

# UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

2012 03 06

The Program Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Moziar presided, and the following Trustees were present: Bailey, Borden, Busuttill, Cooper, Fairbairn, Schieck, Topping, and Waterston along with Student Trustees MacDougall and Sampson. Present from administration was Director of Education Dr. M.C. Rogers and Communications Officer M. McFadzen, along with Superintendents Benallick, Kelly, Morrell, Talbot, and Wright.

The meeting was preceded by the presentation of a video produced by the Wellington Heights SS Communications Technology class entitled, "Lip Dub".

### AGENDA

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Agenda be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Waterston moved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

### DVD FEATURING GIVE YOURSELF CREDIT - SECTION 23 - CARE, TREATMENT, CUSTODY, AND CORRECTIONS PROGRAM

Vice Principal of Section 23 Beth Charles provided a video of students in the Give Yourself Credit (GYC) Section 23 Program in downtown Guelph. The video is the product of a workshop run as part of the students' Peer Support and Leadership credit. Through the project, Musical Improviser Jane Bunnett worked to engage students to create music and lyrics for the video. The students have also participated in a community fundraiser, tree planting, and a running program this year. The GYC Program provides students who, for various reasons, cannot attend classes in the regular school system an opportunity to earn high school credits in a supportive individualized setting.

**Recommendation #1:**

Trustee Bailey moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the DVD featuring "Give Yourself Credit", be received.

The motion carried.

**ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION – CENTENNIAL CVI**

Superintendent of Education Erin Kelly introduced Centennial CVI teachers Rob Conroy, Chris Fiddes, and Ainslie Thomson, along with 3 students, who highlighted the school's Alternative Education Program. The Program, created to increase high school credits, was described by Mr. Fiddes as one that targets students who are credit-poor, have social/emotional concerns, or other issues that prevent them from attending regular classes. Mr. Conroy displayed a slideshow of, and gave detail to, the Leadership, Community, and Resiliency Program (LCR). Partnered with Muskoka Woods Youth Resort and Eagles Flight, students learn a variety of training activities and develop leadership skills in an offsite setting, with the support of their "community". Three students of the program provided testimony of how the program changed their lives and taught them to believe in themselves, set goals, and be accountable to one another. Each student credited their teachers for their successes and continued support. Ms. Thomson noted that the students of the program must continue their school work and attend class once a week to work towards their HIR30 credit, with successful students being trained as mentors. A handout, regarding the LCR Program was distributed.

**Recommendation #2:**

Trustee Waterston moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the presentation entitled, "Alternative Education – Centennial CVI", be received.

The motion carried.

**STUDENT SUCCESS 7 – 12**

Background to the Student Success Grades 7-12 initiative was given by Superintendent Kelly. Ms. Kelly advised that the goal of the Student Success Plan is to increase the UGDSB graduation rate through credit accumulation. Ms. Kelly introduced Secondary Curriculum Leader Rob Rosie who displayed the program's "Electronic Booklet", soon to be posted on the Board website. Mr. Rosie highlighted areas of the website, along with many of the programs offered at 3 show-cased schools; Aberfoyle PS, College Heights SS, and Erin DHS. The school websites included video clips of student interviews answering various questions regarding Student Success within each of their schools. Several comparison graphs of OSSLT success rates, and EQAO academic and applied results over 5 years were displayed,

along with graphs to illustrate helps in place for students including Grade 9 At-Risk Intervention, Credit History of Re-Engaged Students, and the Co-Op Recall program. Mr. Rosie highlighted other areas of the website, along with the Pathways, Central Office, Specialized Support Teams, Interventions, and Literacy and Numeracy supports for the Student Success program. Students are encouraged to develop academic and personal skills through workshops that focus on respect, responsibility, character and leadership development, and help students deal with bullying, peer pressure, and conflict and resolution. The Central Office of Student Success also supports Supervised Alternative Education, the Dual-Credit Program, Specialist High Skills Major, and a newly created Mennonite Program, along with many other school-based initiatives.

Trustees were invited to attend the Elementary Skills Canada Competition to be held at the Fergus Recreation Centre on April 5, 2012. Upcoming events also include the RISE (Recognizing Internal Strength for Empowerment) Conference, to be held Friday May 4, 2012, The "Secret Life of Girls" drama project held throughout various schools, and a "War" production at the Guelph River Run Centre April 2-5, 2012.

**Recommendation #3:**

Trustee Busutil moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the presentation entitled, "Student Success 7 - 12", be received.

The motion carried.

**OPSBA REPORT**

Trustee Bailey provided highlights from the recent OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting. Topics included the upcoming Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health, to be held October 25-26, 2012, an update on Full Day Early Learning/Kindergarten, and OPSBA membership fees.

**Recommendation #4:**

Trustee Cooper moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the verbal OPSBA report be received.

The motion carried.

**REPORT FROM STUDENT TRUSTEES**

Student Trustee Jordan MacDougall reviewed highlights of the last Student Senate meeting, held February 21, 2012 where Board Chief Psychologist Dr. Mary Sue Crawford and Coordinator of Special Education Sandra Szpular promoted the interactive on-line health literacy resource "My Health Magazine", previously

known as “Yoo Magazine”. Student Trustee Sampson is working to organize pink t-shirts, water bottles, stickers, and silicone bracelets for the upcoming “Speak-Out” day, planned for April 11, 2012. Planning continues for an Environmental Leadership Conference where Canadian climate activist David Noble has agreed to be the keynote speaker. The date and location of the Conference is soon to be confirmed.

**RECOMMENDATION #5**

Trustee Schieck moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the Student Trustee presentation be received.

The motion carried.

**OTHER**

Trustee Borden requested Trustees to remain after the meeting in to discuss the 2012-2013 Trustee Budget Request attached to this agenda.

Trustee Borden presented the Board with a certificate of appreciation, from the Town of Orangeville, in recognition of support of the Rick Hansen 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Relay Event 2011.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Waterston moved that this Committee adjourn at 9:00 p.m. to report to the Board.

The motion carried.