



## MINUTES

**Present:** Board Chair G. Anderson, Board Vice-Chair R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle, J. Richardson, C.A. Sloat, C. Speers, C. VanEvery-Albert, D. Werden, Z. Garbaty (Student Trustee), I. Doxtador-Swamp (Student Trustee) (arrived at 7:18 p.m.), A. Hauser (Student Trustee)

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

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** E. Dixon, S. Gibson  
**Administration:** L. De Vos

**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: J. Richardson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

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 Chair, G. Anderson at 7:15 p.m.

**(e) Memorials**

Nil

**(f) Chair's Inaugural Address**

G. Anderson presented his Inaugural Address.

**(g) Reading of Trustee Code of Ethics**

In accordance with Bylaw 28, trustees read the Trustee Code of Ethics.



**Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Agenda be approved.

**Carried**

(h) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board confirm the appointments to the Elementary Principals' pool dated December 9, 2019.

**Carried**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board confirm the appointments to the Elementary Vice-Principals' pool dated December 9, 2019.

**Carried**

(i) **Presentations**

Nil

(j) **Delegation**

Nil

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Regular Board Meeting – November 25, 2019**

Presented at printed.

Moved by: C. Speers

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held November 25, 2019 be approved.

**Carried**



(b) **Nomination Meeting – December 2, 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Minutes of the Nominations Meeting, held December 2, 2019 be approved.

**Carried**

(c) **Board Organizational Meeting – December 2, 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Minutes of the Board Organizational Meeting, held December 2, 2019 be approved.

**Carried**

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

Nil

D - 1 **Director's Report**

Director's highlights:

- **Draft Director's Annual Report** – B. Blancher noted it is a fully online document again this year. Once reviewed by Trustees it will be pushed onto the home page of the website and shared on social media.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Draft Director's Annual Report 2018-19 as information.

**Carried**

- **New Initiatives Aimed at Bullying Prevention and Reporting** - Announcement by the Minister of Education on November 27<sup>th</sup>. One of the measures that the ministry will be introducing is training for educators in anti-bullying and de-escalation techniques. Appropriate training will ensure that educators have the tools and resources they need to address and reduce incidents of bullying in schools and to support victims and help students develop empathy for others. The Ministry has reached out to us to identify and share current practices we currently have around teacher training opportunities for anti-bullying and student-focused programs on bullying prevention. This information will



inform and support Ministry action in bullying prevention and planning for additional support for students.

- **FT7 Inclement Weather** – B. Blancher noted that we have discovered one issue with FT7 that was approved last May. When we added the cold weather threshold for cancelling buses but leaving schools open, we should have added the clarifying language under point #1 of Procedures for Board Employee. B. Blancher requested the following words be added “due to inclement weather (see #5 above)” to point #1.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board suspend Bylaw 9 – Process for Development of Bylaws, Policies, Procedures and Protocols.

**Carried**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the revisions to Policy FT7 – Inclement Weather to reflect the original intent.

**Carried**

- Tonight, is our last Board meeting for this calendar year. We start up again with our Committee of the Whole Meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> and we enter a new decade.
- **Christmas Break:** Wednesday, December 25, 2019 - Friday, January 3, 2020 for the Education Centre

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director’s Report of December 9, 2019 as information.

**Carried**

E - 1 **Student Trustees’ Report**  
Nil



F - 1 **Committee Report**

(a) **Striking Committee Report**

G. Anderson presented the report as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2020 Trustee Statutory and Standing Committee Representation.

**Carried**

G - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Audit Committee Annual Report**

Presented as printed. C.A. Sloat noted one minor revision. R. Collver presented the report on behalf of the Audit Committee.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2019 Audit Committee Annual Report, as amended.

**Carried**

(b) **Borrowing Authority**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board authorize the Signing Authorities of the Board to obtain loans at any one time up to a maximum of \$35,000,000 to cover current payrolls and general account payments, if required.

**Carried**



(c) **Signing Officers**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C. Speers

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT

1. signing authorities for the Grand Erie District School Board, relative to General and Trust Accounts/Legal Documents/Contracts/Bank Loans shall be one of the Chair of the Board or the Vice Chair of the Board, together with one of the Director of Education & Secretary or the Superintendent of Business & Treasurer;
2. facsimile signatures of the Board Chair and Superintendent of Business & Treasurer shall be used for signing General Account cheques produced by the Board's financial accounting system.

