



MINUTES

Present: Board Chair G. Anderson, Board Vice-Chair D. Dean, R. Collver, E. Dixon, S. Gibson, J. Richardson, C.A. Sloat, C. VanEvery-Albert, D. Werden, A. Hauser (Student Trustee), J. Hsiao (Student Trustee),

Administration: Director - B. Blancher; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, L. De Vos, D. Martins, S. Sincerbox, L. Thompson, R. Wyszynski; Recording Secretary – L. Howells

Regrets:

Trustees: B. Doyle, C. Speers
Administration: Nil

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 6:30 p.m.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss personnel, legal and property matters at 6:30 p.m.

Carried

(d) Welcome to Open Session

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, G. Anderson at 7:16 p.m.

(e) Memorials

Nil



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

Presented as printed. B. Blancher requested an addition as C-1-a Indigenous Student Trustee Appointment for March 1 to July 31, 2019. D. Werden requested addition as H-1-e OPSBA Report.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Agenda be approved, as amended.

Carried

(g) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendation to add to the Replacement/Casual Principal and Vice-Principal List, effective February 26, 2019.

Carried

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Grandview Central Public School be declared surplus to the future accommodation needs in accordance with S.194(3)(a) of the Education Act.

Carried

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Grandview Central Public School be offered to preferred agencies at fair market value in compliance with Ontario Regulation 444/98.

Carried

(h) **Presentations**

(i) **Student Recognition Awards**

The recognition program is Grand Erie District School Board's way to honour and celebrate students who have accomplished excellence in the areas of academics, athletics, and the arts, as well as excellence in the community. All recipients receive a certificate signed by B. Blancher and G. Anderson, Chair of the Board. Trustee Gibson and Director Blancher presented the certificate.



Sarah Coward – North Park Collegiate and Vocational School – Arts – had the opportunity last October to showcase an acrylic on canvas piece titled *The Peoples Dance* during a regional competition for emerging artists up to age 25. Sponsored by Cadillac Fairview in partnership with the Hamilton Arts Council, the jury consisted of representatives from the corporate, non-profit, and arts communities, with an overall task of determining a best-in-show winner. Sarah's work took home the highest honour in the Youth and Emerging Artists category, selected from 140 pieces submitted across Southwestern Ontario. Sarah plans to continue pursuing the artistic field, and will be submitting a portfolio this spring for consideration of advanced placement as begins her post-secondary visual arts career.

Sarah was congratulated by the Trustees and responded to questions and comments.

- (j) **Delegation**
Nil

B - 1 Approval of Minutes

- (a) **Regular Board Meeting – February 04, 2019**

Presented at printed.

R. Collver requested an update regarding the status of the meeting to be arranged with MPP Bouma and J. Tibbits, President of Conestoga College noted in the Director's Report. G. Anderson responded that the meeting has not been arranged but will contact Mr. Tibbits' and MPP Bouma's office tomorrow.

R. Collver further asked if a decision or action has been taken regarding separating the Safe and Inclusive Schools Committee? W. Baker responded that we have asked for volunteers from the Administrator group to look at exploring the possibility to separate and what it would look like.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held February 04, 2019 be approved.

Carried



(b) **Committee of the Whole Board – February 11, 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting, held February 11, 2019, be approved.

Carried

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

(a) **Indigenous Student Trustee Appointment for March 1 to July 31, 2019**

B. Blancher referred to the Indigenous Student Trustee Appointment for March 1 to July 31, 2019 laydown report providing background for the by-election and noting Ashley Cattrysse has been acclaimed.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on the appointment of Ashley Cattrysse as the Indigenous Student Trustee from March 1 to July 31, 2019.

Carried

D - 1 **Director's Report**

Director's highlights:

- Director Blancher asked S. Sincerbox to speak to the Staff Wellness Committee Presentation and Video
 - S. Sincerbox invited to the table:
 - S. Hunniford, Health and Disability Officer
 - S. Burroughs, Vice Principal at McKinnon Park and new Chair of the Wellness Committee
 - J. Della Fortuna, Principal at Simcoe Composite and past Chair of the Wellness Committee,
 - G. Rousell, System Research Leader
 - S. Burroughs provided an overview of the presentation which contained the Wellness Committee's mission statement, challenges, data, and building the foundation by using the LifeSpeak platform and the advantages of LifeSpeak.



- S. Hunniford provided a high-level overview of LifeSpeak which included the types of relevant material available and how it is a direct link to the Employee Assistant Program
- J. Della Fortuna provided an overview of the feedback received to date for LifeSpeak and the generated Grand Erie data since inception (Oct 17, 2018 – Feb 20, 2019) which included the top 3 categories and the top 6 trainings that have been accessed
- S. Burroughs reviewed the next steps which include: develop evaluation framework, ongoing monitoring and investigate correlations between LifeSpeak access and staff well-being.

D. Dean asked about the cost and are we able to operate within those boundaries? S. Sincerbox responded that we will need to work this through the upcoming budget process but believe there are benefits to continuing with the platform.

R. Collver commented that she would like to increase the perception of staff that their employer values them.

S. Gibson asked if LifeSpeak is connected/supported with our current EAP program? S. Hunniford responded that LifeSpeak is separate and noted we have approximately 15 different EAP providers but will take it back to the Committee and our EAP providers to determine if there can be a connection. S. Gibson asked if our EAP providers would recommend any of the videos. S. Hunniford responded that currently there are links for our employees to connect with our EAP.

- Director Blancher asked L. Thompson to provide an update with respect to the changes to Ontario Autism Program
 - L. Thompson commented that two years ago the new Ontario Autism Program was introduced which took the focus to early intervention funded by the government
 - last week the government announced changes to improve access for more families
 - Childhood Budgets starting April 1 2019 – will provide more families with access; available for children up to the age of 18 and will be subject to annual income testing, families can expect to receive their budgets within the next 18 months; amount will depend on the length of time a child will be in the program and household income
 - Expanding Ontario's five autism diagnostic hubs
 - Establishing a family focused independent intake agency
 - Supporting family through change
 - Improving accountability and oversight



- L. Thompson reviewed the impact to Grand Erie stating to date we have received calls from families considering enrolling their child in our schools since there will be less support at the community level due to a decrease in funding per family. L. Thompson further noted every case will be unique and resources will be provided accordingly

D. Werden asked is it a download of funding to school boards? L. Thompson responded we will need to provide more services without more funding.

- Director Blancher asked L. DeVos to provide Trustees with an update of French Immersion Capping
 - L. DeVos stated that for the past three years we have set caps for French Immersion and noted registration closed on February 8. L. DeVos reviewed the numbers:
 - Burford all student registrations gained access.
 - 5 schools had to have randomization and parents are currently being notified by schools if they will or will not be granted a spot.
- Pink Shirt Day – this Wednesday, February 27, 2019.

R. Collver highlighted the great communication that occurred today and asked Director Blancher to provide an update on the website issue. B. Blancher responded that the system did not crash but rather was attacked by an IP address in North York and noted there was a meeting today to discuss and identify the strategies for a way forward. R. Collver further stated that she wants to apologize to our communities for the confusion that was caused today.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of February 25, 2019 as information.

Carried

E - 1 Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustee A. Hauser thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the OSTA/AECO Board Council Conference in Ottawa. A. Hauser noted she learned a lot about the Student Trustee position and stated she learned something that concerns her that other Board Student Trustees hold Student Senate meeting on a monthly basis. A. Hauser further noted that Grand Erie has little to no policy regarding Student Senates, only what is documented in Bylaw 29 and asked if the Board would consider establishing a Student Senate policy that would allow for more meetings?



B. Blancher acknowledged A. Hauser's desire to want to organize and run student senate meetings more often and further noted that in speaking with other school board Directors, some run monthly meetings electronically and she could support that direction.

R. Collver asked what would be the next step. B. Blancher responded that Bylaw 29 Student Trustees will be coming back to Board in April to include regulation changes and noted that she will connect with A. Hauser to discuss further and determine how the recommended changes can be incorporated into the bylaw.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Trustees' Report of February 25, 2019, as information.

Carried

F - 1 Committee Report

(a) Committee of the Whole Board – February 11, 2019

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

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board dated February 11, 2019 as follows:

1. In Camera Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve, with regret, the resignation of Superintendent of Education, Dave Abbey, for the purpose of retirement effective August 31, 2019.

2. Elgin Avenue Public School Consolidation Report

a) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on the Elgin Avenue Public School Consolidation as information.

b) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board direct the Chair of the Board to write to the Minister of Education and copy MPP Bouma and Barrett regarding the issues around the funding for Elgin Ave PS.



3. Director's Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of February 11, 2019 as information.

4. Draft Proposed School Year Calendar 2019-20

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the calendars recommended by the School Year Calendar Committee in the report Draft Proposed School Year Calendars 2019-20.

5. Pride of Place and Community Partnership Incentive Plan Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Pride of Place and Community Partnership Incentive Plan Report for 2018-19.

6. Early Literacy Intervention Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Early Literacy Interventions report as information.

7. Employee Assistance Program Annual Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Employee Assistance Program Report, 2017-18, as information.

8. FT13 Pride of Place

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT13 – Pride of Place to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.

9. FT14 Environmental Standards for Facility Operations and Maintenance

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT14 – Environmental Standards for Facility Operations and Maintenance to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.



10. HR1 Bereavements

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy HR1 - Bereavements to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.

11. HR8 Workplace Violence

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy HR8 – Workplace Violence to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.

12. SO21 School Food and Beverages

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO21 – School Food and Beverages to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.

13. SO29 Threat/Risk Assessment

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO29 – Threat/Risk Assessment to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.

14. BL38 Trustee Pregnancy and Parental Leaves

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 38 – Trustee Pregnancy and Parental Leave.

15. BL28 Trustee Code of Conduct

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 28 – Trustee Code of Conduct.

16. SO112 Appropriate Student Dress

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure SO112 – Appropriate Student Dress to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.

17. SO118 Opening and Closing Exercises at Schools

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Procedure SO118 – Opening and Closing Exercises at School to all stakeholders for comments to be received by April 3, 2019.



18. OPSBA Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board received the February 11, 2018 OPSBA report as information.

A vote was taken on Recommendation No. 1 and 3-18. **Carried**

R. Collver requested clarification on the Recommendation No. 2 motion and wanted clarification of what will be included in the letter to the Minister of Education regarding Elgin Ave PS? The draft letter was provided to Trustees for review.

After reviewing the letter, R. Collver stated the letter does not include context. G. Anderson provided rationalization of why the letter was written this way.

C.A. Sloat stated she was glad to see the letter was on one page as anything longer may not be read.

D. Dean noted he believes this includes the ask but understands R. Collver's statement regarding adding context.

D. Werden recommends adding an additional a sentence under section 2 "This is our preferred option/model to address the present and future student needs in the community."

G. Anderson responded that he will revise the letter to include this additional sentence and will share with Trustees prior to sending to the Minister of Education.

Vote was taken on the existing motion for Recommendation No. 2(a). **Carried**

Vote was taken for Recommendation No. 2(b) as amended. **Carried**

G - 1 New Business

(a) Workforce Report

S. Sincerbox referred to the Workforce report which is provided to Trustees three times per year – November, February and April – provides totals by employee group/position, relative to budget and includes retirement and resignation names.



Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Workforce Report with data as of January 31, 2019.

Carried

H - 1 Other Business

(a) **Summary of Accounts – January 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of January 2019 in the amount of \$9,790,332.16 as information.

Carried

(b) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – January 17, 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – January 17, 2019 as information.

Carried

(c) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – January 17, 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – January 17, 2019 as information.

Carried



(d) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes (Draft) - January 10, 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes (Draft) - January 10, 2019 as information.

Carried

(e) **OPSBA report**

D. Werden provided a verbal update report and noted a detailed report will be coming shortly.

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the OPSBA Report of February 25, 2019, as information.

Carried

I - 1 **Correspondence**

Nil

J - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair, G. Anderson