



GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

*Head Office, 349 Erie Avenue
Brantford, ON N3T 5V3*

**Regular Board Meeting
May 30, 2011, 6:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Trustees: C.A. Sloat , Chair, J. Angus, R. Collver, D. Dean, E. Dixon, B. Doyle, A. Everets, B. Johnston, C. Lefebvre, M. Macdonald, D. Werden; M. Hadley (Student Trustee)

Administration: Director — J. Forbeck; Superintendents — G. Anderson, W. Baker, B. Blancher, J. Gunn, M. McDonald, A. Nesbitt; Recording Secretary — J. Grincevicius

REGRETS:

Trustees: Nil

Administration: Nil

A – 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair, C.A. Sloat, at 6:30 p.m. for the purposes of conducting the In Camera Session.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

E. Dixon declared a conflict of interest concerning an In Camera property matter.

(c) In Camera Session

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

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

Carried

Open Session reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

(d) Welcome to Open Session

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Chair, C.A. Sloat, at 7:15 p.m.

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

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: D. Dean
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report regarding administrative positions, effective September 1, 2011, as information.

Carried

Moved by: D. Werden
Seconded by: E. Dixon
THAT Item D-1-b be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorial — Tanner Sabila–Azzopardi, Student, Paris District High School**

The memorial statement was read by B. Johnston.

(h) **Memorial — Sheldon Howell, Student, Simcoe Composite School**

The memorial statement was read by E. Dixon.

(i) **Presentations**

Nil.

(j) **Delegations**

Nil.

B – 1 Approval of Minutes

(a) **April 18, 2011 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: J. Angus
Seconded by: R. Collver
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held April 18, 2011, be approved.

Carried

(b) **May 2, 2011 (Committee of the Whole No. 1)**

Moved by: E. Dixon

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Meeting, held May 2, 2011, be approved.

Carried

(c) **May 2, 2011 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held May 2, 2011, be approved.

Carried

(d) **May 9, 2011 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, held May 9 2011, be approved.

Carried

(e) **May 16, 2011 (Committee of the Whole No. 2)**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Meeting, held May 16, 2011, be approved.

Carried

J. Gunn noted that both refreshment and catering companies are happy with the extended contracts.

C – 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

Nil.

D – 1 Director’s Report**(a) Summer Literacy Camp**

B. Blancher indicated that a summer learning literacy project is being offered this year. Funding is provided by the Council of Directors of Education (CODE). There is no cost to parents. Her team has learned what other boards did last summer.

The program is intended to mitigate the summer learning loss of participating students. It also provides a recreation component. The project will help students with economic and social disadvantages. In conjunction with the YMCA, Camp SAIL (Summer Adventures in Literacy) will be held at King George in early August. Letters have gone home to King George parents soliciting registrations. Fifteen students in each of two classes are required. Parents will be asked to complete a survey and commit to their child regularly attending. Students will undergo STAR assessment and be assessed later in the year.

B. Blancher will report on the outcome at the September 19, 2011 Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 meeting.

(b) Other

J. Forbeck visited five schools in the last week: St. George–German, North Ward, Paris Central and Onondaga–Brant Public Schools and Burford District Elementary School. He outlined what he learned about programs, instruction and activities in the schools he visited.

EQAO testing started in elementary schools today.

J. Forbeck attended the “Leader in Me” Open House at Ryerson Heights. The program is based on Stephen Covey’s “Seven Habits of Highly Effective People” for student leaders.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of May 30, 2011 as information.

Carried

E – 1 Committee Reports**(a) Committee of the Whole No. 1 — May 2, 2011**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board No. 1 Report, dated May 30, 2011, as follows:

1. Early Learning Before and After School Program — Survey of Parents — Results

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report “ELK Extended Day Survey Results” as information.

2. Director’s Report

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of May 2, 2011 as information.

3. HR9 Hiring, Supervision and Placement of a Family Member

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward HR 9 – “Hiring, Supervision and Placement of a Family Member” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by October 5, 2011, as amended.

4. SO6 Student Suspensions

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO6 – “Student Suspensions” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by October 5, 2011.

5. SO7 Student Expulsions

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy SO7 – “Student Expulsions” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by October 5, 2011.

6. HR116 Return to Work Program and Workplace Accommodation

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure HR116 “Return to Work Program and Workplace Accommodation” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by October 5, 2011.

7. P102 Business Procedures for Experiential Learning Programs

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Administrative Procedure P102 “Business Procedures for Experiential Learning Programs” to all appropriate stakeholders for comment to be received by October 5, 2011.

8. **P104 Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) and Other Excusals from Attendance at School**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure P104 "Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) and Other Excusals from Attendance at School" as information.

