

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting, Tuesday, February 24, 2015
Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m. All Trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Bailey. Student Trustees Challinor and Woodford were also in attendance.

Opening Prayer

Trustee Cooper provided a poem with reference to the great outdoors.

Condolences

Trustee Fairbairn, Vice-Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: Doug Galloway, custodian at Hyland Heights ES on the loss of his wife; Melissa Davidson, teacher at Hyland Heights ES, on the loss of her mother; Barb White, Trustee, on the loss of her father-in-law; Lori-Anne Wilson, teacher at Centre Dufferin DHS on the loss of her father-in-law; Adrian Renzetti, Head of Guidance at John F. Ross CVI, on the loss of his father-in-law; the family of Larry Morrow, former teacher at Guelph CVI; and Mark Schneider, Administrative Officer, Labour Relations, Human Resources, on the loss of his mother.

Good News

Dr. Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

Centre Wellington DHS

In December, it was reported in Good News that teacher Glenn Wagner was one of the top 50 finalists for the global teacher prize (\$1m). Dr. Rogers shared a video of Glenn's interview with student Jensen Croughan.

Wellington Heights SS

Wellington Heights SS sent a team of 17 students to the Provincial DECA competition in Toronto. Over 6,000 students participated. During the award ceremony on Saturday Feb. 7, 2015, Kaitlin Brown (former Student Trustee) and Mathew Orr placed first overall in the marketing division. The focus of their 60 page report and subsequent presentation were the business skills learned as part of their Warm Winter Wishes Leadership class. Kaitlin and Mathew will compete in the International DECA competition that will take place in Orlando Florida this April.

Patrick Karrow, a grade 9 student from Wellington Heights SS was the winner of the Crime Stoppers Guelph Wellington Student Poster Contest. He received a \$500.00 prize sponsored by the Rotary Club of Guelph Wellington, as well as a \$25 gift certificate from Wyndham Art Supplies.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

The supervisor of the Upper Grand ESL program, Dr. Sheila Nicholas, and ESL instructor Jacqueline Johnson were honoured February 10th for their collaborative work with Deputy Chief Tony Sabbatini to create a fire-prevention curriculum for ESL students. The collaborative instructional efforts of the Guelph Fire Department and the UGDSB go back several years. In the late 1990s, the Guelph Fire Department's Fire Prevention division was approached by several local ESL teachers to provide fire safety information to newcomers to Canada at the St. George's Centre for Adult ESL.

Prior Park PS

Aaron Senitt, kindergarten teacher at Priory Park PS has recently published an article in the most recent issue of Canadian Art Teacher, a revered national publication dedicated to promoting visual art education in Canada. He uses the work of artist Kurt Schwitters as a metaphor to discuss the significant impact of visual art education in the early years. His essay is built around a classroom newspaper that provided the pedagogical documentation of creative activities spanning the FDK curriculum.

Centre Dufferin DHS

The PAN AM GAMES are coming to Toronto this summer and Centre Dufferin DHS has been invited to participate in the Torch Relay. A student or staff member will be selected, through a nomination system at the school, to represent the school by carrying the torch on Friday, June 1, 2015.

Orangeville DSS

Last week was a great week for sports for Orangeville District SS students:

1. Nordic Ski Team coached by Stuart Dennie and Darryn Stevenson (both formerly competed at OFSAA in skiing for ODSS in the early 90's) had a great showing last week in Sudbury. The results were as follows:
Alexander Maycok captured the gold medal by an incredible margin of 25 seconds in the individual competition for Junior Boys for OFSAA Nordic in Sudbury on February 19, Senior Boys Team won silver, Senior Girls Team placed fifth, and Junior Boys Team placed fourth.
2. As of February 20th the ODSS Bears won District 10 in quadruple overtime!

Erin DHS

A year ago, Erin DHS completed a grant application to the Ministry of Education to develop an alternative physical education program to engage students in life long physical activity. The school is uniquely placed alongside the Elora Cataract Trail Way, which is owned and managed by the Grand River and Credit Valley Conservation Authorities and easy access to this unique environment offers excellent mountain biking and Nordic skiing trail access. The program will create a Nordic Skiing Club, Mountain Biking Club and a Nordic Skiing and Mountain Biking Intramural Program as well as allow for use during Physical Education classes.

The school's grant application was approved for \$20,000 which allowed the school to purchase 20 mountain bikes and helmets and 24 sets of Nordic skis with poles and 30 ski boots. The final delivery of equipment was received last week.

Frances Norlen

About four years ago, Frances Norlen and a colleague assisted in the evacuation of a hiker from the Bruce Trail. As a result of the actions of Frances Norlen and her colleague, Dr. Petrie of the Blue Mountains Bruce Trail Club gifted an AED (defibrillator) to Frances' patrol (The Highlands Nordic Ski Patrol).

