



## Regular Board Meeting

November 23, 2015

Grand River Hall

Joseph Brant Learning Centre

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# MINUTES

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

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

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** Nil.

**Administration:** Nil.

### A – 1 Opening

#### (a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, C.A. Sloat 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: J. Harris

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss Legal and Personnel Matters at 6:30 p.m.

**Carried**

#### (d) Welcome to Open Session

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, C.A. Sloat, at 7:15 p.m.



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C.A. Sloat addressed trustees and Senior Administration as Chair of the last Regular Board Meeting of the year. She thanked them for dedication and hard work to student achievement in our Board.

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

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Agenda be approved as printed.

**Carried**

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT Item D-1-a be approved.

**Carried.**

(g) **Memorial**

Nil.

(h) **Presentations**

Nil.

(i) **Delegation - C. Greenlaw**

Christopher Greenlaw presented a delegation "Delegation to the Grand Erie District School Board Concerning the Elimination of French Immersion (FI) Program".

(j) **Delegation - A. Irish Hoyle, A. Harmes**

Amanda Irish Hoyle and Adam Harmes presented a delegation "Ecole Dufferin Brant County Families Delegation" regarding the French Immersion Program.

(k) **Delegation – G. Baetz, Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Brantford**

Greg Baetz presented a delegation on behalf of the Brantford Chapter of Canadian Parents for French (CFP) regarding the French Immersion Program.



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(l) **Delegation – R. Padyk, Ecole Fairview Parents Council**

Rob Padyk presented a delegation on behalf of the Ecole Fairview Parents Council regarding French Immersion.

(m) **Delegation – C. Young, K. Bouwhuis**

Candace Young and Kristen Bouwhuis presented a delegation regarding French Immersion.

**B – 1 Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Regular Board Meeting – October 26, 2015**

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held October 26, 2015 be approved.

**Carried**

(b) **Special Board Meeting – October 29, 2015**

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, October 29, 2015 be approved.

**Carried**

(c) **Committee of the Whole No. 1 Meeting – November 2, 2015**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole No. 1, held November 2, 2015 be approved.

**Carried**

(d) **Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting – November 9, 2015**

R. Collver inquired if senior administration has made a decision in moving forward with the *Tell Them From Me* parent survey. W. Baker responded that a decision has not yet been made as senior administration is waiting for possible options.



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R. Collver requested that minutes reflect the discussion to involve more community members on the committee for the Multi-Year Plan.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole No. 2, held November 9, 2015 be approved.

**Carried**

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

Nil.

### D – 1 **Director's Report**

The Director highlighted:

- Multi-Year Plan – Wayne Joudrie, former Director in Grand Erie will be facilitating the Multi-Year Plan meetings to start in 2016 and has requested that the date of February 6, 2015 be changed to January 23, 2015 if trustees are agreeable.

#### Light a Smile Campaign

Betty Finley is the coordinator of the Light a Smile Campaign. As a former employee of the Grand Erie District School Board, she gives vulnerable children and families a reason to smile this holiday season thanks to the generosity of the community. More than 10 families will be sponsored this year. Betty visited Trustees to share the details of the family that they will support this year.

The Director and trustees were appreciative to Betty for her extraordinary energy to give back to the community to bring joy to many families at Christmas time.

#### Harmony Movement Presentation

McKinnon Park Secondary School and Paris District High School are two of many schools who participate in the Global Day of Dignity and the Harmony Movement.

Harmony Movement provides interactive diversity and equity education programs that empower and inspire youth, educators and those in the social service sector to develop an equity lens, empathy, respect, and leadership skills as leaders for social change.

The Harmony Movement encourages critical thinking, courageous conversations and strategy building to address and take action against stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination, racism and other forms of oppression.



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Trustees thanked L. Abbey, Principal of Delhi District Secondary School for her leadership in this movement, and for providing a global perspective for students to understand privilege and challenges they may be facing.

Grand Erie teacher Debbie Barbon received the Harmony Educator Award on November 5, 2015 and was recognized for her commitment to students and diversity with the Harmony Educator Award at this year's Harmony Awards Gala. Director Blancher acknowledged Debbie for this award.

A. Nesbitt reported on a funding announcement from the Ministry of Education for \$130,000 for the "Focus on Youth" program. This funding is from the branch of the Ministry called Safe Schools and Student Well-Being. The money will be focused on this semester until the end of March 2016. Students will be hired as Grand Erie employees will be placed with community agencies and partners who utilize space in our schools. It is hoped that over 40 students between now and the end of March 2016 will be employed through this program. Some job postings will go up shortly that will put people in positions to help implement this program.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of November 23, 2015 as information.

