



## Regular Board Meeting

Monday, December 12, 2022

Education Centre Boardroom

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chair S. Gibson, Vice-Chair B. Doyle (MS Teams – Education Centre), Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, C.A. Sloat, E. Thomas, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton (MS Teams), Student Trustees: M. Baker, A. Skye, T. Zebroski

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: W. Baker, K. Graham, L. Munro, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Wyszynski, Manager D. Smouter, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken, Executive Assistant: C. Dero (MS Teams)

**Guests:** J. Bell, General Legal Counsel (MS Teams)

**Regrets:** Superintendent A. Smith

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gibson at 6:35 p.m.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:30 pm)**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

**Carried**

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

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

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the agenda be approved.

**Carried**

(g) **Memorial**

(i) Lucas Surek

The memorial of Lucas Surek was read by Trustee Waldschmidt.

(h) **In-Camera Report** – Nil



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- (i) **Student Showcase Russell Reid – Student Led Stress and Wellness Fair**  
Superintendent Thompson introduced the showcase that highlighted three presentations from students including The Brain, Making Stress Work for You and Coping with Stress.
- (j) **Delegations** – Nil
- B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**
- (a) November 21, 2022 (Inaugural Board)  
Moved by: B. Doyle  
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt  
THAT the Minutes of the Inaugural Board Meeting, dated November 21, 2022, be approved.  
**Carried**
- (b) November 21, 2022 (Regular Board)  
Moved by: R. Collver  
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat  
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, dated November 21, 2022, be approved.  
**Carried**
- C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**
- (a) **Committee Representation 2022-23**  
Presented as printed.  
Moved by: J. Bradford  
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert  
THAT the Board approve the Committee Representation 2022-23 effective November 25, 2022.  
**Carried**
- In response to a question, it was noted that Trustees had an opportunity to review the committee representation by email prior to the meeting to allow committee work to continue. It was confirmed that the email was not an electronic vote.
- (b) **Report of the Finance Committee dated December 5, 2022**  
Moved by: E. Thomas  
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt  
THAT the Board approve the 2022-23 Revised Budget Estimates.  
**Carried**
- D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meeting** - Nil



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#### E - 1 Report of the Director

J. Roberto shared information regarding the following:

- The Indigenous Department has created a 5-part speaker series on Land-based learning.
  - November 15, 2022 Nikki Shawana shared her knowledge about learning from the land. The next speaker series will be on December 13, 2022 with Betts Doxtater.
- GEPIC Orientation focused sessions were developed based on parent voice and included School Council Tips, Fundraising, School Cash Online, Equity, Mental Health and Wellbeing as well as Secondary Transitions with over 110 participants.
- Teaching to Diversity and Inclusion - On December 8, 2022, SEAC, GEPIC, IEAC and Student Senate hosted a session with Shelley Moore.
- Portable Update - Portables have been delivered to Caledonia Centennial Public School, Agnes G. Hodge Public School and Hagersville Elementary School.
- Enrolment in the district is up by 834 elementary students and 140 secondary students. Grand Erie's total enrolment is 26,834.
- Kindergarten Registration - Parents/caregivers can now register their child online for Kindergarten through the Grand Erie school board website. The Communications department will be concurrently launching a campaign to support registrations.
- BOLTT Conference – Growing and Supporting an eLearning Program. Grand Erie staff presented their learning and success regarding significant growth in the eLearning program at a recent conference. The session uncovered strategies to grow the program and ways staff can support students. Congratulations were extended to Vice-Principal J. Allison, K. Geerlings, DeLC, Principal J. Della Fortuna and S. Purdy, Secondary Consultant.

Student Trustee Zebroski played a holiday music interlude by violin for the Board.

#### F - 1 Staff Reports

##### (a) Director's Annual Report 2021-22

Presented as printed.

##### (b) Health and Safety Annual Report 2021-22

Presented as printed.

##### (c) Safe Schools Report 2021-22 – Suspensions, Expulsions and Exclusions

Presented as printed.

Questions of clarification were addressed, and it was noted that Safe and Inclusive teams take proactive steps to address potential issues that are arising. A potential future caucus on Mental Health and Safe Schools was noted.



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(d) **2022-23 Facility Renewal Plan – Projects**

Presented as printed.

G - 1 **Student Trustees Report**

(a) **OSTA-AECO Conference**

Student Trustees M. Baker, A. Skye, and T. Zebroski provided an overview of the OSTA-AECO Conference held in October.

H - 1 **New Business – Action / Decision Items**

(a) **Borrowing Authority**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Board authorize the Signing Authorities 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**

(b) **Contract Award - Insurance**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Board approve the Liability and Property Insurance Contract for 2023 from Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) in the amount of \$736,833.76.

**Carried**

(b) **Purchase of Laptops**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board approve the purchase of 2,500 HP Laptops from Compugen Inc. in the amount of \$987,500 plus HST.

**Carried.**

In response to a question, Superintendent Munro confirmed this purchase will provide a further enhancement to the current levels of five laptops per elementary classroom and eight per secondary classroom.

I - 1 **Information Items – Nil**

J - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes dated October 13, 2022**

Presented as printed.



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(b) **Native Advisory Committee Minutes dated October 13, 2022**

Presented as printed.

(c) **Special Education Advisory Minutes dated November 3, 2022**

Presented as printed.

K - 1 **OPSBA Report**

Trustee VanEvery-Albert advised that the new Executive Director of OPSBA is Stephanie Donaldson. In addition, Trustees were encouraged to register for the Public Education Symposium if they have not already done so.

L - 1 **Correspondence**

Presented as printed.

(a) Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board dated November 10, 2022

(b) Algoma District School Board dated November 25, 2022

M - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 9:14p.m.

**Carried**

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Chair S. Gibson

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Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto