

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 27, 2015
Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:10 p.m. All Trustees were present. Student Trustees Challinor and Woodford were also in attendance.

Opening Prayer

Trustee Busuttill read a prayer by William Ellery Channing.

Condolences

Trustee Bailey, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: Denise Riddolls, administrative assistant for Youth Options/Section 23, on the loss of her father; Catherine Valente Hebecker, teacher at Ponsonby PS and Salem PS, on the loss of her sister; Hon. Liz Sandals, Minister of Education, and Ontario MPP, on the loss of her father; Ernie David, head caretaker at Montgomery Village PS, on the loss of his mother; Sandra Baguley, teacher at Ponsonby PS, on the loss of her father; Pat Sproat, teacher at Westwood PS, on the loss of her father; Greg Hunter, accommodation planner/Geodata Analyst, on the loss of his mother, Margaret Hunter, a retired EA from Princess Margaret PS and Princess Elizabeth PS; Linda Forbes, HR administrative assistant and smart find administrator, on the loss of her father-in-law; and Denise Schieck, Kindergarten teacher at James McQueen PS, on the loss of her father.

Good News

Dr. Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

Wellington Heights SS

This year Wellington Heights SS raised \$37,000 to help families in their school community during the holidays. Events like staff and school silent auction, PyjamaRama (a 7 pm to 7 am fundraiser of movies, board games, video games, athletics and eating), staff/student hockey game, chili and soup cook-offs along with generous donations from individuals and community businesses helped the WWW class surpass their fundraising goal. Gratitude was expressed to the students, staff, and the Wellington Heights school community for their generous donations.

Princess Elizabeth PS

The Princess Elizabeth PS intermediate choir led by Mrs. J. Lanktree performed O Canada at the Inauguration of the new Orangeville Police Chief, Wayne Kalinski, on Thursday January 8, 2015.

College Heights SS

College Heights SS students, with their project to build 30 doghouses, were highlighted in the media earlier this month. The completed doghouses are being shipped to Northern Ontario Aboriginal communities in a unique partnership with International Fund for Animal Welfare, Habitat for Humanity and the Upper Grand District School Board.

Centennial CVI

The Beyond Borders Program – Students organized a unique multicultural event and fundraiser earlier this month. Students were required to build skills in business and marketing to arrange and stage a function at the River Run Centre. The event raised money for the Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome Foundation at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital. Students in the gender studies class confronted cultural messaging that makes light of rape and female put-downs. Students designed and sold T-shirts, with clever, powerful messages about women and gender equality. Funds generated from the sale of the T-shirts will benefit Wyndham House. The hockey team held a game in December. Students at the school were offered the opportunity to miss one class and attend the game if they gave a donation. The \$704.00 raised through this event was donated to the Upper Grand Learning Foundation's Free to Achieve Fund. This fund supports needy elementary students. The Free to Achieve funds are administered through the Upper Grand D.S.B. Elementary Equity of Access Committee. Funds have been provided for winter coats, boots, running shoes, field trips, glasses, hearing aids, milk, hot lunch programs, rental of music instruments, and extra-curricular programs.

John F. Ross CVI

A John F. Ross CVI graduate and former student athlete Camille Cheskey works for the National Development Centre (NDC) in Thunder Bay as one of just two cross country skiing wax technicians – a critical, highly skilled position in a sport where races are won, and lost, by fractions of a second. Just as athletes compete to be one of the few selected to a National Development Centre, the same is true of staff. Congratulations to Camille for achieving this position at the age of 25.

Centre Dufferin DHS

Three Centre Dufferin DHS winners in the OSSTF's District 18 Student Achievement Awards are moving on to Provincial judging. Each student won in their respective categories for submissions made to the OSSTF competition which is in honour of

Marion Drysdale. This year's theme is "Transforming Characters". Centre Dufferin Senior Art Show (grades 11 and 12) will be on display at Shelburne's Town Hall Gallery from January 15 to April 2. Trustees were invited to attend a closing reception on Thursday April 2 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. December 6, 2014 was National Day of Remembrance where Nicole Martin and Dylan Farrows spoke movingly about what a healthy relationship means to them, at Family Transition Place. Their speeches were posted on the Centre Dufferin DHS website.

Staff

Frances Norlen recently volunteered at the Cross Country Canada World Junior Selection Trials. Ms. Norlen played a major role in contributing to the future success of Canadian athletes on the international stage as Chief of Course for the race. Congratulations Frances and good luck as you work toward accumulating the necessary experience to move from a level III Cross Country Canada to a Technical Delegate!

Today, The Leaders Partnership announced the 40 Leaders Named *Canada's Outstanding Principals*. It was reported that Peter LeBlanc, Principal of Erin PS was included on the list! Peter will receive his award at a gala on February 24, 2015 in Toronto. *Canada's Outstanding Principals* are nominated by their peers, school staff and/or community members. Winners are selected on a representation-by-population basis. The first round of adjudication is completed by the local Principals' Association. Finalists are then forwarded to a National Selection Committee made up of distinguished Canadian education, community and private sector leaders. Candidates are chosen using comprehensive criteria including: evidence of innovative leadership; evidence of partnerships with staff, parents and community; examples illustrating successful change resulting in improved student achievement; and corresponding letters of support. Peter will benefit from a five day executive leadership training program at one of Canada's top business schools; the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. The program will introduce him to leadership and management practices presented by business leaders and Rotman instructors. In addition, the 2015 *Canada's Outstanding Principals* will join the ranks of the National Academy of *Canada's Outstanding Principals*, which now boasts over 350 members. The National Academy offers principals ongoing networking, mentoring and professional development opportunities so they can constantly enhance their leadership skills. Congratulations Peter, the Upper Grand DSB is very proud of you!

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Cooper moved, seconded by Trustee Fairbairn, that the agenda be

confirmed, with the addition of a new item 12, IT and Communications Trustee Workshop.

The motion carried.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting Held December 16, 2014

Trustee White moved, seconded by Trustee Topping, that the minutes of the meeting held December 16, 2014, 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 Moziar moved, seconded by Trustee Schieck, 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 of the Whole

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

The motion carried.

Program Committee

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held January 6, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar moved that:

1. The verbal report from Student Trustees be received.
2. The verbal Mental Health Update be received.
3. The Trustee Workshop on Learning Choices be received.
4. The Trustee Workshop on the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement be received.

5. The information regarding the tours of Tytler PS and Edward Johnson PS be received.

The motion carried.

Business Operations Committee

Trustee Cooper moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held January 13, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttil requested that item 4b be considered separately.

Trustee Cooper moved that:

1.
 - a) Memo PLN: 15-01 "Wellington North Elementary Accommodation Review – Staff Report #3", dated January 13, 2015 be received.
 - b) Staff recommendation 2. a) from report PLN 15-01 "Wellington North Elementary Accommodation Review – Staff Report # 3" and Option 1 as contained in the Wellington North Elementary Accommodation Review – Accommodation Review Committee Final Report presented on December 9, 2014 be referred to the February 10, 2015 meeting of the Business Operations Committee.
 - c) The Board confirms its decision with respect to the Wellington North Elementary Accommodation Review on February 24, 2015.
2. Option 2 in PLN: 15-02 "Cap JK enrolment at Edward Johnson PS at 45 students starting in 2015, cap SK and Grade 1 Edward Johnson PS students at current levels, impose school specific caps in other Regular Track and Dual Track schools, plus move Grades 5 and 6 Edward Johnson PS students to King George PS in 2015/16 and 2016/17 if new school is not open" be removed.
3. Memo PLN: 15-02 "Interim Move of Edward Johnson PS Students" be received and referred to a Special Board Meeting to be held on February 10, 2015.
4.
 - a) Memo PLN: 15-04 "French Immersion Management Strategy" be received.
5. The Resignations and Retirements report dated January 13, 2015 be received, with thanks to the long-serving employees.

6. The Trustee Workshop on Capital and Renewal Plans and Budget be received.
7. The Trustee Workshop on Environmental and Energy Plans be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Cooper moved that (4b) The Board appoints five Trustees; two from Guelph, two from Wellington County and one from Dufferin County, to a committee that will develop Terms of Reference for a French Immersion Review, which will be completed no later than the end of March 2015.

Trustee Busuttil noted that she felt strongly about the French Immersion review process, and wanted to ensure that the starting point is a reflection and articulation of the Board's values. She noted that the Upper Grand District School Board has offered French Immersion to date with a value of equity of access and participation. Ms Busuttil also noted that, moving forward, the community needs to be advised that these underpinning values are being changed.

The motion carried.

The following Trustees volunteered to sit on the French Immersion Review Committee:

Guelph: Trustees Moziar, Fairbairn, MacNeil, and Busuttil

Centre Wellington: Trustees Lustgarten Evoy and Cooper

Dufferin: Trustee White

Four Guelph Trustees volunteered for two positions which resulted in a vote by secret ballot to determine which Guelph Trustees would sit on the committee.

Guelph Trustees Busuttil and MacNeil were named to sit on the French Immersion Review Committee.

The French Immersion Review Committee is comprised of Guelph Trustees Busuttil and MacNeil, Centre Wellington Trustees Lustgarten Evoy and Cooper, and Dufferin Trustee White.

Trustee Schieck moved that the ballots be destroyed.

The motion carried.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Busuttil moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held January 14, 2015 be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill reported that, the Learning Disabilities Association of Wellington County lost United Way funding of \$10,000.00 this year and advised that the association may fold in June 2015. Trustee Busuttill advised that SEAC will draft a letter of support for the Learning Disabilities Association of Wellington County, and wanted to ensure that Trustees were aware of this issue.

Resignations and Retirements – nil report

Trustee Workshop – It and Communications Trustee Workshop

Superintendent McDonald, together with Technical Support Supervisor Tom Woods, and Program Information Technology Liaison Bill MacKenzie, presented an overview of the IT department, shared future directions and goals, noted accessible and equitable issues addressed, shared their mission statement which supports student learning and staff development, green initiatives, parent involvement incentives, disaster recovery plan, increasing public confidence, e-mail upgrade, document management, acceptable use of digital technology handbook. privacy and security issues, safe and secure infrastructure, email protocols, support of BYOD – bring your own devices to schools, availability of wireless access in all schools, network security, as well as a number of other programs and supports within the system. Trustees were impressed with the direction of the IT department and thanked staff for the great presentation and information.

Administrative Officer - Communications Mark Weidmark provided an overview of the Board's Website, which was recently revised to be more accessible, user friendly, and meets the diverse needs of the system and the public, with a vision for the website to be all inclusive of every program offered within the Board. Trustees were very appreciative and thanked Mr. Weidmark for a wonderful job on the website, and a great presentation. A concern was raised with school websites not being updated.

Board Correspondence

Trustee Bailey advised that correspondence was received from:

- a) David Tilson, Q. C., M.P. regarding HST as it applies to school boards,
- b) a letter to Michael Barrett, President, OPSBA, from Thames Valley DSB regarding raising awareness and lack of service for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and
- c) a letter from the Bluewater DSB, to the Premier of Ontario Kathleen Wynne, regarding the review of the funding model and equitable funding.

Trustee Busuttill requested that a copy of the letter from the Thames Valley DSB be forwarded to SEAC.

Trustee Topping moved that the Board Correspondence dated January 27, 2015, be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Questions and Reports

French Immersion Review Committee

In respect for Trustee Moziar's history and depth of the French Immersion Community, Trustee Busuttil invited Trustee Moziar to attend the French Immersion Review Committee, as an observer, and noted that this is in compliance with article 78 of the Board's procedural By-law # 1.

Career Education Council

Trustee Cooper advised that the Career Education Council may not need Trustee representation on the committee on a regular basis.

School Websites

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy reiterated the concern raised earlier in the evening regarding outdated school websites.

Community Forum on Child Care

Trustee Busuttil invited Trustees to attend the Community Forum on Child Care scheduled for February 19, 2015 at the YMCA-YWCA of Guelph, 130 Woodland Glen Dr. She noted that Trustee attendance was not required, but felt it would be very beneficial for Trustees to attend.

Visit to Edward Johnson PS

Trustee Moziar and Schieck commented on their visit to Edward Johnson PS and King George PS.

Dates of Future Meetings

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the January 27, 2015 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

Program Committee	February 3, 2015
Special Board	February 10, 2015
Business Operations	February 10, 2015
Board Meeting	February 24, 2015

The motion carried.

Director Rogers added the following to the Dates of Future Meetings:

Dr. M. C. Rogers advised that Judith Nyman offered to help with the French Immersion Review Committee, and was free to meet on February 2, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., room 4. Trustees Busuttil, MacNeil, White, Lustgarten Evoy, Cooper and Schieck (as an observer) indicated their availability for that meeting.

Monday, February 2, 2015	French Immersion Review Committee, 1:30 p.m., Room 4
Wednesday, February 4, 2015	French Action Committee, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Board Room.
Thursday, February 12, 2015	Joint Health and Safety Committee, 9:00 a.m. Board Room
Tuesday, February 17, 2015	Student Senate, 5:00 p.m., Room 9
Tuesday, February 17, 2015	Couling Building Advisory Committee 1:00 p.m., Room 9
Wednesday, February 25, 2015	Canadian Pink Shirt Day, (anti-bullying awareness)

Trustee Schieck moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated January 27, 2015 be received, with the above noted additions.

The motion carried.

Motion to Rise and Report to the Board

Trustee Cooper 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 White moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 9:35 p.m.

The motion carried.