**Carried**

### E – 1 Student Trustee's Report

Nil.

### F – 1 Committee Report

#### (a) Committee of the Whole No. 1– November 2, 2015

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole No. 1 Report dated November 23, 2015 as follows:

#### 1. In Camera Report

THAT Item C-1-a be approved.



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2. **Director's Report**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of November 2, 2015 as information.
3. **BL7 Public Concerns**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 7 – "Public Concerns", as amended.
4. **BL8 Committees of the Board**
  - i. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board defer Bylaw 8 – "Committees of the Board"
  - ii. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board re-open Bylaw 8 – "Committees of the Board"
  - iii. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 8 – "Committees of the Board"
5. **BL15 Trustee Expenses**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board refer Bylaw 15 – "Trustee" Expenses to an Ad-Hoc Committee.
6. **SO1 Fund-Raising**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO1 – "Fund-Raising" to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by February 19, 2016.
7. **SO15 Out of Classroom Field Trips and Excursions**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy SO15 – "Out of Classroom Field Trips and Excursion", as amended.
8. **SO22 Fees for Learning Materials and Activities**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Policy SO22- "Fees for Learning Materials and Activities".
9. **SO115 Anaphylaxis (Life Threatening Allergic Reactions)**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure SO115 – "Anaphylaxis (Life Threatening Allergic Reactions) to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by February 19, 2016.
10. **SO105 Out-of Classroom Trips and Tours for Students; Insurance Requirements for Trips and Excursions**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board rescind Procedure SO105 – "Out-of Classroom Trips and Tours for Students; Insurance Requirements for Trips and Excursions".



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11. **SO108 Community Service Providers and Schools Working Together**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Procedure SO108 – “Community Service Providers with Schools Working Together” as information.
12. **SO117 Parental Request for Temporary Excuse from Attendance at School**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Procedure SO117 – “Parental Request for Temporary Excuse from Attendance at School” as information.
13. **SO124 Use of Service Dogs in Schools**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Procedure SO124 – “Use of Service Dogs in Schools” as information, as amended.

Carried

(b) **Committee of the Whole No. 2– November 9, 2015**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole No. 2 Report dated November 23, 2015 as follows:

1. **In Camera Report**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the term appointment for Principal Leader of Special Education.
2. **Enrolment Growth Accommodation – French Immersion Program**
  - i. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the implementation of delayed entry for French Immersion commencing September 2016, phasing out JK in 2016 and SK in 2017 and grandfathering existing students.
  - ii. THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the implementation of a secondary French Immersion Program at North Park Collegiate commencing September 2016.
3. **North Brant Elementary Accommodation Review Committee**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board include Burford District Elementary into the North Brant Elementary Accommodation Review Committee
4. **Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2014-2015 Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Data Report – EQAO Board Report of the 2014-2015 Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics as information.



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5. **Director's Report**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of November 9, 2015 as information.
6. **Special Needs Strategy Report – Integrated Rehabilitative Services Proposal**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the proposed model for service delivery for Integrated Delivery of Rehabilitation Services as information.
7. **Student Recognition Awards Program**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the name: Grand Erie District School Board Student Recognition Awards.
8. **Request to Rename Coronation School**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the formation of a Renaming Committee for Coronation School.
9. **Parenting and Family Literacy Centres Update**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report Parenting and Family Literacy Centres Update as information.
10. **Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) Annual Report**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) & Continuing Education Report as information.
11. **Educational Technology Update**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Educational Technology Plan Update as information.
12. **Health & Safety Annual Report 2014-2015**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Health and Safety Annual Report for 2014-2015 as information.
13. **Trustees Travel and PD Expenses**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Trustee Expense Report as information.
14. **Data Report – Student Suspension**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Data Report – Student Suspensions 2014-2015" as information.
15. **Data Report – Student Expulsion**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Data Report – Student Expulsions 2014-2015" as information.





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16. **Tell Them From Me (2014-2015) Summary**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Tell Them From Me" Survey as information.
17. **Draft Annual Update, Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2012-2017**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Draft Annual Update, Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2012-2017.
18. **Multi-Year Plan Review**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report "Multi-Year Plan 2011-2015" Update as information.
19. **Correspondence**  
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the correspondence as information.

R. Collver requested that Recommendation No. 2 be separated from the main report.

A vote was taken on Recommendations No. 1 and 3-19.

**Carried**

R. Collver cannot support the plan as submitted and inquired if secondary schools should be included in the review or part of the proposed committee?

A vote was taken on Recommendation No. 2 i.

**Defeated**

A. Felsky proposed that the implementation plan for recommendation 2.i continue.

G. Anderson pointed since there is space limitations at BCI, it is important to go ahead with the plan for secondary school students as they will be completing option sheets in the upcoming months.

Trustees voted on Recommendation No. 2 ii) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the implementation of a secondary French Immersion Program at North Park Collegiate commencing September 2016.

**Carried**



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### G – 1 New Business

#### (a) Elementary French Immersion Accommodation Update

B. Blancher provided a brief update on the background of French Immersion and reviewed the following recommendations proposed:

- for September 2016 French Immersion programs currently in place - single-track programs at École Dufferin and the new Coronation site, dual-track programs at Burford District, Walsh Public, and Caledonia Centennial Public School will continue with JK/SK/Grade 1 as the entry level
- in order to manage enrolment in the short-term, there will be an enrolment cap at our existing FI schools for the 2016-17 school year:
  - a process will be put in place to manage the cap - registration will take place in January as usual, and further information will come to the Board in January regarding a process to be set up whereby families with children currently attending an FI program will declare the number of siblings of existing FI students planning to enter Kindergarten in September 2016
  - once the sibling numbers are factored into the spaces available, it will be determined how many spaces are available for new registrations
  - a process will be put in place to manage new registrations within the capped number and once the spaces are full, no more FI registrations will be allowed
- in order to develop a French Immersion accommodation plan that includes greater consultation with families and staff, a committee consisting of Board staff, including the Director, trustees, principals, school council representatives, staff representatives and representatives from the local branch of Canadian Parents for French and any other group that may be deemed appropriate will meet beginning in February 2016 to consult about the options to address French Immersion enrolment growth into the future
- a report on the work of the Committee will be presented to the Board on June 13, 2016
- the plan for French Immersion accommodation will be presented to the Board for approval in the fall of 2016

A. Felsky was pleased to move forward with a long term plan involving community representation.



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G. Anderson acknowledged senior administration for the options presented in the report and also to parent communities who have come forward with concerns.

J. Harris raised the question of why counties are included in the capping of the program if they are not experiencing the same pressures for French Immersion as Brantford is. He suggested that an ARC process in Norfolk be considered to address accommodation issues. He requested that consultation with parents and stakeholders should occur before a decision is made

D. Dean reiterated his concern of attracting and retaining qualified quality staff and would be hesitant to see the program grown without competent teachers in the program.

R. Collver requested the Director to provide clarification of what qualifications are required to teach French Immersion. B. Blancher explained that the qualifications are those similar to core French, and also require a background in French as a Second Language (FSL). The FSL Part 1 includes a written and oral proficiency test.

R. Collver addressed how the counties are not facing the same pressures and requested that the following schools not be included in the cap for French Immersion: Burford District Elementary School, Walsh Public School and Caledonia Centennial Public School.

J. Gunn clarified that Burford District ES and Walsh Public School also face pressures of space and without a cap in place the schools may not be able to accept all of the students who apply in September. He explained that portables cannot be added to those locations to accommodate growth in the program.

J. Harris explained that Haldimand and Norfolk should be able to go through the same process and proposed that the accommodation review scheduled to begin in January for Norfolk would be that process. J. Gunn explained that should an accommodation review begin in January, a final decision would not be made until late spring of 2016 and that kindergarten enrolments will begin in January.

The communities should be aware of capping when registering.

C.A. Sloat supported the report and addressed the costs associated with the program in terms of bussing and text books, she also felt it important that parents know sooner than later in terms of enrolment caps.



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Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendations provided in the Elementary French Immersion Update Report.

**Carried**

### (b) **Organizational Board Meeting – Set Date, Time and Place**

In accordance with Bylaw 3, election of officers of the Board occurs annually in December. The report outlined the dates and times.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT (a) the Nominating Committee meeting be held in the Board Room at the Education Centre on December 7, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.; (b) the 2015 Organizational Meeting be held in the Board Room at the Education Centre on December 7, 2015, following the Nomination Committee Meeting; and (c) the 2015 Inaugural Meeting be held in the Board Room at the Education Centre on December 14, 2015 at 7:15 p.m.

**Carried**

### (c) **Workforce Report**

S. Sincerbox explained that the Board receives the Workforce Report three times during the school year – November, February and April. This report provides totals, by employee group/position, relative to the budget. The Report also includes retirement and resignation names.