**Carried**

(d) **Review of Borrowing Bylaws Not on Board's Review Schedule**

R. Wyszynski explained these bylaws are not in the four-year cycle of review, as they each have specific maturity dates.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Review of Borrowing Bylaws Not on Board's Review Schedule report as information.

**Carried**

(e) **Revised Budget Estimate**

R. Wyszynski referred to the 2019-20 Revised Budget Estimates that are due for submission to the Ministry of Education on December 13, 2019. R. Wyszynski highlighted the revisions to the original 2019-20 budget approved in June and reviewed the dashboards.

C.A. Sloat asked if we are still reporting a surplus for Transportation. R. Wyszynski responded we are still anticipating a surplus. C.A. Sloat further asked about the unallocated amount and is it still available to access. R. Wyszynski responded we still have access to \$145K unallocated and currently \$20K has been earmarked for the Athletic Assistant position while Sr. Administration is recommending directing the remaining \$125K to a document management system.

R. Collver requested clarification regarding the attrition and enrolment. R. Wyszynski responded that when predicting enrolment, we must consider some conservative measures in our projections. Our projections showed a small decrease in enrolment; which triggered the Declining Enrolment Grant. When actual enrolment was reported higher than budgeted



enrolment for 2019-20; the Declining Enrolment Grant is reduced significantly as it is given to boards who have declining enrolment. R. Wyszynski further responded that with respect to attrition we originally forecasted for 20 secondary teachers retiring, resigning or taking a voluntary leave; however, the final attrition came in at 28.

D. Dean and R. Collver both shared their disappointment with not moving forward with the Elementary Principal Coach and Privacy and Information Officer positions.

D. Werden requested a detailed report be brought back to the board with respect to the Document Management System.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2019-20 Revised Budget Estimates for submission to the Ministry of Education.

**Carried**

(f) **SO33 Animals in Schools, Including Student Use of Guide Dogs and Service Animals**

L. Thompson referred to the SO33 Animals in Schools, Including Student Use of Guide Dogs and Service Animals report. L. Thompson noted on September 9, 2019, the Ministry of Education released Policy Program Memorandum 163 – School Board Policies on Service Animals that requires school boards to implement a process for the regulation of students' use of service animals while attending school and school related events. L. Thompson noted SO33 is a new Policy and incorporates Procedure SO124 Animals in Schools and Worksite L. Thompson further commented that Procedure SO124 was circulated to stakeholders in 2018 for comments and those comments have been considered in the new policy where applicable.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO33 – Animals in Schools, Including Student Use of Guide Dogs and Services Animals to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by January 31, 2020.

**Carried**



(g) **Appointment of Non-Board Audit Committee Members**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Appointment of Non-Board Committee Members report noting that the term of Christine Woodley, a non-board member of the Audit Committee, expires January 31, 2020 and C. Woodley wishes to continue for an additional 3-year term as permitted by Ont. Reg. 361/10.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the reappointment of Christine Woodley as Non-Board Audit Committee Member for a 3-year term ending January 31, 2023.

**Carried**

(h) **Mileage Renumeration Review**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Mileage Renumeration Review Report noting Canada Revenue Agency's automobile allowance tables for 2020 rates has not yet been released and Sr. Administration recommends this report be presented every January.

(i) **Contract Award – Hagersville Secondary Child Care Renovation**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Contract Award – Hagersville Secondary Child Care Renovation Report noting Tender 2019-68-Q was issued on November 6, 2019 and closed on November 27, 2019. R. Wyszynski noted bids were received from 13 firms and after Purchasing Services completed all the necessary evaluation steps, it is recommended that Platinum Construction Corporation be awarded the contract.

Moved by: C. Speers

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the award General Contracting Services for the Child Care Renovation at Hagersville Secondary School as set out in Tender 2019-68-Q to Platinum Construction Corporation in the amount of \$488,000 plus HST.

**Carried**

H - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – November 21, 2019**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes – November 21, 2019 as information.

**Carried**





(b) **OPSBA Report**

D. Werden provided a verbal OPSBA report and shared the results of the survey which was sent to Trustees

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: R. Collver

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

**Carried**

I - 1 **Correspondence**

Nil

J - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

**Carried**

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Board Chair, G. Anderson