

## **UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

### **BOARD MEETING – TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2011, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m.

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, Trustee Busuttil, presided and all members were present with the exception of Trustees Borden and Cooper.

#### **OPENING PRAYER OR READING**

Trustee Waterston provided an inspirational reading from the West Hartford Counseling Centre entitled, “Rules of Being Human.”

#### **CONDOLENCES**

The Board Vice-Chair reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to Lynn Dunseith, Administrative Office Assistant at St. George’s Centre and King George PS, on the loss of her father-in-law; Valerie Talbot, Administrative Office Assistant at Ken Danby PS, on the loss of her mother-in-law; Michael Klages, a teacher at Willow Road PS, on the loss of his mother; and, Kathy Hunt, Administrative Assistant to the VP at ODSS, on the loss of her father-in-law.

#### **GOOD NEWS**

Dr. Rogers highlighted the AGood News® as follows:

##### Terry Fox Foundation

Upper Grand schools raised a total of \$118,654.85 for the fight against cancer during the 2010 Terry Fox Run. Leading the way in the secondary school category was Centennial C.V.I., which brought in \$11,595.21. John McCrae P.S. was first in the elementary schools raising \$5,944.00. Portage Schools placed third in the population under 200 category raising \$107.03 per capita.

##### Friends of Island Lake Education Committee Spring Report

Friends of Island Lake in Orangeville formed an Education Committee last fall. Their first goal was to develop and implement a strategic plan for placing educational interpretive signs along the north and south trails circumventing Island Lake. The signs would enhance the trail by providing interesting and informative facts about the flora, fauna, geomorphology, biodiversity, water quality and history of Island Lake. A total of twelve signs were approved by the education committee and are presently being designed by the Education Co-ordinator of the Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) Foundation. Like all new projects, it requires funding that has to be raised through generous donations from the community.

The Upper Grand District School Board recently announced they would sponsor six of the interpretive signs located on the South Shore trail. Lynn Picard, the Outdoor Education teacher at Island Lake, advocated for this project with the Program Department because she saw educational value in having interpretive signs located strategically along the trail that she could use in the delivery of her many programs.

A sign depicting water quality would assist in explaining the impact of human activity at Island Lake for her grade eight water awareness program. Lynn also suggested signs about habitat and biodiversity for grade five earth keepers and grade four survival programs. A habitat sign could be used to introduce the concept of food chains while facts about beavers could help stimulate discussions for the grade seven trappers and traders program. The biodiversity sign would highlight the existence of nesting osprey who have been residents of Island Lake since 1996. There is also a wide variety of waterfowl and migratory birds. This sign would be a valuable teaching tool for the grade four survival program.

The CVC and the Upper Grand District School Board have maintained a valuable relationship in order to provide a meaningful outdoor education program for students from grades one to eight.

Mono Amaranth Public School was the first group to come forth and offer to sponsor a sign. The school uses the north trail on a regular basis and wanted to show their support. The Town of Mono will also be sponsoring two signs.

An initiative that was believed by the education committee to be a daunting task has been achieved within one year. Thanks to all the sponsors, the interpretive signs will be enhancing the Island Lake trail system in the foreseeable future.

#### Board and Teacher win Environment Sustainability Awards

The Board and Montgomery Village Public School teacher Ann Fenton won Environmental Stability Awards presented by the Town of Orangeville in the group and individual categories respectively. The awards were presented at the Town of Orangeville Council meeting on Monday, May 2, 2011 by the Orangeville Sustainability Action Team.

Ms. Fenton, the winner in the individual category, fosters environmental awareness in her role as a teacher at Montgomery Village P.S. Instrumental in the greening program at the school, she had introduced the “I Walk” program, a walk-to-school initiative that has students eager to participate, alleviated traffic congestion and unsafe conditions in front of the building and has prompted other schools in town to promote the message. In 2010, Montgomery Village was one of eight schools in Canada to be awarded the Olympic Relay Award by the Royal Bank in recognition of the “I Walk” program.

Due to the overwhelming success of the Dufferin County green bin program in Town and County schools, the Upper Grand District School Board won the OSAT award for an organization. Working closely with the County’s Waste Management Division, a pilot project started at Montgomery Village P.S. has now spread to every school in the County. Each week elementary and secondary school students put their school green bins out for collection, diverting

food waste from landfills and helping to create compost instead of landfill gas and methane.

Accepting the awards at the Council meeting were teachers Ann Fenton and Jill Fendley-Legge of Montgomery Village; Child Youth Counsellor D'arcy Lichti and Bob Borden, Chair of the Board. The awards were presented by Orangeville Counselor, Sylvia Bradley, the Chair of OSAT.

#### UGDSB Students Win at the Ontario Provincial Skills

Upper Grand students received 3 gold medals, 2 silver and 4 bronze medals at the Ontario Provincial Skills Competition held May 2-4, 2011. Congratulations to all of our students who participated! The winners are as follows:

- Computer Aided Manufacturing – Erin D.H.S. – Gold
- Carpentry Team of 2 - Wellington Heights S.S. – Gold
- Home Build – Team of 4 – Wellington Heights S.S. – Gold
- Floristry – Centre Wellington District School – Silver
- Workplace Safety – Erin D.H.S. – Silver
- Architectural Technology and Design – Centre Wellington D.H.S. – Bronze
- Carpentry – Individual – Wellington Heights S.S. – Bronze
- Job Skills Demonstration – Centre Wellington H.S. – Bronze
- Landscape Gardening – Team of 2 – College Heights – Bronze

#### Guelph and District Home Builders Association OYAP Scholarship

A student from College Heights S.S. was the proud recipient of the Guelph and District Home Builders Association OYAP Scholarship. The student is a registered Brick and Stone Mason and will graduate this spring as a Construction SHSM student with the successful completion of the OYAP Level 1 Apprenticeship Dual Credit program. He is doing his apprenticeship with Savery-Bell Masonry of Guelph.

#### Big Scholarship Win

Anti-bullying advocate, Guelph C.V.I. student and Student Trustee Alex VanderVlugt was recently honoured with a scholarship at the 16<sup>th</sup> TD Scholarship for Community Leadership National Awards Ceremony. The event recognizes students from across Canada who made a positive impact on their communities. Alex will now have a scholarship of over \$70,000 in value, including post-secondary education and living expenses over the next four years. Summer employment at TD is also guaranteed. Congratulations Alex, we are all very proud of you!

#### Minister's Student Advisory Council

Livia Sente, an Island Lake P.S. student, has been appointed to the provincial Minister's Students Advisory Council.

#### Learning the lesson of compassion (Guelph Mercury – Saturday, May 14, 2011)

"Taylor Evans P.S. started the Eagles Building project as a way of learning about the world's religions and finding the similarities between them. The project revolves around the Charter of Compassion."

On May 13<sup>th</sup> the grade 7 and 8 students spent the day learning about various religions during a Faith Fair. Many of the students reported that what they learned would stay with them for a lifetime and make them more accepting and understanding of the followers of various faiths.

The Eagles Building Bridges project embraces the Charter of Compassion, a document developed in 2008 through Technology Entertainment and Design. The opening line of the charter states that compassion is at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, and it “calls us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves.”

#### OPSBA’s Education Today Magazine

Csilla Farkas, teacher librarian at Kortright Hills Public School is featured in the newest issue of OPSBA’s Education Today Magazine in an article entitled “The Social Network Goes to School”. She started out using social media when she was running the *Forest of Reading* programs, and started her students blogging about the books they were reading. Kindergarten children dictated what they wanted to say and she scribed for them. In an intermediate literacy project, a class wiki was used and students created a 40 page online magazine with fake money to be used for a feature story, articles, photos and other items.

In the article, she’s quoted as saying “From kindergarten on up, I find students are more interested and engaged when we use social media. They live in the digital world and that’s what they’re used to. When we make them power down we’re taking away a huge part of their lives. Assigning the same activity and allowing them to do it using some social media forum makes it interesting to them, whereas it might be absolutely boring to them if they were using paper.”

Education Today magazine will be distributed later this month or early in June and all trustees will receive a copy.

#### **CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA**

Trustee Bailey moved that the agenda be confirmed as printed.

The motion carried.

#### **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD, APRIL 26, 2011 AND THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD MAY 10, 2011**

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar, that the Minutes of the Board meeting held April 26, 2011, the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, and the minutes of the Special meeting held May 10, 2011 (in camera) be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

**RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA**

Trustee Fairbairn moved, seconded by Trustee Topping that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole in camera be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried

**MOTION TO RISE AND SIT IN COMMITTEE**

Trustee Topping moved that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole, with the Vice-Chair presiding.

The motion carried.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held May 3, 2011 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, and 3 as contained in the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated May 3, 2011.

The motion carried.

The motions are as follows:

THAT:

1. the presentations entitled, "Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) and OYAP Dual Credits", be received
2. the presentation entitled "Co-Op Recall", be received.
3. the Student Trustee presentation be received.

**BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

A. Minutes of May 10, 2011

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held May 10, 2011 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Fairbairn moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 as contained in the Minutes of the Business Operations Committee, dated May 10, 2011.

The motion carried.

The recommendations are as follows:

THAT:

1. The report entitled “Renewable Energy Funding for Schools: Victoria Terrace PS and Centre Dufferin DHS Solar Photovoltaic Projects” dated May 10, 2011 be received.
2. the report entitled, “Custodian’s Green Initiative Award,” dated May 10, 2011, be received.
3. the report entitled, “Community Gardens – Brant Avenue PS and Stephanie Drive Site,” dated May 10, 2011, be received.
4. the report, “Resignations and Retirements (Appendix A)” dated May 10, 2011 be received.
5. the verbal report Health and Safety Report as presented by Mr. J. Bowie, be received as information.
6.
  - a) the report entitled “April 2011 OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting”, dated May 10, 2011 be received.
  - b) the Chair be directed to explore the OESC supported Governance Facilitator initiative and submit an application if this meets our Board’s development objectives.
7. The Board approve financial support to cover the cost of registration fees for Trustees Bailey and Fairbairn to attend the Summit on Children and Youth Mental Health on June 2, 2011.

**B. King George PS Tender Announcement**

Mr. Paul Scinocca, Capital Projects Manager, reviewed the report entitled, “King George Public School Project Approval Report, Construction Tender and Final Project Budget,” dated May 24, 2011. The Lump Sum Tenders were opened publically on May 12, 2011 and a summary of the tender results was reviewed. The project architect subsequently completed a detailed bid analysis and has recommended that the low tenderer, Devlan Construction Ltd, be awarded the contract. The Final Project Budget totalling \$8.6M (Appendix A) was reviewed in detail and is approximately \$250,000 less than anticipated. It was explained that provision for bonding was not included in the budget as Devlan is a known contractor who has previously performed work for the board.

In response to a question from Trustee Fairbairn, it was explained that due to the age of the building, it is anticipated that asbestos is likely to be found during demolition and that a contingency is included in the budget to address the discovery and removal of hazardous materials.

In response to a question from Trustee Gohn it was explained a stage was included in the plans because the opportunity presented due to the situation of the internal mechanical room above the space. It is not intended to be a performance stage. It was also noted that the lift being installed at the hallway entrance to the stage addresses the need for handicapped access to the second storey for the building.

Trustee Moziar moved

THAT:

1. the report entitled “(New) King George Public School, Project Approval Report, Construction Tender and Final Project Budget” dated May 24, 2011, CP:11-04, be received.
2. a Final Project Budget of \$8,606,021.42 outlined in Appendix A in the report CP:11-04, be approved, and that the contract for the (New) King George Public School building project be awarded to the low tenderer, Devlan Construction Ltd.

The motion carried.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Waterston moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held May 11, 2011 be received.

The motion carried.

### **POLICY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Trustee Bailey moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee held May 3, 2011 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Bailey moved the adoption of recommendation 1 as contained in the Minutes of the Policy Management Committee, dated May 3, 2011.

The motion carried.

The recommendation is as follows:

THAT:

1. Policy 312 Web Publishing be approved.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Waterston provided a verbal Audit Committee Report on meeting held Tuesday, May 17, 2011. The Committee received reports from the Ministry team on the Enrolment Audit of 3 elementary schools and 3 secondary schools; from the Board’s auditors from KPMG regarding the Ministry work to finalize what the financial statements will look like as well as the Board’s work in progress to ensure the appropriate measures are in place to mitigate risk related to school generated funds; the Regional Audit Team noting that they will not have our audit finished within the timeline and the conflict resolution guidelines. Trustee Waterston will be the UGDSB representative on the conflict resolution team.

Superintendent Wright reviewed a new interim financial reporting module required by the Ministry. It was noted that the Public Sector Accounting Principles (PSAP) are used.

Trustee Schieck moved that the verbal Audit Committee Report be received.

The motion carried.

### **ALL CANDIDATES MEETING RE: OCTOBER 6, 2011 ELECTION**

Ms. Maggie McFadzen, Communications Officer reviewed the Media Release from OPSBA recommending to member Boards that on September 20, 2011, all candidates meetings be held in local schools throughout the province on the theme of public education. The Association is inviting the provincial party leaders to take part in a leaders' debate to coincide with the all candidates meetings. Following discussion it was agreed that the opportunity would be made available to anyone from the education community who is interested in taking on the planning of such an event. The Board will ensure that space is made available in a school within the jurisdiction for this purpose and that community use fees are waived. The information will be provided to SEAC.

Trustee Schieck moved that the verbal report regarding the scheduling of All Candidates meeting prior to the October 6, 2011 provincial election be received.

The motion carried.

### **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS** – Nil

### **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

The written report of correspondence during the past month was reviewed. As other Trustees had not received the email from the City of Guelph, regarding input to the recruitment of a CAO, Trustee Busutil will respond to the survey as an individual community leader.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Board Correspondence dated May 24, 2011, be received.

The motion carried.

### **TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AND REPORTS**

Trustee Bailey reported that, pursuant to the discussion at the last Board meeting, he recently walked the route from the farthest distance that will be required of the grade 7 and 8 students who will be attending Waverley Drive School in September while King George PS is under construction. He noted the walk was quite lengthy and that there is no crossing guard at the corner of



Eramosa Rd. and Stevenson St. Trustee Bailey will pursue that issue with the City of Guelph to lobby for a crossing guard at that location.