Line 10 (Secondary Teachers) shows a total FTE of 624.17 which is annualized (budgeted for this FTE for Secondary Teachers for the year). It is expected there will be few students and fewer teachers in Semester 2 and therefore fall in line with the budget.

Line 14 (Child and Youth Workers) show an increase of 1.5 FTE in Child and Youth Workers which is due to 10 FTE that came from the addition of an Aboriginal CYW and a 0.5 FTE that came from the addition of a 0.5 FTE CYW for Safe Schools.

In Line 20 (Other EA Funding) shows an additional 0.5 EA position which resulted from additional funding that was received as part of an insurance settlement.



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Line 23 (DECEs) reflects the addition of 9.0 FTE as a result of increased enrolment and the opening of additional Kindergarten classes.

Line 24 (Plant Operations & Maintenance) shows 2.0 FTE positions that have not been filled as these positions are being held part of the reduction strategy being undertaken in our Facilities Management Department.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Workforce Report with data as of October 31, 2015.

**Carried**

(d) **Major Construction Update (FT2)**

J. Gunn referred to the report which provides an update on Lakewood Daycare Retrofit, Coronation Redevelopment, Pauline Johnson Change Room and Major Ballachey.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Project Report as information.

**Carried**

(e) **Enrolment Update**

J. Gunn referred to the actual enrolments projected by schools as of October 31, 2015. Elementary enrolment in October shows projected enrolment of 17,341 with an actual of 17,541, an increase of 200. The workforce report showed the addition of 9 ECEs, due to the increase in students. The largest increase is seen in full day kindergarten.

Secondary enrolment in October shows projected enrolment at 8833.5 with an actual of 8852.20, an increase of 19 students. He spoke of the funding for high credits.

D. Sowers inquired if the enrolment report could be provided showing the enrolment of students in the French Immersion program.



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Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: A. Felsky

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

**Carried**

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board direct Senior Administration to provide an individual column for French immersion identifying which portion of enrolment is French Immersion.

**Carried**

(f) **Preliminary Year End (F2)**

J. Gunn reviewed the financial report, a report that shows compliance for annual surplus or deficit. The report details twelve months ending August 31, 2015.

2014-2015 Interim Financial Report for the year ended August 31, 2015 highlights included:

- Financial results – In-year deficit of \$124,000 and resulting accumulated surplus for compliance of \$842,000
- Summary of enrolment – Actual total number of students in the board is 26,593
- Summary of staffing – Actual total number of staff is 2,814

Year End Revenue Analysis 2014-2015 highlights included:

- Actual Total general legislative grant allocation - \$287,345,041
- Actual Total other Revenues - \$13,858,570
- Actual Grand Total Revenues - \$301,203,611

Audited financial statements will be presented at the Audit Committee meeting on November 25, 2015 and brought to the Board on December 14, 2015.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Preliminary 2014-15 Year End Report as information.

**Carried**



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### (g) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Membership**

B. Blancher explained that GEPIC held the first meeting on November 5, 2015 and Brent Howard was acclaimed as the Chair for the 2015-2016 year. The GEPIC Composition, Additional Representatives and Communication plan were reviewed.

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the appointments to the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) for the term November 2015 to November 2016.

**Carried**

### (h) **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Membership**

Moved by: A. Felsky

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the addition of Sheila Slood as a community representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

**Carried**

### (i) **Trustee Honoraria**

J. Gunn explained that trustee honoraria is based on the following three components: base amount, enrolment amount and Chair/Vice Chair allowances. The trustee remuneration calculations were reviewed.

The enrolment amount is adjusted annual based on the actual enrolment from the previous school year.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Trustee Honoraria for the period from December 1, 2015 to November 30, 2016 as presented.

**Carried**

## H – 1 **Other Business**



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(a) **Summary of Accounts – October 2015**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of October 2015 in the amount of \$9,380,954.20 as information.

**Carried**

(b) **Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – October 22, 2015**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Sowers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – October 22, 2015" as information.

**Carried**

(c) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – October 13, 2015**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Sowers

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – October 13, 2015" as information.

**Carried**

(d) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Minutes – May 21, 2015**

Presented as printed.





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Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes – May 21, 2015" as information.

**Carried**

(e) **Native Advisory Committee Minutes – October 13, 2015**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the "Native Advisory Committee Minutes – October 13, 2015" as information.

**Carried**

I – 1 **Correspondence**

(a) **Upper Grand District School Board**

(b) **Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board**

(c) **Ministry of Education**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

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

**Carried**

J – 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

**Carried**

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Board Chair, Carol Ann Sloat