

UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

BOARD MEETING – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, November 27, 2012, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Borden, Chair, presided and along with Student Trustees Sampson and Brown, all Trustees were present.

OPENING PRAYER OR READING

Trustee Gohn presented an inspirational reading entitled “Inspirations,” by Tom Kraus as the opening reading.

CONDOLENCES

Trustee Borden reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: Stanley Cutts, a teacher at Jean Little PS and Caroline Mitchell, Elementary Curriculum Leader with Program Services, on the loss of Stanley’s father; Gail Kieswetter, the Office Coordinator for Continuing Education, on the loss of her mother-in-law; and, Julie Whiteman, a teacher at Westwood. P.S., on the loss of her mother;

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Martha Rogers, Director of Education, highlighted the “Good News” as follows:

Westside Secondary School

Westside Secondary School's gymnasium floor was littered with the hairy aftermath of the high school's ninth annual Think Pink event on Tuesday, November 6th. Since starting in 2004, the school has raised more than \$50,000 for the Breast Cancer Society, with more than \$8,000 being raised this year. The school-wide assembly saw a number of students trim their locks, while male teachers donned women fashions.

Montgomery Village P.S.

On November 14th at the Me-To-We event held at the Kitchener Auditorium a grade 7 Montgomery Village P.S. student won the draw for a free week at Me-To-We camp. His name was drawn from the 6,000+ who attended.

Maasai warriors visit students in Mount Forest

Schools in Mount Forest welcomed two special visitors on November 16th, Maasai warriors Wilson and Jackson. The pair came to Wellington Heights Secondary School, Victoria Cross Public School and St. Mary Catholic School to say “thank you” for contributions made through Me to We. Funds raised by

students in Mount Forest supported the [Kisaruni All Girls Secondary School](#) in Kenya.

Anti-Bullying Campaign

Trustee Borden referred to a recent article in the Toronto Star that mentioned a former Student Trustee, Alex VanderVlugt who started the pink T-shirt campaign and acknowledged our student senate. Congratulations on behalf of the Board were extended to Student Trustees Brown and Sampson.

CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

Trustee Fairbairn moved, seconded by Trustee Schieck, that the agenda be confirmed as printed.

The motion carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETINGS HELD OCTOBER 30, 2012

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Bailey, that the Minutes of the Board meeting held October 30, 2012, and the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

MOTION TO RISE AND SIT IN COMMITTEE

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Busuttill, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole, with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

DELEGATIONS

GRCF – Guelph Lake Nature Centre

1. Sara Wilbur and David Hales

Ms. Sara Wilbur, Executive Director, Grand River Conservation Foundation, Mr. David Hales, a senior volunteer, and Ms. Tracy Ryan, Manager of Outdoor Education were in attendance. Ms. Wilbur acknowledged the valued relationship with the UGDSB and addressed Trustees to ensure that the UGDSB is aware of the plans to build a new Guelph Lake Nature Centre. An overview of the current centre and programs was provided, noting the centre was built in the

1970's and used as a Nature Centre since 1980. Ms. Wilbur highlighted the strong need for purpose-built learning spaces to accommodate the program demand for up to three classes per day, as well as appropriate administration and storage areas. Ms. Wilbur explained future opportunities for new programs and partnerships. The features, floor plans, anticipated costs and timelines for the proposed new centre were also reviewed, noting the project has been named "Window to the Watershed." The project budget/campaign target is approximately \$3M. Programs will continue during the construction phase.

In response to questions from Trustees, Ms. Wilbur highlighted the work being undertaken with the architect to design conservation features into the facility, such a green roof, building into the hillside to take advantage of natural cooling, and angling the roof to offset heat in the summer. Other technologies are also being investigated along with opportunities to incorporate them into program curriculum.

King George Boundary Review

2. Aaron Blair

Mr. Aaron Blair addressed Trustees. He indicated that parents strongly support the use of existing portable capacity available at Victory PS in the short term until a long term solution can be achieved that is aligned with the vision of Victory PS. Potential significant budget savings from 2014-2017 by excluding changes to the Victory boundary were also suggested. The parents believe that, based on the projected enrolment data for King George PS, the school is right sized for serving its intended community, which does not include current Victory students. A dedicated future Victory PS review would not incur additional planning work or jeopardize subsequent boundary reviews; it would just be substituted for the future King George review that would be required as early as 2015 to relieve enrolment pressures should Victory students be relocated there. Mr. Blair also proposed that without fully looking into renovation options to the existing Victory PS, a simple, cost effective solution that could serve both Victory and King George in the long term may be overlooked. Mr. Blair concluded by asking that Trustees remove Victory PS from the current King George review and schedule a Victory PS specific review for 2014 to identify options that achieve the long term vision of retaining a dual track, accessible K-6 Victory PS within the existing catchment area.

3. Geoff Wright

Mr. Geoff Wright, representing a group of Victory parents with children in FI, Regular Track or both programs, addressed Trustees. The group has the common goal that Victory remain a dual track, JK-6 school. Mr. Wright referred to the strong support for this position demonstrated throughout the Victory PS catchment area by the display of red "V" signs in the windows of homes and businesses, as well as by the over 500 signatures obtained on a petition. They have established that there is wiggle room with the enrolment projects; that if

portables are included, the school can support the students that are projected to enrol. If Victory students are moved to King George, then portables and another boundary review will be a reality when King George reaches over-capacity in 2017. Mr. Wright reviewed potential additional costs for bussing students. He also indicated that none of the proposed scenarios represent a long term solution. In order to greatly limit the impact of the review, Mr. Wright asked that Victory PS be removed from the review completely. The group wishes to be part of the solution and want to be included at the table. The parents are prepared to live with short term disruption when working towards a long term solution. He asked that Trustees vote against scenario 1 and scenario 2 and any other proposed scenario that does not include long term goals.

In response to a question from Trustee Busuttil and the expressed concern that there is not a process available to achieve a separate review for Victory PS as requested, it was reiterated that the group is asking that Victory PS be retained as a JK-6 dual track school and be updated so that it is accessible.

As requested by Trustee Moziar, Mr. Paul Scinocca, Manager of Capital and Renewal, explained the changes in hydro guidelines provincially that result in the restriction of electrical services that could impact the number of portables that can be accommodated on the site.

4. Doug Stephens

Mr. Doug Stephens, a parent of a student in the FI program, addressed Trustees. While the proposed scenarios have low impact on his family, he wanted to raise some safety concerns that result from the proposed changes. A map outlining the walking route to King George School was presented, noting that it is estimated that it would take 34 minutes for an adult to walk the route. He also referred to the rapidly growing downtown area that children are being asked to walk through. Mr. Stephens referred to a June 2012 Traffic study and a 2008 traffic study conducted by the City of Guelph that highlight the high volumes and excessive speeds at locations along the route. He noted the Transportation Consortium did not provide a report on November 22, 2012 as anticipated. Other concerns raised included factors that increase aggression that would be exacerbated by Scenario 1; the loss of the use of Exhibition Park by the school community; recent headlines indicating motorists ignore stopped school buses and the need to increase safety at Guelph school zones; the effects of increased exposure to exhaust fumes; the increased walk time resulting in the need to walk when it is dark; the increased time resulting in rushed kids taking more risks; and, the additional traffic that will result from more condos being build in the area in 2014. Victory Parents want to work with the Board on further study and ask the Trustees to vote against both proposed Scenarios.

5. Allen Hamilton

Mr. Allen Hamilton addressed Trustees regarding research by the Search Institute that identifies the impact to life outcomes of children from various

development assets. They believe that if the children are moved from their current school, they will lose some of the positive developmental assets they currently enjoy, acknowledging that some, such as family values and support, would remain the same. Mr. Hamilton explained a number of external assets about the community in which the school is located. He also noted that parent involvement and ability to attend school functions would be negatively impacted. The inability for the youth to continue to act as resources in the community as crossing guards, reading buddies, mentors, etc. was also explained. A graph illustrated that youth with the most assets are least likely to participate in high risk behaviours, have a better chance to have positive attitudes and experience educational achievement. Developmental assets are implicit in the Mission and Guiding Principles of the UGDSB; however, both scenarios for King George boundaries appear to isolate the student, parent and the community voice from the process. Parent engagement matters and student achievement improves when parents play an active role in their children's education. Mr. Hamilton asked Trustees to make their decision carefully and to allow their decision to make a statement about the value they place in schools and community relationships and urged them to think carefully about the impact the decision will have on the school and the Exhibition Park community in general.

6. Ms. Martha MacNeil

Ms. Martha MacNeil addressed the Trustees on behalf of a group of English Track parents from Victory School. She noted that the English program is not involved in the Boundary Review but will be affected by the outcome. Ms. MacNeil explained how the younger students in both programs would be impacted should any group of older grade students be relocated and reviewed a list of activities undertaken by older students. Examples of how the dual-track programs intertwine were also provided. In conclusion, Ms. MacNeil indicated the group is committed to keeping the current boundaries intact and to keeping Victory PS as a community, dual track, accessible school. A desire to work with the board to find a solution was expressed. She asked that Trustees vote to exclude Victory JK-6 from the boundary changes.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSE TO DELEGATIONS

Trustee Moziar thanked the delegations for the tremendous amount of work and analysis put into providing Trustees with things to think about.

