

## **UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

### **BOARD MEETING – TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m.

The Chair, Trustee Borden, presided and all members were present with the exception of Student Trustee Vander Vlugt.

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

Trustee Moziar provided an inspirational reading entitled *Two Horses*.

#### **CONDOLENCES**

The Director reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to Chris Cutler, an Educational Assistant at June Avenue P.S., on the loss of her father-in-law; Barbara Fatt-Merilees, an OnSIS/Data Support Technician in the IT Department of the Board Office, and Rosemary Coglin, an Administrative Assistant at Kortright Hills P.S. and Mitchell Woods P.S., on the loss of their sister-in-law; Karen Bruce, Cataloguer and a Library Assistant at the Terry James Resource Centre, on the loss of her mother; Brad MacNeill, a teacher at G.C.V.I., on the loss of his mother; Kim Tesolin, a teacher at O.D.S.S. on the loss of her husband; Catherine Moreau, a teacher at Gateway Drive P.S., on the loss of her mother; Susan Gorloff, a retired teacher, most recently from Taylor Evans, P.S., on the loss of her father; Kerry Hoelscher, the Administrative Officer – Employee Relations in the HR Department, on the loss of her father-in-law;

#### **GOOD NEWS**

Dr. Rogers highlighted the “Good News” as follows:

##### **Erin D.H.S.**

A letter was received from Lou Maieron, Mayor of the Town of Erin congratulating the U.G.D.S.B. and Erin D.H.S. on their recent receipt of the “Recognition of Achievement Award” from the Provinces’ Education Quality and Accountability Office. The letter recognizes the efforts of Principal Julie Prendergast and the Erin D.H.S. teachers.

##### **Teacher Learning and Leadership Program**

The following two applications received Ministry approval:

1. Sean Cameron’s (Westminster Woods P.S.) application to conduct “an assessment of the iPad’s viability as an effective organizational tool and AAC (Alternative and Augmentative Communication) device for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.”

2. Lisa Sanvido's (Centennial C.V.I.) application was "Understanding gender differences in the classroom by offering single sex classrooms for a few Grade 9 Math and English courses (Applied and Academic)"

**John F. Ross C.V.I.**

Sophie Kirby of the da Vinci Program at John F. Ross received a congratulatory letter from Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Natural Resources for their advertising campaign on the City of Guelph busses and their whybiodiversity.com website.

**Mitchell Woods P.S.**

Based on the performance of the Senior Symphonic Band at the Ontario Band Festival and Musicfest London, Mitchell Woods Senior Symphonic Band has received an invitation to the Musicfest Canada National Competition in Ottawa, May 16-20, 2012. Mitchell Woods is the first elementary school from Guelph to ever receive an invitation to the national level.

**Centre Wellington D.H.S.**

Students at Centre Wellington D.H.S. care! A big student driven campaign called CW Cares was started with the goal of raising \$5,000 to help out the family of a grade nine student who was diagnosed with a very aggressive form of cancer. The family are having a hard time as they cope not only with their son's illness, but additional expenses of travelling back and forth to Hamilton and loss of pay. Principal Maggie Roe agreed to shave her head if the students reached their goal. Not only did they reach their goal, but far surpassed it, the final total was \$8,600.00!

**Norwell D.H.S.**

Trustee Schieck reported the girls' curling team recently competed in the Ontario Championship in Thunder Bay, reaching the quarter finals. Congratulations were extended to the curlers and thanks to the staff and parents for their support.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA**

Item 10B was deleted from the agenda. In keeping with Article 24 of the By-law, permission was granted to Carolyn Bot and Paul Crowe, who were in attendance at the meeting, to address Trustees regarding an issue related to School Bus safety. The item was added as number 9 on the agenda and the remainder of the items were renumbered accordingly.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the agenda be confirmed as amended.

The motion carried.

**DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Trustee Moziar declared a conflict with recommendation 4 within the Chair's Committee Report.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD, FEBRUARY 22, 2011**

Trustee Busuttill moved, seconded by Trustee Waterston, that that the Minutes of the Board meeting held February 22, 2011 and the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, 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 Schieck moved that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole, with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

**SCHOOL BUS SAFETY ISSUE**

Ms. Carolyn Bot and Mr. Paul Crowe addressed the Trustees and explained their concerns regarding safety issues on Wellington Road 29 for students getting on and off the school bus. They highlighted a dramatic increase in the number of vehicles passing the stopped school bus. Mr. Crowe outlined the actions the parents have taken to date in an effort to address the concern. They feel they have exhausted all the possible solutions within their control and have involved their community partners in hopes of a positive solution without success to date. They requested that in the best interest of the needs and safety of the children that the bus route be changed so that the children are picked up and dropped off on the driveway side of the road.

It was clarified that the traffic offense only applies to vehicles that pass the bus when it has completely stopped. There are 11 stops and 22 children within the area of concern and it is speculated that the proposed change in the route would add approximately 10 minutes to the ride. Visibility is good on the stretch of road and signage has been installed where the road crests.

Ms. Bot and Mr. Crowe were thanked for bringing the issue to the attention of the Board.

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

### A. Minutes of March 1, 2011

Trustee Topping moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held March 1, 2011 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Topping moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 as contained in the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated March 1, 2011.

The motion carried.

The recommendations are as follows:

#### THAT:

1. the Student Success presentation be received.
2. the Specialist High Skills Major presentation be received
3. the Continuing Education presentation be received.
4.
  - a) the report entitled, "February 2011 OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting" be received;
  - b) the Board direct the Chair to send a letter to OPSBA to thank them for their initiative and attention to the development of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party Before and After School "template" under the province's Early Learning Initiative. Further, that the Chair articulate our request that OPSBA also monitor the process for engaging 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers. In particular, our Board is sensitive to the ability of our smaller child care operators, with less capacity than the larger operators, to be successful in any process.
  - c)
    - i. the Upper Grand DSB approve the Children and Youth Mental Health Statement of Intent
    - ii. the Upper Grand DSB become a supportive member of the Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health
    - iii. the Ontario Public School Board Association represent our Board at the provincial meetings
  - d) the Accessibility Committee provide comment to the Board Chair and that our comments and concerns be forwarded to OPSBA as part of their consultation process; and,
  - e) the Chair be directed to send a letter to our MPs and MPPs outlining the impact that the withdrawal of federal support with the new Canadians support program will have on our communities, families and children learning in our system.
5. the Student Trustee presentation be received.

## **BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

### A. Minutes of March 8, 2011

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held March 8, 2011 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Fairbairn moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 as contained in the Minutes of the Business Operations Committee, dated March 8, 2011.

The motion carried.

The recommendations are as follows:

1.
  - a) the report entitled "Housekeeping Boundary Changes (Guelph)" dated March 8, 2011 be received.
  - b) the 7/8 boundaries for King George PS and Waverley Dr. PS be approved as shown in Appendix A, Maps 2 and 3, effective September 2011.
2. the verbal presentation regarding Student Transportation be received.
3. the verbal Operations Group presentation be received.
4.
  - a) the report, "Retirements" dated March 8, 2011 be received; and,
  - b) the Board approve the Executive Officer of Human Resources' decisions as outlined in the report "Retirements," dated March 8, 2011 (Appendix A).
5. the verbal report on Health and Safety, as presented by Ms. J. Rose, Executive Officer of Human Resources, be received as information.
6.
  - a) the March 8, 2011 report from the Ad Hoc Committee entitled "**Technology for Trustees**," be received.
  - b) Trustees complete the attached survey and return it to the Board Chair by March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - c) the Ad Hoc Committee prepare a report to Board for the March 29<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

## **CHAIRS' COMMITTEE REPORT**

### A. Minutes of March 8, 2011

Trustee Gohn declared a conflict and, along with Trustee Moziar, was absent from the discussion.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the minutes of the Chair's Committee held March 8, 2011 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Waterston requested that recommendation 4. be considered separately.

Trustee Fairbairn moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, and 3, as contained in the Minutes of the Chair's Committee, dated March 8, 2011.

The motion carried.

The recommendations are as follows:

THAT:

1. the monthly financial statement as of February 28, 2011 be received.
2. the report Finance #2011-05 entitled, "Preparation of the 2011-2012 Budget" be received.
3. the report entitled, "Governance of the Upper Grand District School Board," be received

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Board Chair be directed to write the Ministry to support attendance remuneration for Trustees who sit on the Student Discipline Committee.

The motion was defeated.

## **TRUSTEE ORIENTATION**

### **Parent Involvement Committee**

Mr. Doug Morrell, Superintendent of Education, introduced representatives of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), Giselle Scanlon and John Gerard, who provided an overview of PIC.

It was explained that the PIC is government mandated and supports the school councils by enhancing their role in fostering parent engagement, building capacity and sharing information. Membership includes parents, trustees, and board administration staff including the Director of Education and a Superintendent. The focus is on issues that affect more than one school. PIC links parents with the Board's Director of Education and Trustees and provides advice to them regarding parent engagement. Activities are undertaken to help parents in the UGDSB support their children's learning at home and at school, through supporting the school councils, with the end goal of enhanced student achievement and success.

Part of the strategy to enhance communications is the revision of the website. Work is underway with the assistance the board IT staff. Components of the updates site were reviewed and it was reported that it is anticipated the site will go live in May.

### Finance Department

Ms. Janice Wright, Superintendent of Finance circulated a copy of the Department's organizational chart. The functions of each position were reviewed in detail.

Trustee Schieck moved that the verbal presentations regarding the Parent Involvement Committee and the Finance Department be received.

The motion carried.

### **EVERYDAY HERO AWARDS**

The nomination process for the Everyday Hero Awards has commenced. Trustees are being sought to join the selection team that will determine the winners for this year. The Judging Committee will meet on May 17<sup>th</sup> and the Award Presentation will be take place on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Trustee Busuttill moved that Trustees Moziar, Waterston and Fairbairn be appointed to the Everyday Hero Awards Judging Committee.

The motion carried.

### **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Ms. J. L. Rose, Executive Officer of Human Resources, introduced and reviewed her report, "Resignations and Retirements," dated March 29, 2011, as distributed at the meeting.

Trustee Schieck expressed thanks to the long-term employees who are retiring and moved

THAT:

1. the report, " Resignations and Retirements," dated March 29, 2011 be received.

The motion carried

### **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Chair Borden presented a written report of correspondence during the past month. A copy of the letter dated March 21, 2011 from Caroline Bacher regarding the issue of water and plastic water bottles and a copy of a letter dated March 21, 2011 from Harvey Kolodny on behalf of the Board of Directors of Citizens' Alliance for a

Sustainable Environment (CAUSE) regarding an application for a limestone quarry in the Township of Melancthon and the potential impact on school bus safety on Dufferin road 124, were distributed at the meeting.

The Chair will respond to Ms. Bacher indicating that the Environmental Committee is reviewing current policy and the implementation of an environmental policy framework that will include the issue of plastic water bottles. The framework will be brought to the Board for approval at a future time.

It was moved by Trustee Waterston that the Board Chair be directed to forward the letter regarding the application for a limestone quarry in the Township of Melancthon to the Transportation Consortium for advice regarding potential impact on school bus safety on Dufferin Road 124.

The motion carried.

Trustee Bailey volunteered to attend the Budget Breakfast being hosted by Liz Sandals, MPP, on behalf of Chair Borden who is unable to attend.

Trustee Busuttill raised the need to continue to monitor any response from the Ministry of Education regarding the funding gap for Early Learning so that the Board is able to provide direction to the Chair to respond in a timely manner.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Board Correspondence Report of March 29, 2011 be received.

The motion carried.

## **TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AND REPORTS**

### **School Bus Safety Issue**

Trustee Cooper requested discussion of the school bus safety issue presented by Carolyn Bot and Paul Crowe earlier in the meeting. It is a significant concern that needs to be addressed, acknowledging the fact that the OPP and the County are involved in addressing the issues. Parents continue to report incidents of vehicles passing stopped school buses on Wellington Road 29.

It was explained the process calls for the bus driver to report incidents to the operators who in turn report them to the police. Staff has asked that the operators also report the incidents across the board to the Consortium. In addition, there is a plan to install a camera on the bus to gather more information.