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee White, 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 Meeting Held January 27, 2015, and the Special Board Meeting Held February 10, 2015

Trustee Cooper moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar, that the minutes of the meeting held January 27, 2015, the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, and the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held February 10, 2015 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Ratification of Business Transacted by the Committee of the Whole In Camera

Trustee Schieck 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 of the Whole

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee Lustgarten Evoy, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole with the Chairperson presiding.

Delegations

1. Sara Cronkwright

Sara Cronkwright, Out of Area Request (Hyland Heights to Montgomery Village PS) was not in attendance due to poor weather conditions.

2. Wellington North Elementary Accommodation Review

Mollie Loughran, together with Sonya McNabb expressed thanks to staff, Trustees, the ARC Committee, the community, and a special note of thanks to Trustee Schieck for his support during the Wellington North Elementary Accommodation Review process. Trustees also expressed thanks to staff and the community.

3. Sir Isaac Brock PS, Rickson Ridge PS, South End Elementary Accommodation Review

Heather Staines, and Kristy Mitrovic, presented on behalf of students and parents at Rickson Ridge PS. Concerns were raised about Rickson Ridge PS becoming underutilized once the Sir Isaac Brock PS intermediate students no longer attended Rickson Ridge PS. Trustees were asked to consider the following:

1. Assign new Development Areas (DA) to Rickson Ridge PS for September 2015.
2. Re-assign Development Areas to Rickson Ridge PS for September 2015.
3. Undertake a south end elementary boundary review, to be completed and implemented before January 2016.

Response to Delegation

Trustees raised concerns regarding the 2013 feasibility study for Sir Isaac Brock PS., what school the grades 7 and 8 should attend, community concerns, surrounding school enrolment projections, long term accommodation, new development in Arkell, French Immersion and regular track needs, what would be the best for the students and communities concerned, and arrangements already in place.

Trustee Moziar moved that staff bring a report to the March 2015 Business Operations Committee meeting on the current enrolment of Sir Isaac Brock PS and Rickson Ridge PS with future projections for the next 3 years and the implications if Sir Isaac Brock PS grades 7 and 8 remain at Rickson Ridge PS until a long term accommodation plan can be developed.

The motion carried.

Notice of Motion of Reconsideration

Trustee Schieck placed the following notice of motion of reconsideration.
That:

1. Memo PLN:13-17 entitled "Sir Isaac Brock PS Grade 7 and 8 Feasibility Study – Report #2," dated June 11, 2013, be received.
2. The program at Sir Isaac Brock PS be expanded from JK-6 to JK-8 effective September 2015.
3. The JK-8 attendance area boundary for Sir Isaac Brock PS, as outlined on Map 1 of Appendix B of PLN 13-17, be approved with an implementation date of September 2015.
4. The JK-8 attendance area boundary for Rickson Ridge PS, as outlined on Map 2 of Appendix B of PLN 13017, be approved with an implementation date of September 2015.
5. For the 2015/16 school year, Grade 8 students who reside within the Sir Isaac Brock JK-8 boundary, be grandparented at Rickson Ridge PS.

Program Committee

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held February 3, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar moved that:

1. The mental health update from student Trustees be received.
2. The presentation on Social Media be received.
3. The Special Education Workshop be received.
4. The verbal OPSBA report be received.

The motion carried.

Business Operations Committee

Trustee Cooper moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held February 10, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar requested that item 2 b) be considered separately.

Trustee Cooper moved that:

1.
 - a) Option 1 Status Quo be approved which keeps Kenilworth PS open.
 - b) The renewal capital for Kenilworth PS identified in memo B08: 14-04 "Renewal Projects (2014/15)" be completed.
 - c) The Full Day Kindergarten renovation at Kenilworth PS be completed.
 - d) Renewal needs at Kenilworth PS be reviewed by the Capital/Renewal group of the Operations Department in the fall of each year.
 - e) The Board confirms its decision with respect to the Wellington North Elementary Accommodation Review on February 24, 2015.
2.
 - a) Memo PLN: 15-05, "2015/2016 Development Area School Assignments", dated February 10, 2015 be received.
 - c) Staff be directed to revise the 2015/16 Development Area School Assignments Chart contained in Appendix A and Maps 4 and 5 in Appendix B to reflect the decision of the Special Board meeting of February 10, 2015 with respect to the interim accommodation of

Edward Johnson PS students residing in the Morning Crest and North Eastview Development Areas.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar suggested that the decision on the Arkell Road development area not be made until the enrolment report from staff has been received.

Trustee Cooper moved that (2b):

The Development Area School Assignments as outlined in Appendix A in memo PLN: 15-05 "2015/16 Development Area School Assignments" be approved for the 2015/2016 school year.