In response to a question by Trustee Cooper arising from a comment made by a delegation indicating community partners could be sought for funding to overcome capacity problems at Victory, staff explained that it has never been seen that private funds have been secured for capital needs for a public body.

Trustee Borden thanked the delegations, acknowledged the community spirit demonstrated by the Victory community and indicated the staff committee will consider the information presented this evening.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

A. Minutes of November 6, 2012

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held November 6, 2012 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, as contained in the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated November 6, 2012.

The motion carried.

The motions are as follows:

THAT:

1. the report entitled, "Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP) – iPads for students with Autism", be received.
2. the update on Children and Youth Mental Health 2012, be received.
3. the update on the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) 2011-2014, be received.
4. the verbal OPSBA Report, be received.
5. the Student Trustee Report be received.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

A. Minutes of November 13, 2012

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held November 13, 2012 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Fairbairn moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, as contained in the Minutes of the Business Operations Committee, dated November 13, 2012.

The motion carried.

The motions are as follows:

THAT:

1. the report entitled, "Head Caretaker Program, Information Report," dated November 13, 2012, CP:12-14, be received.
2. the report entitled "Operations Department Multi-Year Plan – Maintenance Services – 2012-2014," CP 12-15 be received
3. the report, Trustee Honoraria Annual Calculation dated November 13, 2012 (Finance #2012-31) be received.

4. the report, Resignations and Retirements (Appendix A and B) dated November 13, 2012, be received.
5. the verbal Health and Safety Report be received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Benallick, reported that earlier this evening, In Camera, Trustees approved the following Elementary Vice-Principal Transfer and Appointment, effective January 7, 2013, as follows:

| Name | Transfer/ Appointment | From | To |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Adam Bodiam | Transfer | Paisley Road P.S. | Victoria Cross P.S. |
| Jane Bibby | Appointment | Teacher, Rockwood Centennial | Vice-Principal, Paisley Road P.S. |

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A. Minutes of November 14, 2012

Trustee Waterston moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held November 14, 2012 be received.

The motion carried.

POLICY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A. Minutes of November 13, 2012

Trustee Gohn moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee held November 13, 2012 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Gohn moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2 and 3 as contained in the Minutes of the Policy Management Committee dated November 13, 2012.

The motion carried.

The motions are as follows:

THAT:

1. Policy 605 Cooperative Education be approved as amended.

2. Policy 105 Trustee Honoraria be approved.
3. Policy 321 Copyright – Fair Dealing be approved.

2011-2012 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Ms. Janice Wright, Superintendent of Finance, introduced the report entitled, “2011-2012 Audited Financial Statements,” dated November 27, 2012. The Audit Committee reviewed the 2011-2012 Financial Statements for the Upper Grand District School Board and the Upper Grand District School Board Trust and recommends their approval. The Audit Committee also directed staff to submit the financial information contained in the Education Finance Information System (EFIS) to the Ministry of Education by November 15th, in order to comply with the deadline and avoid the cash flow restrictions associated with late filing. This data forms the basis for the Financial Statements that are to be filed with the Ministry by December 14, 2012.

Superintendent Wright introduced and welcomed Mr. Tom Mennill and Ms. Kim Haley representing the firm KPMG LLP, Chartered Accountants, who introduced and reviewed the Audit Findings Report. The reports on the Audited Financial Statements of Upper Grand District School Board and for the Board’s Trust Funds were also included in the agenda package.

Mr. Mennill referred to the Audit Findings Report and indicated that they are prepared to render an unqualified audit report for UGDSB, subject to approval of the Trustees. Ms. Haley summarized the impact of Bill 115 on these statements as they relate to the valuation of retirement and future benefits. Mr. Mennill expressed appreciation to Superintendent Wright, Ms. Sheila Parker and Ms. Kelly Culver for their diligent job in keeping the records.

Superintendent Wright reviewed the Draft Financial Statements of Upper Grand District School Board for the Year ended August 31, 2012 along with comparative figures for 2011 in detail highlighting changes and related Notes. The Statements of Upper Grand District School Board Trust Funds for the year ended August 31, 2012 were also reviewed.

The appreciation of the Board was extended to Mr. Mennill, Ms. Haley and KPMG staff and also to Superintendent Wright, Ms. Sheila Parker and Ms. Kelly Culver and their department

Trustee Schieck moved

THAT:

1. The report: 2011-2012 Audited Financial Statements (Finance #2012-34), dated November 27, 2012, be received.
2. The Audit Findings Report to the Board, as prepared by KPMG, dated November 27, 2012, be received.