9. **SO109 Bomb Threats**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive Administrative Procedure SO109 – "Bomb Threats" as information, as amended.

10. **Grand Erie District School Board Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2011–2015**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Multi-Year Strategic Plan for 2011-2015, as amended.

11. **Additional STSBHN Procedures**

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report "STSBHN Procedures for Review" as information.

12. **In Camera Report**

(a) THAT Item C-1-b be approved.

(b) THAT Item C-1-c be approved.

Carried

(b) **Committee of the Whole No. 2 — May 16, 2011**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 Report, dated May 30, 2011, as follows:

1. **In Camera Report**

THAT Item B-1-a be approved.

2. **Haldimand East Accommodation Review — Recommendations for Consideration**

(a) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board close Anna Melick Memorial School and Dunnville Central Public School, effective September 1, 2012 and;

(b) THAT the catchment boundaries for Thompson Creek Elementary School be adjusted to accommodate students currently attending Anna Melick Memorial School, effective September 1, 2012 and;

(c) THAT the catchment boundaries for Fairview Avenue Public School be adjusted to accommodate students currently attending Dunnville Central Public School, effective September 1, 2012.

3. **Naming of New Elementary School in Southwest Brantford**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the name, "Walter Gretzky Elementary School" for the new elementary school in Southwest Brantford.
4. **French Immersion Program Update**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report "French Immersion Program Update" as information.
5. **Director's Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's report of May 16, 2011 as information.
6. **Approval of Next Year's Meeting Schedule**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2011-12 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule.
7. **Mileage Remuneration Review**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board increase the current mileage rate to \$0.46 per kilometer, effective September 1, 2011, subject to final budget approval
8. **Food Services/Cafeteria Contracts**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the extension of the existing contracts for cafeteria food services, snack vending and cold beverage vending with the current vendors for an additional one year period (2011-12).
9. **MISA Update**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the MISA Update as information.
10. **EDI Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the EDI report as information.
11. **Student Trustee Selection (BL29)**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Senate's report on the appointment of the following Student Trustees for 2011-12:
Grand Erie North: Paige Fleetwood
Grand Erie South: Bailey Featherston
12. **Student Senate Report**
THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Senate report of April 14, 2011 as information.

13. Grand Erie Archives — Update

- (a) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report “Grand Erie Archives Update” as information; and
- (b) THAT a report concerning the Grand Erie Archives incorporation be presented at the September 19, 2011 Committee of the Whole Board meeting.

14. Correspondence

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the correspondence as information.

15. In Camera Session

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board accept the resignation of Student Trustee, Ashley Little, effective May 16, 2011 and with regret.

D. Werden requested that Recommendation No.11 be separated from the main report.

A. Everets requested that Recommendation No.2 be separated from the main report.

A vote was taken on Recommendations No. 1, 3 to 10 and 12 to 15.

Carried

In regard to Recommendation No. 11, D. Werden questioned if the Board approved the appointment of Student Trustees; however, Bylaw 29 indicates otherwise.

A vote was taken on the following:

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Student Senate’s report on the appointment of the following Student Trustees for 2011–12:

Grand Erie North: Paige Fleetwood

Grand Erie South: Bailey Featherston

Carried

In regard to Recommendation No. 2, A. Everets indicated she wants to suggest a compromise. She noted ARC members agreed that there could not be status quo due to declining school enrolment.

She stated that by closing Fairview Avenue Public School, Haldimand East elementary schools will achieve 85% capacity compared to 90% by closing Anna Melick and Dunnville Central Public Schools. She noted that many Grand Erie schools are under 85% capacity and there are fifteen schools under 200 pupils — some urban and some rural.

She quoted a newspaper article which stated that rural Ontario is not getting a fair shake by the Provincial Government.

She believes that if the Board were to consider closing only Dunnville Central, it respects rural schools. The Early Years Hub could be placed at Fairview Avenue. Some Dunnville Central students could be offered the opportunity to attend Anna Melick. She also offered an accommodation review again in five years to see if the number of schools needs to be adjusted further.

B. Doyle stated there has been a lot of passion demonstrated by the community throughout this accommodation review. The Board needs to find the best solution for the community and the schools. He is pleased that trustees took such an interest in this Review and he is proud of senior administration for the amount of work expended. He thinks compromise is the best solution.

B. Johnston supports the closure of Dunnville Central and keeping Fairview Avenue open. The Anna Melick parents expressed passion for the rural way of life. He likes having the diversity of small and large schools in the Board. He recognizes differences in our communities with some being urban and some rural. Nothing will be a perfect solution and he supports A. Everets' proposal.

J. Angus noted that she needs more information on enrolment, classroom configuration, etc. before she can consider the proposed alternative. She has concern with programming at small schools, i.e. Anna Melick. She also expressed concern with having to go back to the community in five years because of declining enrolment. She queried the best location for the Best Start Hub.