Trustee Bailey informed Trustees of the death of Hasting and Prince Edward District School Board Chair, Trustee Carl Pitman. A letter of condolence will be sent on behalf of the Board.

Trustee Busuttill reported she had also undertaken the walk to Waverley Drive School and had attended the Laurine Avenue School Council on May 19<sup>th</sup>. She again encouraged the School Council to initiate discussion with the City of Guelph's Active and Safe Routes to School Committee.

Trustee Moziar reported on her attendance at the Trustee Day at Edgewood Camp and Conference Centre in Eden Mills on May 5, 2011 that was sponsored by CELP and Headwaters, noting the enthusiasm of the students and children for this valuable program.

Trustee Moziar reported on her attendance at the recent King George PS celebration event noting the Train theme and how it was incorporated in the student's learning programs.

Trustee Moziar reported on a We Day event held at John F. Ross on May 6<sup>th</sup> to raise the awareness for the campaigns being sponsored by Free the Children. It was the start of five days of freedom, with each day dedicated to a specific issue.

In response to a question from Trustee Gohn, it was clarified that the Student Success 7 to 12 Celebration Event is scheduled Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Lakeside Church.

In response to a question from Trustee Fairbairn regarding the ability of at risk students to engage in the outdoor education programs at Eden Mills, it was explained that the large student to adult ratio is sometimes problematic when engaging these students in some of the activities.

Student Trustee Jordan MacDougall reported that students in at risk and developmentally delayed classes at Norwell enjoy engagement in the CELP program at Norwell by providing assistance to the grade 5 Earth Keeps program day each year.

Trustees extended thanks to Superintendent Boswell, staff and volunteers for their assistance in organizing the Special Olympics held last week.

In response to a question from Trustee Fairbairn, it was confirmed that the anticipated provincial funding increases for the period 2012-15 includes salaries and benefits and the continued implementation of full day kindergarten. The provincial election results next October may impact future funding.

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Trustee Waterston moved that the June 2011 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

- i. Program Committee be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2011
- ii. Business Operations be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011
- iii. Board Meeting be held on Tuesday, June 28, 2011

The list of Dates of Future meetings dated May 24, 2011 was reviewed with the following additions and change noted:

- Tuesday, May 31, 2011 - Capital Plan Workshop, 4:30 to 9:00 p.m., Board Room
- Monday, June 6, 2011 - Property Committee, 5:00 p.m. Room 9
- Monday, June 6, 2011 - Budget Workshop, Board Room, 6:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 20, 2011 - Accommodation Review Policy Workshop 5:00 p.m. – CANCELLED. An alternate date will be determined.

The remainder of the meetings are as follows:

- Tuesday, May 31, 2011 - College Avenue PS Tenders, Board Room, Reserve Bid, 1:30 p.m. and Tender Opening, 2:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 1, 2011 - Everyday Heroes Awards, E.L. Fox Auditorium  
John F. Ross C.V.I., 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 6, 2011 - Environmental Policy Committee, 1:00 p.m., (Room to be determined)
- Monday, June 6, 2011 - Budget Committee – Budget Presentation, Board Room, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 7, 2011 - Policy Management Committee (PMC), Board Room, 3:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 13, 2011 - Budget Committee – Delegations to Budget, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 14, 2011 - Policy Management Committee (PMC), Room 9, 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 14, 2011 - Chair's Committee, 5:00 p.m., Trustees' Lounge
- Wednesday, June 15, 2011 - Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), 7:00 p.m., Board Room
- Thursday, June 16, 2011 - Board Retirement Reception, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., Grand River Raceway, Lighthouse Restaurant, Paddock Building, 7445 Wellington Cty Rd. 21,

- Monday, June 20, 2011 - Elora  
Accessibility Committee, Room 9,  
12:00 Noon
- Monday, June 20, 2011 - Parent Involvement Committee (PIC),  
Room 9, 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 21, 2011 - Visioning Retreat, Board Room,  
4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
(to be confirmed)
- Friday, June 24, 2011 - Equity Committee, Room 9, 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 28, 2011 - Board as Budget Committee – Budget  
Consideration, Board Room,  
prior to the Board meeting.

Learning Fair  
August 29-30, 2011  
Hockley Valley Resort  
Registration must be completed by May 27, 2011

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated May 24, 2011 be received.

The motion carried.

### **MOTION TO RISE AND REPORT TO THE BOARD**

Trustee Moziar moved that the Committee of the Whole rise and report to the Board.

The motion carried.

### **RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS**

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Schieck that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Fairbairn, that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 8:45 p.m.

The motion carried.