The motion carried.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Busuttill moved that the meeting notes (not minutes as there was not quorum at the meeting) of the Special Education Advisory Committee held February 11, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Policy Management Committee

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee held February 3, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil moved that:

1. Policy 308 Selection of Architects be approved.
2. Policy 204 Research Projects in Schools be approved as amended.

The motion carried.

Communications Officer McFadzen advised that in September of 2015, hard copies of policies will no longer be forwarded to Trustees. Policies will be accessed from the Board's website. In the meantime, Trustees Cooper, Moziar, Topping and White agreed to obtain their copies electronically.

Resignations and Retirements

Executive Officer of Human Resources Rose presented the Resignations and Retirements report dated February 24, 2015.

Trustee Schieck moved that the report Resignations and Retirements, Appendix A dated February 24, 2015 be received with thanks.

The motion carried.

Notice of Motion of Reconsideration

Trustee Busuttill placed a notice of motion of reconsideration.

“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.”

Long Term Financing

Superintendent Wright presented the Long Term Financing report dated February 24, 2015. She elaborated on the annual report and explained it in detail.

Trustee Cooper moved that:

1. The report “Long Term Financing dated February 24, 2015” be received.
2. By-law Number 2015-1, attached to the report “Long Term Financing” as Appendix A, authorizing the Board to enter into the Loan Agreement be approved.

Every Day Heroes Selection Committee

Communications Officer McFadzen advised that two Trustees who sat on the Every Day Heroes Selection Committee have retired, and their positions needed to be filled. Trustees Bailey, Fairbairn and Moziar were already on the committee, and Trustees Lustgarten Evoy and White volunteered.

School Year Calendar 2015-2016

Superintendent Slater presented the drafts of the 2015/16 elementary and secondary school year calendars.

Trustee Moziar moved that

1. The report entitled "School Year Calendar 2015-2016" dated February 24, 2015 be received.
2. The proposed school calendars for the 2014-2016 school year for the Upper Grand District School Board's elementary and secondary schools,

as outlined in Appendix B and C respectively, be approved by the Board for submission to the Ministry of Education for final approval in accordance with Regulation 304.

The motion carried.

Trustee Workshop

Due to the lateness of the evening and the weather conditions, the Trustee Workshop was postponed.

Board Correspondence – nil report

Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustee Busuttill requested that a workshop be planned for Trustees before the end of March and before the decision on the terms of reference for French Immersion is made. The workshop was requested to provide a better understanding of the French Immersion program as well as French as a second language.

Trustee Moziar requested that, on behalf of the Board, that the Chair forward a letter of congratulations to Mr. Dave Euale, former Superintendent with the Upper Grand DSB on his upcoming retirement from his position as Director from the Halton DSB.

Trustee Moziar raised a concern regarding empty seats on school busses, where students qualify for a bus, but do not utilize the service provided, for a number of reasons. Courtesy transportation can not be approved if there are no seats available. If students or parents relinquished their seats if not used, the seats could be used for courtesy transportation, and fill the busses. She noted that unused seats are a waste of resources. Superintendent Wright agreed to pursue this issue further.

Trustees expressed their thanks to administration, regarding decisions made on cold weather days and bussing issues. Always a difficult decision, and the public is often upset, with either decision, to close or not to close. Criteria for closing schools under extreme cold or snow conditions will be discussed further at the Business Operations Meeting in March.

The motion carried.

Dates of Future Meetings

Trustee Topping moved that the March 2015 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

Program Committee	March 3, 2015
Business Operations	March 10, 2015

Board Meeting March 31, 2015

The motion carried.

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

Tuesday, March 3, 2015	PMC cancelled
Wednesday, March 4, 2015	Short-listing Elementary Vice Principals, 8:30 a.m., Room 3,
Wednesday, March 4, 2015	Short-listing Secondary Vice-Principals, 1:00 p.m., Room 4
Monday, March 9, 2015	Greening Committee, 1:00 p.m., Room 9
Monday, March 9, 2015	Short- listing Elementary Principals, 1:00 p.m., Room 3
Monday, March 23, 2015	Dufferin Parent Council meeting, 7:00 p.m. Princess Margaret PS
Friday, March 27, 2015	Interviews, Secondary Vice-principals eligibility list 1:00 p.m., Room 4
March 4, 5, 6, 2015	Music Teachers Association Day, 9:30 a.m. – 2:45 p.m., Harcourt Church, Guelph
Monday, March 30, 2015	PIC meeting, 7:00 p.m., Boardroom
Friday, April 10, 2015	Career Education Breakfast, 7:00 a.m., registration, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. breakfast, Delta Hotel, Guelph

Trustee Topping moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated February 24, 2015 be received, with the above noted additions.

The motion carried.

Motion to Rise and Report to the Board

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

The motion carried.

Ratification of Business

Trustee Cooper moved, seconded by Trustee Topping 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 Lustgarten Evoy that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 9:40 p.m.

The motion carried.