Trustees expressed concern for the safety of the children. They also raised the need to receive more documented evidence of the incidents as well as information regarding potential costs related to a route change prior to further discussion.



It was noted that similar issues likely exist across the board and that the topic could be examined more broadly.

Trustee Busuttill moved that a small task group be struck with Superintendent Wright as chair, and Trustee Cooper plus one or two additional Trustees and Mr. Greg Seguin as Resource to prepare a synthesis report on school bus safety around vehicles passing while school bus lights are engaged and including recommendations for presentation to the board as soon as possible.

The motion was defeated.

Superintendent Wright indicated that the Consortium is looking into this specific situation, but is having difficulty substantiating the number of incidents. Mr. Greg Seguin has also contacted colleagues across province and has been unsuccessful to date in identifying guidelines or rules in other jurisdictions that could assist in remedying this situation. A report could be requested in response to the board.

Trustee Cooper moved that staff be directed to report to the Board on the findings following the camera installation on the school bus and to request that the OPP provide a detailed report on the results of their surveillance from January 1, 2011 to March 31, 2011.

The motion carried.

### OPSBA Central West Region Meeting

Trustee Bailey reported that the OPSBA Central West Region meeting was held on Saturday. He reported that the Retreat Sub-Committee is preparing communication for each Board to finalize details and determine a sense of the number of Trustees planning to attend.

A sub committee is being struck to debate and determine issues that should be addressed during the upcoming election campaign and to strategize how best to achieve this goal.

### DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

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

- i. Program Committee be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011
- ii. Business Operations be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011
- iii. Board Meeting be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2011

The motion carried.

The list of Dates of Future meetings dated March 29, 2011 was reviewed and corrected as follows:

- |                           |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Monday, April 4, 2011     | - | Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL),<br>1:00 p.m., Orangeville       |
| Monday, April 4, 2011     | - | Planning Workshop, Trustee Lounge, 4:00 p.m.                           |
| Monday, April 4, 2011     | - | Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), Room 9,<br>7:00 p.m.               |
| Tuesday, April 5, 2011    | - | Specialist High Skills Major Lunch, 12:30 p.m.<br>College Heights S.S. |
| Tuesday, April 5, 2011    | - | Policy Management Committee (PMC),<br>Board Room, 3:00 p.m.            |
| Wednesday, April 6, 2011  | - | Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL),<br>9:30 a.m., Guelph            |
| Monday, April 11, 2011    | - | Dufferin FI Committee, 4:00 p.m., MAPS                                 |
| Tuesday, April 12, 2011   | - | Property Committee, 4:00 p.m. Room 9                                   |
| Tuesday, April 12, 2011   | - | Chair's Committee, 5:00 p.m.,<br>Trustees' Lounge                      |
| Wednesday, April 13, 2011 | - | Special Education Advisory Committee<br>(SEAC), 7:00 p.m., Board Room  |
| Tuesday, April 26, 2011   | - | Fundraising Fair, Best Western, Guelph,<br>1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.       |
| Thursday, April 28, 2011  | - | Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL),<br>WHSS, 9:30 a.m.              |

**OPSBA Labour Relations Symposium**

Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto, March 31 – April 2, 2011

**CEC Breakfast**

Delta Hotel, Guelph, Friday, April 1, 2011

**Privacy and Information Management –  
Records Management Awareness & Training**

Tuesday, April 5, 2011, Orangeville Baptist Church, 9 a.m.

**SPEAK OUT: Pink Shirt Anti Bullying Day**

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

**Ontario Technological Skills Competitions – May 3, 2011, Rim Park**

Lunch – Parkwood Suites, 7210 New Hampshire St., Waterloo – 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR REPLY: April 20, 2011 ([susan.mcphedran@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:susan.mcphedran@ugdsb.on.ca))

**King George P.S. Event**

Saturday, April 30, 2011, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Student Senate – Student Trustee Elections**

Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 5:00 p.m., Board Room

Trustee Topping moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated March 29, 2011 be received.

The motion carried.

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

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

The motion carried.

### **RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS**

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee Gohn, 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 Cooper, that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 9:05 p.m.

The motion carried.