



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 30, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

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

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

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

Absent: Student Trustees: A. Skye, T. Zebroski

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

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

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

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

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Bradford

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 7:56 p.m.

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

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorial** - Nil

(h) **In-Camera Report** – Nil



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 30, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

(i) **Presentations/Showcase**

(i) **Learn Lead Inspire Award**

Director Roberto presented Imam Abu Noman Tarek with the Learn Lead Inspire Award. Imam has demonstrated guidance to Grand Erie staff to help bridge the knowledge and understanding as communities united to support learners and worked together to take a stand against Islamophobia. Imam Tarek has provided leadership, advocacy, and experience to advance safe and inclusive environments.

(j) **Delegations - Nil**

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) December 12, 2022 (Regular Board)

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, dated December 12, 2022, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Report of the Policy and Program Committee dated January 16, 2023**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, it was reaffirmed that procedures are operational, and that input will be sought from staff and posted to the school board website simultaneously with the accompanying policy as per the report presented at the January 16, 2023 Policy and Program Committee.

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meeting - Nil**

E - 1 **Report of the Director**

J. Roberto shared information regarding the following:

- Meet an Artist - Charley's art is currently on display at the Norfolk Public Library and will be featured at the Education Centre.
- You Belong Here Secondary Campaign
The campaign will focus on the learning and extra-curricular programs available to support individual learners and is intended to further support Grand Erie's transition work.
- Kindergarten Kick Start
Last year the board hosted Kindergarten Kick Start programs whereby four schools held community registration sessions for kindergarten to include community partners. This was a huge success, and the program is expanding this year to include King George Public School, Woodman-Cainsville School, Greenbrier, Port Rowan Public School, West Lynn Public School, Thompson Creek Elementary School, Oneida Central Public School and Mt. Pleasant School.
- The 7th Annual Rainbow Ball



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 30, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Waterford District High School will be hosting its 7th Annual Rainbow Ball on May 17, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. welcoming students into a safe space.

- **Careers at Grand Erie**
The school board website has been recently revised to include a user-friendly careers page.
- **Human Trafficking**
A Virtual Parent Information Night on Human Trafficking featuring Krystal Snider is being held on February 1, 2023.
- **Community Learning Opportunities**
The following community opportunities are being offered to educators, students, parents, and caregivers across Grand Erie include Haldimand Children's Water Festival (May 24 & 25, 2023), Trauma-Informed Care and Approaches for Early Childhood Educators (February 15, 2023), and Group Triple P (March 8, 15, 22, April 12, 2023).

F - 1 **Staff Reports**

(a) **Category III Trips**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) Annual Report**

Presented as printed.

(c) **Equity Action Plan**

Presented as printed.

Superintendent Baker noted that the plan is intended to identify and eliminate discriminatory practices, systemic barriers and bias from schools and classrooms. The plan includes input and vetting by many individuals with lived experience in historically marginalized groups including the Equity Advisory Group, Safe and Inclusive Schools Committee, various focus groups, and community advocacy groups. Erik Lockhart, a strategic planner from Queen's University, guided the early work by establishing focus groups (students, staff, administrators, parents) and introduced them to his data-gathering methodology. Their responses formed the foundation of the action plan.

Director Roberto advised that the Inclusive Language Guide was shared at the Public Education Symposium.

(d) **Major Construction Project Report**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, Superintendent Wyszynski advised that construction for the new Southwest Brantford Elementary School is expected to begin sometime this fall.

It was confirmed that that daycare centres for both Banbury Heights School and Cobblestone Elementary are at different phases due to the terms of the scope of each



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 30, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

project. As well, the Ministry has given no indication why the Banbury Heights School project has not yet been approved.

(e) **Contract Award: HVAC Upgrades at James Hillier Public School**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Board approve the contract for HVAC upgrades at James Hillier Public School from BML Multi Trades Group in the amount of \$1,278,342 plus HST.

Carried

(f) **Contract Award: HVAC Upgrades at Boston Public School**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board approve the contract for HVAC upgrades at Boston Public School from BML Multi Trades Group in the amount of \$638,188 plus HST.

Carried

(g) **Contract Award: Mechanical Upgrades at Hagersville Elementary School**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the contract for mechanical upgrades at Hagersville Elementary School from BML Trades Group in the amount of \$1,086,248 plus HST.

Carried

G - 1 **Student Trustees' Report** – Nil

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

(a) **Draft School Year Calendars 2023-24**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board approve the draft School Year Calendars 2023-24.

Carried

Superintendent Baker advised that the calendars were developed in conjunction with the co-terminus board and a committee to seek alignment, to minimize transportation costs and allow for shared professional development opportunities.

Superintendent Baker provided rationale for the placement of the September and October 2023 P.A. Days.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 30, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

It was confirmed that there are no conflicts with the secondary calendar and Midwinter Longhouse.

Trustee Sloat felt there was not enough consultation from the public and suggested that the draft school year calendars be added to the school board website for public comment.

Superintendent Baker advised that the School Year Calendar Committee and the co-terminus board circulated the proposed calendars in December to stakeholders including parents.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Draft School Year Calendars 2023-24 be referred to the February 27, 2023 Regular Board meeting to allow for further public comment.

Trustee Sloat requested a recorded vote:

Trustee Doyle - no

Trustee Sloat - yes

Trustee Anderson - no

Trustee Collver - no

Trustee VanEvery-Albert - yes

Trustee Thomas - yes

Trustee Waldschmidt - no

Trustee Bradford - no

Trustee Whiton - no

Chair Gibson - no

Trustee Passmore - no

Defeated

(b) **Appointment to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the Term 2022-2026**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the appointment to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the Term 2022-2026.

Carried

I - 1 **Information Items – Nil**

J - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Special Education Advisory Minutes dated December 8, 2022**

Presented as printed.

Superintendent Thompson confirmed that the Project SEARCH letter will be coming forward to the board for information.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 30, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

K - 1 OPSBA Report

Trustee VanEvery-Albert advised that the Public Education Symposium was a success and highlighted the Keynote Speaker Chief Cadmus Delorme of Cowessess First Nation.

L - 1 Correspondence - Nil

M - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by: J. Bradford

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

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto