



Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 8, 2020
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: S. Gibson– Committee Chair, G. Anderson, R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, J. Richardson, C.A. Sloat, C. Speers, C. VanEvery-Albert, D. Werden, Z. Garbaty (Student Trustee), A. Hauser (Student Trustee),

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

Regrets:

Trustees: I. Doxtador-Swamp (Student Trustee)
Administration: Nil

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, S. Gibson at 6:30 p.m.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

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, S. Gibson at 7:15 p.m.

(e) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried



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(f) **In Camera Report**

Nil

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

Nil

C - 1 **Director's Report**

Director's highlights:

- **Congratulations to a Grand Erie Student** - Theo Collins – student at Paris District High School. On June 5th it was announced that Theo is the recipient of the prestigious TD Community Leadership Award – one of 20 recipients across Canada. This scholarship supports post-secondary tuition and living expenses.
- **Ministry Memos** – since our Board Meeting in May, there have been a number of memos received from the Ministry of Education to provide information required as the 2019-20 school year begins to wrap up.
 - **May 27, 2020** – Memo regarding Additional Assessment and Reporting Information – including a statement we are required to place in the “board use” section of all report cards: *This report card is for a reporting period that included provincially-mandated school closure from March 13, 2020 – June 30, 2020.* The memo included other requirements including the need to document that for the 2019-20 school year, the requirement to complete 40 hours of community involvement has been waived by the Minister of Education. In anticipation of our educators needing guidance for the June reporting period, our program departments under the lead of Superintendent De Vos and Superintendent Martins had already prepared support documents and were able to align the Grand Erie directions with the Ministry guidelines and get all of this in the hands of teachers and school administrators very quickly.
 - **May 27, 2020** – along with the general assessment and reporting guidelines, we received Additional Guidance on Special Education and Mental Health Needs including information on IPRCs, IEPs, and effective practices. Under the leadership of Superintendent Thompson, I am pleased to report that items listed in this memo were already in place in Grand Erie.
 - **May 29, 2020** - Memo to Chairs and Directors from the Minister of Education inviting us to participate in weekly teleconferences. This began June 1st and runs each Monday at 2:00 pm for 30 minutes until the end of June. Teleconferences notes are provided to all Trustees.
 - **May 29, 2020** – **SB04 Memo from 3 Assistant Deputy Ministers regarding 2020 Summer School Learning Opportunities** – this involves several of our areas including elementary and secondary program, special education and



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continuing education – Grand Erie is receiving some additional funding to support these summer learning opportunities – a total of \$288,870.

- Summer School 2020 has several components. New credits for Gr. 11/12 students will be offered through eLearning. Credit Recovery, Credit Upgrade, Reach Ahead and Literacy/Numeracy Summer Learning Program being offered to current Grade 6, 7, & 8 students will be delivered in a Hybrid Virtual Model that allows students to engage in both synchronous and asynchronous learning daily throughout the duration of the summer course.
 - New this year: For the past few years the Literacy/Numeracy program has been offered to *current* grade 5 & 6 students. This year the program will be available to *current* Gr. 6, 7 and 8 students. Camp Sail will offer opportunities for current grade 5 students. The Summer Literacy/Numeracy program is also being offered to students going into Grade 9 to address and support gaps as a result of prolonged school closures.
 - Additional support for our most vulnerable students will be provided through reduced class sizes, guidance support for registrations and the support of learning coaches throughout the duration of Summer School.
 - Funding to support vulnerable students on existing caseloads and their families will be provided throughout the summer via Mental Health Workers.
 - As well, a Transitions Program for students in SK-3 who require Tier 1 or 2 supports when they are at school will be offered at several sites in Grand Erie.
- **Specific Summer Learning Program Updates** – Director Blancher asked Superintendent De Vos to provide an update on Camp SAIL and Superintendent Martins to provide an update on Focus on Youth.
 - **Camp SAIL** – L. De Vos stated that Camp SAIL will continue through the summer for 2020 and it is an opportunity for students to minimize their learning loss and for those who have social/economic challenges that affect their learning; but another purpose is to bridge the gaps in learning as a result of the pandemic school closure. The funding is the same as last year, so we are assured of 7 classes however, it is going to look different as we have to offer a virtual only camp. L. DeVos stated that we have been invited to apply for additional funds and have done so but have not heard if the application has been approved. The focus of virtual camp will be grade 4 to 6, and L. DeVos provided a high-level overview of the requirements of Camp SAIL. L. DeVos stated we are currently assessing our schools and our budget may be allow us to stretch beyond the 7 classes.
 - **Focus on Youth** – D. Martins stated that Focus on Youth is program funding that we get in a special pocket of money through a transfer payment



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agreement. The intent of the program is to support young people with job readiness skills and help in meeting their secondary graduation requirements so that they can move on to successful post secondary pathways, whatever those may be. Funding is based on priority neighbourhoods across the province and Grand Erie is fortunate enough to get a substantial investment on a yearly basis. D. Martins stated that the employment piece, the various training (WHMIS etc.) required to get students prepared and working with summer camp programs, which is what traditionally happens, will not happen this year due to COVID-19 and the restrictions on camps. D. Martin provided a high-level overview regarding the approach Grand Erie will be taking which includes a supportive wraparound approach, stating we have submitted our application and proposal to the Ministry of Education but have yet to hear back. D. Martins stated that we have decreased class size for credit recovery or credit upgrading to support students getting more intensive support from their teachers. D. Martins stated the second part we are looking at is using Student Success learning coaches to support 4 classroom teachers and their class as additional resources for additional wraparound support. D. Martins noted that we are looking at supporting a more fulsome promotion process at the end of the school year as we anticipate the need and demand to be increased for this summer and having some Guidance and Student Success teachers on the first two days after schoolwork completes for our secondary teachers to make sure all students are where they need to be to begin summer school on July 6. D. Martins has been working with Superintendent Munro and our Central Principal Teams and we are really hoping we have something in place to support all of those students who have been disengaged and have learning gaps that need to be closed so that we are in a much better position to return to whatever model we have in September.

- C. Speers thanked D. Martins for her report.
- R. Collver thanked D. Martins and asked how many students we will be able to serve through this model? D. Martins responded we are hoping to serve 100 to 120 students in the Focus on Youth model, if we are approved by the Ministry to move forward.
- **Regulation Change** – Memo received on May 29th to inform us that on June 5, 2020 amendments to the Education Act and Ontario Regulation 463/97 (Electronic Meetings) under the Act will be in effect. Prior to this amendment, the Regulation stated that Board members must be physically present for at least three regular Board meetings in each 12-month period beginning December 1st and if a member failed to meet this requirement, the member's seat would be vacated. In response to the current public health situation in Ontario, the requirement for Board members to physically attend three regular boards meetings does not apply for the 12-month period if all schools of a board are closed for a total of two or more months under a school closure order.



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- **June is National Indigenous History Month** – today, Sabrina Sawyer our Indigenous Education Lead, sent an email to all school administrators and teachers to remind the group of the many resources available in the Staff Portal to provide support in the virtual classroom space. Indigenous Peoples' Day takes place on Sunday June 21st

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of June 8, 2020 as information.

Carried

D - 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

(a) Annual Review of the Special Education Plan

L. Thompson referred to the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan report noting this is for the 2019-20 school year. L. Thompson stated the plan was updated based on stakeholder and Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), minor revisions were made to the plan and was presented to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) on May 14, 2020, the plan was approved by SEAC and approved to be forwarded to the Board of Trustees.

D. Dean expressed his thanks to L. Thompson stating the plan was well-presented and helpful.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan, and the submission of two copies of the plan, and the Special Education Report Components Checklist to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education by July 31, 2020.

Carried

(b) French Immersion Program Review – Ad Hoc Committee

L. De Vos referred to the Ad Hoc Committee – French Immersion Review report providing a high-level overview on the background and noted on March 30, 2020 Trustees approved a review of the Kindergarten and sibling components of French Immersion. L. De Vos noted that during the 2020-21 school year, she will lead a working group to review the current Kindergarten and sibling French Immersion components with a report back to Board on November 9, 2020. L. De Vos spoke to some minor additional revisions. L. De Vos is



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recommending the Board approve the striking of an Ad Hoc Committee and reviewed the Terms of Reference.

G. Anderson shared his concerns that if there are any significant changes suggested we may get some push back from the French Immersion families and the two-month time frame may be challenging.

C.A. Sloat commented that it is important to look at Secondary as it has been four or five years since the last review.

R. Collver thanked L. DeVos for listening to the voices and the changes made here. R. Collver asked L. DeVos to expand on program needs and what she is thinking. L. DeVos responded when we meet with Principals from the schools we often brainstorm what are the things we need to improve, what are the resources we are lacking in, what is the training that needs to be provided for educators and just an overall program review of what is happening.

Z. Garbaty asked regarding the composition of the committee if it would be possible to add a Student Trustee? L. De Vos responded that we did discuss this and we felt the student voice could be part of a focus group and that voice could be brought back to the Committee but that will be the will of the Board however it can be a very difficult committee meeting.

C. VanEvery-Albert was wondering about the thinking behind adding the Indigenous Teacher Consultant. L. De Vos responded that a Trustee approached her and it was felt that it would be best to ensure that French Immersion is inclusive to all students being part of those programs if we are offering them.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board strike an Ad Hoc Committee to develop a French Immersion Review to be presented to the Board on November 9, 2020, as amended.

Carried

D – 2 **New Business – Information Items**

(a) **Category III Trips**

B. Blancher referred to the Category III Trips report and explained the trips listed are those approved between January and May 2020 and the previously approved trips that have not yet taken place. B. Blancher further noted that there has been discussion at Exec Council regarding next year's trips and she has had discussion with the tour operators, a decision will be made in the late fall regarding postponement or cancellation of the 2020-21 trips.



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C. Speers asked about deposits and if students will get their money back? B. Blancher responded yes.

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Category III Trips Report as information.

Carried

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

(a) **Bylaw 1 Board Composition**

B. Blancher noted Bylaw 1 Board Composition was identified for review and circulated to Trustees for comment. B. Blancher reviewed the comments and revision made.

C.A. Sloat requested additional revisions to 1b) Appointed Trustees to provide further clarity. C. VanEvery-Albert stated that she wants it to be clear that she only speaks for the Six Nations' students and that she has no authority to speak for the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation students.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 1 Board Composition, as amended.

Carried

(b) **Bylaw 6 Board and Committee of the Whole Minutes**

B. Blancher noted Bylaw 6 Board and Committee of the Whole Minutes was identified for review and circulated to Trustees for comment. Only one comment was received, and B. Blancher noted that this is left to the will of the board with respect to the number of years of Minutes that are posted on the website.

The Board decisions is to retain minutes on the website for 7 years

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: C. Speers

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 6 Board and Committee of the Whole Minutes, as amended.

Carried



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(c) **SO1 Fundraising**

R. Wyszynski noted Policy SO1 Fundraising was circulated to all appropriate stakeholders for comments. R. Wyszynski reviewed the comment and revisions.

C.A. Sloat requested that FT9 and FT112 be included as a reference. R. Wyszynski responded he will leave that up to the will of the Board.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve SO1 Fundraising.

Carried

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

(a) **SO105 Privacy Breach Response**

L. Munro noted Procedure SO105 Privacy Breach Response was circulated to all appropriate stakeholders for comments. L. Munro reviewed the comment and revisions.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Procedure SO105 Privacy Breach Response as information.

Carried

(b) **SO114 Do Not Resuscitate Confirmation (DNR-C) Form**

L. Thompson noted Procedure SO114 Do Not Resuscitate Confirmation (DNR-C) Form was circulated to all appropriate stakeholders for comments. L. Thompson reviewed the comment and revisions. L. Thompson noted some additional revisions are required.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Procedure SO114 Do Not Resuscitate Confirmation (DNR-C) Form as information, as amended.

Carried

F - 1 **Other Business**

Nil



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G - 1 Correspondence

- (a) The Terry Fox Foundation – Grand Erie District School Board Donation History Report
Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the correspondence as information.
Carried

H - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C.A. Sloat
Seconded by: G. Anderson
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:07 p.m.
Carried

Committee of the Whole Board Chair, S. Gibson