3. The 2011-2012 Audited Financial Statements for the Upper Grand District School Board and the 2011-2012 Audited Financial Statements for the Upper Grand District School Board Trustee be approved.

The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Janice Wright, Superintendent of Finance, introduced and reviewed the report entitled, "Annual Treasurer's Report," dated November 27, 2012. The report provides Trustees with information about Regulation 41/10 - Board Borrowing, Investing and Other Financial Matters and the Board's investment activity.

The investments held by the Board relating to OSBFC Sinking Fund Debentures will mature in 2013 and 2017 and are held by CIBC Mellon. These contributions earned an average of 5.1% in the 2011-2012 year. We have also begun to make Sinking Fund Contributions for the retirement of the 1999 Debenture in 2024. This debenture planned for Sinking Fund Contributions of \$1.3M per year for 15 years at a projected interest rate of 5.2%. The Ministry has recognized the unreasonableness of such a high interest rate and have provided us with sufficient funds to contribute \$1.6M per year to the sinking fund. In March 2012 a Province of British Columbia Bond was purchased, and when it matures in 2024, it will be worth \$2,582,000 representing a gain of 3.56% per year. The balance of the sinking funds is held in a separate bank account and is presently earning 1.25%. The next contribution of \$1.6M will be made in December of 2012 and a search will be conducted of currently available investment opportunities to provide the best return within the restriction of Regulation 41/10.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the report: Annual Treasurer's Report (Finance #2012-35) dated November 27, 2012 be received.

The motion carried.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES REPORT

Ms. Janice Wright, Superintendent of Finance introduced and reviewed the report entitled, "Trustee Expenses", dated November 27, 2012. She reported that the expenses will be posted on the website. Appendix A includes the figures for 2010-11 for comparison.

Trustee Moziar moved that the report: Trustee Expenses (Finance #2012-32) dated November 27, 2012, be received.

The motion carried.

RESIGNATIONS AND RETIREMENTS - Nil

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Trustee Borden reviewed a written report of correspondence received during the past month. Trustee Moziar circulated a copy a letter received from a resident on Delhi Street in Guelph objecting to regulation 274/12 regarding seniority hiring.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Board Correspondence report dated November 27, 2012, be received.

The motion carried.

TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AND REPORTS

Anti-Bullying T-Shirts

Trustee Fairbairn reported that he has obtained ten pink anti-bullying T-Shirts for distribution at the end of the meeting.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Trustee Topping moved that the December 2012 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

- i. Program Committee – No meeting
- ii. Final Board Meeting be held on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 – 6:45 p.m.
- iii. Organizational Board Meeting be held on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.
- iv. Business Operations – December 11, 2012
- v. Regular Board Meeting – December 18, 2012

The motion carried.

The list of dates of future meetings was reviewed and the following additions and changes were noted:

- Friday December 7, 2012 – the start time of the SAL at Wellington Heights was corrected to 9:30 a.m.
- Monday, December 3, 2012, Safe and Inclusive Schools Steering Committee, Board Room, 4:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 17, 2012 – Upper Grand Learning Foundation, Room 8, 5:00 p.m.

The remainder of the meetings are as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Monday, December 3, 2012 | - | Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Orangeville, 1:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, December 4, 2012 | - | Policy Management Committee - CANCELLED |
| Wednesday, December 5, 2012 | - | Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL), Guelph, Room 8, 9 a.m. |

- Friday, December 7, 2012 - Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Wellington Heights, 9:30 a.m.
- Monday, December 10, 2012 - Audit Committee, Room 9, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 11, 2012 - Chairs' Committee -CANCELLED
- Tuesday, December 11, 2012 - South Guelph Boundary Review Trustees Meeting, 5:00 p.m., Room 9
- Wednesday, December 12, 2012 - Special Education Advisory Committee, Board Room, 7 p.m.
- Monday, December 17, 2012 - Environmental Education and Management Committee, Board Room, 4 p.m.

Winter Break

Schools: December 24, 2012 – January 4, 2013
Board Office: December 25, 2012 – January 1, 2013

OPSBA – Public Education Symposium (PES)

January 31-February 2, 2013
Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto

Trustee Cooper moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated November 27, 2012 be received.

The motion carried.

IN CAMERA RESUMING

As directed at the Committee of the Whole meeting earlier in the evening, the in camera session was resumed at 9:00 p.m. in order to complete the confidential items on the agenda.

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

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

The motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar, 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 10:00 p.m.

The motion carried.