J. Forbeck stated that Senior Administration does not have the data requested about the configuration of other schools should Dunnville Central be the only school closed.

D. Werden thinks that there would be about 70% capacity in the remaining schools should Dunnville Central be the only one closed. He thinks Anna Melick would have double and triple grade classes in the future. By 2015, there would be less than 15 students per cohort. He also needs to see more information before making a decision on the proposal. He does not want to undertake another Accommodation Review in three to five years.

A. Everets stated that accommodation reviews just completed have left schools at 76% capacity. What enrolment will be in ten years cannot be guaranteed. She thinks some students will be lost to Niagara if Anna Melick is closed. Her proposed alternative would be to remove approximately 300 spaces (including 40 from Fairview Avenue for the Best Start Hub). She suggests adjusting a boundary to move some students back to Anna Melick.

D. Dean needs to see more information before making a decision on the alternative. He is pleased that Fairview Avenue is out of the focus for closure.

J. Gunn indicated the capacity would be 1,254 spaces. By 1213 there would be 973 students, making the overall capacity 77%. Some schools will be higher, some lower than the average. Some Dunnville Central students can walk to Thompson Creek as there is a sidewalk; however, some will require transportation. This can be accommodated with a double run; therefore, the cost would not be significant. The Best Start Hub will lower the capacity of the school in which it is located. The Board must still pay heating, hydro, etc. However, having Best Start as a partner helps attract students. J. Gunn indicated that both Dunnville Secondary School and Thompson Creek would have space to accommodate the Best Start Hub. Fairview Avenue would require a portable (under the Senior Administration's recommendation).

R. Collver understands the passion to keep a small school open. However, she is concerned that enrolment will continue to drop and another Accommodation Review will be required.

A. Everets is concerned with delaying the Board's decision to another meeting. She thinks the alternative is workable.

C.A. Sloat does not want to repeat an Accommodation Review in a few years.

D. Werden thinks a decision must be made tonight. Closing only one school leaves 75% overall capacity. Moving students to Anna Melick lowers the enrolment at Thompson Creek.

A vote was taken on the following:

- (a) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board close Anna Melick Memorial School and Dunnville Central Public School, effective September 1, 2012 and;
- (b) THAT the catchment boundaries for Thompson Creek Elementary School be adjusted to accommodate students currently attending Anna Melick Memorial School, effective September 1, 2012 and;
- (c) THAT the catchment boundaries for Fairview Avenue Public School be adjusted to accommodate students currently attending Dunnville Central Public School, effective September 1, 2012.

A recorded vote was taken with results as follows:

| | | | |
|-------|------------|-------|--------------|
| Yeas: | J. Angus | Nays: | D. Dean |
| | R. Collver | | E. Dixon |
| | C.A. Sloat | | B. Doyle |
| | D. Werden | | A. Everets |
| | | | B. Johnston |
| | | | C. Lefebvre |
| | | | M. Macdonald |

Defeated

Moved by: A. Everets

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

- (a) THAT the Grand Erie District School Board close Dunnville Central Public School effective September 1, 2012.
- (b) THAT the catchment boundaries for Thompson Creek Elementary School be adjusted to accommodate students currently attending Dunnville Central Public School.
- (c) THAT the catchment boundaries for Anna Melick Public School be reviewed by Administration to suggest possible changes to direct some students to Anna Melick Public School.
- (d) THAT the Quality Accommodations Committee provide a report to the Board regarding accommodations in Haldimand East within three years.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the above motion be referred to administration to provide additional information regarding the above configuration including enrolment organization, boundary changes, transportation costs and projected class sizes at Anna Melick Public School at the June 13, 2011 Committee of the Whole Board No. 2 meeting.

A recorded vote was taken with results as follows:

| | | | |
|-------|--------------|-------|-----------|
| Yeas: | J. Angus | Nays: | B. Doyle |
| | R. Collver | | D. Werden |
| | D. Dean | | |
| | E. Dixon | | |
| | A. Everets | | |
| | B. Johnston | | |
| | C. Lefebvre | | |
| | M. Macdonald | | |
| | C.A. Sloat | | |

Carried

F – 1 New Business

(a) Quality Accommodations Operating Plan Review (2010–11)

J. Gunn highlighted several high yield strategies, areas of significant success and areas where challenges remain.

At McKinnon Park Secondary School, it would take significant capital to build an addition to accommodate tuition agreement students and INAC is not willing to consider participating.

In response to C.A. Sloat, J. Gunn noted that the green cleaning procedure has been finalized and has been enacted, policy to be developed for Board approval.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: B. Johnston

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Quality Accommodations Operating Plan Review as information.

Carried

(b) **Leadership Development and New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) Operating Plan Review (2010–11)**

M. McDonald highlighted several high yield strategies, areas of significant success and areas where challenges remain.

C.A. Sloat thinks there should be more emphasis on training principals in parent engagement. M. McDonald indicated this subject is covered to some degree through the mentoring process.

J. Forbeck indicated that next year's operating plans will be built on the new Multi-Year Plan.

Regarding a query from M. Macdonald, M. McDonald stated that equity and inclusiveness are included in the new teacher induction process. Sessions are included in NTIP and principal training. As part of the Multi-Year Plan, they will be built into all workshops.

Moved by: M. Macdonald

Seconded by: A. Everets

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Leadership Development and New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) Operating Plan Review (2010–11) as information.

Carried

(c) **Communications/Community Relations Operating Plan Review (2010–11)**

J. Forbeck welcomed Shawn McKillop, Manager of Communications and Community Relations.

J. Forbeck and Shawn McKillop highlighted several high yield strategies, areas of significant success and areas where challenges remain.

Some of the strategies were re-directed by the Marketing/Communications Committee.

R. Collver thinks the Marketing/Communications Committee has accomplished a lot this year.

In response to D. Dean, Shawn McKillop stated it is important to focus on positive stories with the media.

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Communications and Community Relations Operating Plan Review (2010-11) as information.

Carried

(d) **Special Education Operating Plan Review (2010-11)**

W. Baker welcomed Faye Adams, Program Coordinator, Special Education, Kim Cottingham, Principal Leader, Special Education, and Wayne Hobbs, Executive Supervisor, Student Support Services.

W. Baker highlighted several high yield strategies, areas of significant success and areas where challenges remain.

In response to R. Collver, Kim Cottingham indicated that it is an ongoing process to build capacity in the IEP process.

Regarding a query from J. Angus, Kim Cottingham stated that staff are working on improving the curriculum for Developmentally Delayed students transitioning to secondary school.

W. Hobbs indicated that High Yield Strategy No. 8 concerning the Speech Language Delivery Model has been removed as it is now part of daily practice.

R. Collver commended Kim Cottingham in his role as Principal Leader over the last five years and indicated he will be missed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Special Education Operating Plan Review (2010-11) as information.

Carried

(e) **Major Construction Update (FT2)**

J. Gunn stated the construction at Brantford Collegiate IVS will be finished in July and will be within budget.

The elevator to serve the Norfolk School Support Centre is nearly complete at Waterford District High School.

The elementary school in South-West Brantford will be open in January 2012.

The early learning program retrofits at Lansdowne and Jarvis Public Schools are on schedule.

The equipment for the solar projects at Valley Heights Secondary School and Waterford District High School has been partially installed. Work has started at Centennial–Grand Woodlands. At four schools, a thermal scan of the roof membrane is required but the roof must be dry. At J.L. Mitchener Public School and Cayuga Secondary school, there are Hydro One connection issues. Overall, ten schools are underway and fifteen more are under assessment.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Major Construction Update as information.

Carried

(f) **Norfolk Secondary Accommodation Review Committee — Membership**

J. Forbeck noted the first meeting is May 31, 2011.

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the membership of the Norfolk Secondary School Accommodation Review Committee as information.

Carried

G – 1 Other Business

(a) **Summary of Accounts — April 2011**

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Summary of Accounts for the month of April 2011, in the amount of \$8,917,066.58, as information.

Carried

(b) **Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes — April 14, 2011**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee, held April 14, 2011, as information.

Carried

(c) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes — March 3, 2011**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: C. Lefebvre

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held March 3, 2011, as information.

Carried

(d) **Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes — April 14, 2011**

Moved by: C. Lefebvre

Seconded by: J. Angus

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held April 14, 2011, as information.

Carried

(e) **Native Advisory Committee Minutes — April 4, 2011**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Werden

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Native Advisory Committee, held April 4, 2011, as information.

Carried

(f) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes — April 27, 2011**

R. Collver commended Shawn McKillop, Manager of Communications and Community Relations, for putting together the Reaching Out Grants proposal within a short timeline.

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee, held April 27, 2011, as information.

Carried

(g) **Communications/Marketing Committee Minutes — April 11, 2011**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: M. Macdonald

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Communications/Marketing Committee, held April 11, 2011, as information.

Carried

(h) **Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes — May 19, 2011**

Moved by: J. Angus

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the minutes of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee, held May 19, 2011, as information.

Carried

H – 1 Correspondence

Nil.

I – 1 Adjournment

Moved by: D. Werden

Seconded by: E. Dixon

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Carried



Board Chair, Carol Ann Sloat