Superintendent of Education, shared information with the Trustees that Grand Erie is seeking a system-wide notification solution for the purpose of communicating relevant information to parents and guardians of students enrolled in our system. An RFP will soon be issued seeking a proposed system that should support multi-mode message delivery from school to home including voice, email, SMS text messages and postings to social media sites.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015

(Held on February 9, 2015)

Education Centre, Board Room

- The Education Centre is celebrating Valentine's day by selling tickets for valentine-themed baskets with proceeds to support Nova Vita in Brantford

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of February 2, 2015 as information.

**Carried**

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

#### (a) **BL38 Capital Expenditure Financing: Vehicle Purchases**

Since the debt has been paid to borrow money to purchase vehicles, it was recommended to rescind this bylaw.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Bylaw 38 – Capital Expenditure Financing: Vehicle Purchases.

**Carried**

#### (b) **F1 Exclusive Suppliers: Food Service & Vending Machines in Schools**

J. Forbeck addressed that before Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) No. 150 was established three years ago regarding healthy eating, vending machines proved to be a major fundraiser for schools.

E. Creed inquired why vending machines sell chocolate bars if schools are trying to promote healthy eating behaviors. J. Forbeck explained the 10% rule in which schools have 10 designated days to use for food that doesn't stay within PPM No. 150.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy F1 – Exclusive Suppliers: Food Service & Vending Machines in Schools to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 1, 2015.

**Carried**

#### (c) **F3 Capital Related Funding and Community Donations**

J. Forbeck referred to specific considerations around maintenance in this policy.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015

(Held on February 9, 2015)

Education Centre, Board Room

B. Doyle addressed Procedure 4.1.1.3 School Signage in the event of a school closing. He spoke of the importance of keeping the bell from the closed school visible in the new school where students have transitioned to honour the history of that school.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy F3 – Capital Related Fundraising and Community Donations to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 1, 2015.

**Carried**

(d) **HR9 Hiring, Supervision and Placement of a Family Member**

M. McDonald explained this policy was developed in 2011 and will be going out for stakeholder comment for the first time and that there are many considerations required in this policy.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy HR9 — “Hiring, Supervision and Placement of a Family Member” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 1, 2015.

**Carried**

(e) **SO6 Student Suspensions**

W. Baker reviewed the revised version of SO6 that now includes Administrative Procedure SO127 Student Suspensions.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO6 — “Student Suspensions” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 1, 2015.

**Carried**

(f) **FT6 Student Transportation**

J. Forbeck referred to comments provided by stakeholders. He highlighted previous criteria developed for long waiting and too few seats on the bus. The criteria has been revised to consider program and grade level.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015

(Held on February 9, 2015)

Education Centre, Board Room

C.A. Sloat inquired about Item 1.2 Transportation Eligibility students and why with a walking distance of 1.6km for elementary and 3.2km for secondary, is there a .8km walk to a bus stop in an urban setting.

R. Collver added that it happens in rural Ontario and we need to be aware of students walking 1.6 km in the country.

J. Forbeck will follow up with J. Gunn, Superintendent of Business and P. Kuckyt, Manager of Transportation.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy FT6 – “Student Transportation”.

**Carried**

### (g) **FT7 Inclement Weather**

J. Forbeck was pleased to report that this policy has served us very well in the last three years. He reviewed how the system is complex and involves a number of people and factors prior to making a call to close schools.

E. Creed asked how decisions are made from Brantford for areas such as Norfolk and Haldimand. J. Forbeck explained how factors involved and prediction of lake affects, and bus drivers who test the road communicate about ease of road clearance.

C.A. Sloat asked why schools close when buses are running and acknowledged the difficulty for parents when schools are closed. She inquired if co-terminous boards handle inclement weather differently.

J. Forbeck indicated that some mostly urban boards around us have moved to this model. He will inquire about what they have found with respect to student attendance.

R. Collver noted that Thames Valley continue to keep schools open when buses are cancelled.

D. Dean agreed with Trustees Collver and Sloat and that students who live in an urban setting are able to attend schools and that the neighborhood schools should remain open.

J. Forbeck explained that many agencies base their decisions on what school boards do and that we need to be aware that the traffic is safe for those parents who would be driving their children to school.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015  
(Held on February 9, 2015)  
Education Centre, Board Room

A. Felsky asked for clarification when schools are open and voiced a concern about staff who would be travelling to schools outside of their neighborhood, particularly if buses are not running.

M. McDonald explained that a provision in the Collective Agreement allows a staff member to apply for a hazardous weather day if the staff member feels that they cannot make it in due to weather conditions. It is up to the discretion of the superintendent to approve the request.

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy FT7 – “Inclement Weather”.

**Carried**

### (h) **SO7 Student Expulsions**

W. Baker referred to comments #9 and 10 and re-entry for a student to return to school after an expulsion. Comment #16 addresses the extent of a threat exposed in school setting.

Administrative Procedure SO110 Weapons has been included in this policy.

Minutes of settlement were developed to deal with a situation when the student is suspended pending expulsion and the parents are in agreement with decision that is going to be made however find it challenging to attend the meeting.

A. Felsky applauded breaking down barriers for families to participate in the process.

J. Harris suggested similar language used in SO6 and SO7 in terms of maintenance of order at hearing.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy SO7 — “Student Expulsions”.

**Carried**

### (i) **FT12 Courtesy Transportation**

This policy has been included in Policy FT6 Student Transportation. It was recommended to rescind this policy.



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015  
(Held on February 9, 2015)  
Education Centre, Board Room

Moved by: C.A. Sloat  
Seconded by: R. Collver  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Policy FT12 – “Courtesy Transportation”.  
**Carried**

### D – 2 Administrative Procedure Consideration – Information Items

#### (a) HR108 Police Record Checks for Employees

M. McDonald explained how this administrative procedure was not scheduled for review until next year, however changes in the process at the Brantford Police Services required this to be revised. He reviewed those changes made and spoke about the vulnerable sector check.

He clarified that consideration for volunteers is being discussed.

Moved by: R. Collver  
Seconded by: B. Doyle  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure #HR108 - “Police Record Checks for Employees” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 1, 2015.  
**Carried**

#### (b) SO110 Weapons

This administrative procedure has been included in SO7 Student expulsions. It was recommended to rescind this administrative procedure.

Moved by: D. Dean  
Seconded by: D. Sowers  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Administrative Procedure SO110 — “Weapons”.  
**Carried**

#### (c) SO116 Pupil Return from Absence

W. Baker reviewed the one revision.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat  
Seconded by: J. Harris



## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015  
(Held on February 9, 2015)  
Education Centre, Board Room

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure SO116 — “Pupil’s Return from Absence” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by May 1, 2015.

**Carried**

(d) **HR106 Board Employees – Inclement Weather**

This administrative procedure is now included in FT7 Inclement Weather. It was recommended to rescind this administrative procedure.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Administrative Procedure HR106 – Board Employees – Inclement Weather.

**Carried**

(e) **SO128 Student Expulsions**

This administrative procedure is now included in SO7 Student Expulsions. It was recommended to rescind this administrative procedure.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Administrative Procedure SO128 – Student Expulsions.

**Carried**

E – 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Approval of Lakewood Daycare**

J. Forbeck explained how Lakewood Elementary School is a former secondary school that was turned into an exceptional elementary school with the Norfolk Library in the school.

He referred to budget allocated, scope of work, and schedule for consideration.

R. Collver commended B. Blancher and J. Gunn on the management of moving the committee through the process and that she was pleased to be part of the design committee.





## Committee of the Whole Board No.1

February 2, 2015

(Held on February 9, 2015)

Education Centre, Board Room

C.A. Sloat asked about the kitchen in the shared space and if Today's Family will be renting the kitchen space and managing the upkeep of the equipment. J. Forbeck explained how the lease is based on square footage, but would consult with J. Gunn for further clarification on kitchenette and outdoor space details.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the plans for renovation of space at Lakewood Elementary School to accommodate a Child Care facility and direct Administration to prepare and release tender documents for the completion of the renovation project work.

### F – 1 Correspondence

#### (a) Brantford Police Services

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

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

**Carried**

### G – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C. A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

**Carried**

---

Committee of the Whole Board No.1 Vice-Chair, A. Felsky