

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 25, 2014
Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m. All Trustees were present. Student Trustees Challinor and Woodford were also in attendance.

Opening Prayer

Trustee Waterston read a Poem entitled "Desiderata" by Max Ehrmann, 1927.

Condolences

Trustee Bailey, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: the family of Troy McLaughlin, on the loss of their son, a student at Norwell District SS; Sherry Gallant, Cataloguing Assistant in the Terry James Resource Centre, on the loss of her mother; Brian Vaughan, Assistant Custodial Supervisor in the Operations Department, on the loss of his father; the family of Janet MacKenzie, retired secondary teacher at Centre Wellington DHS, and Guelph CVI; and Shonda Lipskie, teacher at John F. Ross CVI, on the loss of her mother.

Good News

Dr. Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

John F. Ross CVI

John F. Ross teacher James Bell will be presenting at the upcoming Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics upcoming workshops: Expanding Universe. The Perimeter Institute is a world renowned centre for scientific research, training and educational outreach in foundational theoretical physics that includes Professor Stephen Hawking, as the Distinguished Research Chair. Founded in 1999 in Waterloo, Ontario, Perimeter in partnership with the Governments of Ontario and Canada is a successful example of public-private collaboration in scientific research, training, and outreach. Perimeter shares the excitement and wonder of science with student; teachers and the general public so that together we can raise scientific literacy and help students learn that science is a powerful way of investigating the mysteries of our universe. Upper Grand D.S.B is fortunate to have on staff James Ball who is a Perimeter Institute Teacher Network Regional Coordinator, of which there are only nine in all of Canada. James will be presenting "The Expanding Universe" workshop December 2, 4-6 pm at John F Ross CVI. Perimeter's Outreach department is committed to sharing the power, joy, and mystery of science with everyone and this workshop will be of particular interest to

grade 9 teachers for the Earth and Space Science component. Numeracy is also a focus point of the presentation.

Erin DHS

(Orangeville Banner – Oct. 31/14)

Julie Hall an Erin DHS student has published her first novel, entitled “Keep Quiet”. As if that wasn’t enough, her book is in the running for the Association for Art and Social Changes inaugural self-publishing award. Her book is one of just 18 finalists in three categories independently judged and chosen from a field of 260 submissions from across Canada.

Board Office

Once again this year, Sheila Parker, Manager of Budget, has organized the support of the Adopt-A-Family Program by the staff in the Board Office. This year we are supporting four small families and two independent teens. This is more than last year. Board Office staff are very supportive and so is the Staff Association. Thanks to Sheila for organizing, and thanks to everybody who contributed. These families will have a better Christmas because of the generosity of the staff in the Board Office.

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee Fairbairn, 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 October 28, 2014

Trustee Cooper requested that, on page 130, in the first full paragraph, the third line, “Centre Wellington”, be amended to read “Erin”.

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Cooper, that the minutes of the meeting held October 28, 2014, and the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, be approved as amended.

The motion carried.

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

Trustee Gohn 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 Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Borden, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

Program Committee

Trustee Topping requested that on page 4, the first paragraph, the first word "Superintendent" be amended to read "Trustee".

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held November 4, 2014 be received and considered, as amended.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar moved that:

1. The verbal report from Student Trustees be received.
2. The verbal report on Mental Health be received.
3. The verbal report on Equity Initiatives be received.
4. The verbal report on SWST be received.

The motion carried.

Business Operations Committee

Trustee Cooper moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held November 11, 2014 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Cooper moved that:

1. a) The report entitled "New East Guelph Public School (Couling

Crescent), Building Project Report” dated November 11th, 2014, CP:14-06, be received.

- b) A new school on the East Guelph (Couling Crescent) site be constructed to accommodate a 495 pupil place JK-8 program and open as soon as possible.
 - c) The “New East Guelph Public School (Couling Crescent), Building Project Report” attached as Appendix A, dated November 11th, 2014, CP:14-06, be approved.
 - d) The school be approved as a modified repeat design based on the floor plans for École Arbour Vista PS, and that accordingly Hossack and Associates Architects be appointed as the Project Architect.
 - e) The Building Committee required by Policy 309 be replaced by a User Advisory Committee to provide consultation with the school and community in the same manner as was approved for the new school in the FDK Capital Plan.
2. The report entitled “Renewal Projects (2014/2015)”, CP: 14-04, dated November 11, 2014, be received.
 3. The Report: Annual Investment Report dated November 11, 2014 be received.
 4. The Report Trustee Expenses dated November 11, 2014 be received.
 5. The report “Resignations and Retirements” dated November 11, 2014 be received, with thanks.
 6. The verbal report on Health and Safety be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Fairbairn noted that there was a correction required, on page 6 of the minutes, and the clause regarding special education training be changed.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting November 12, 2014 be received and considered, as amended.

The motion carried.

Policy Management Committee

Trustee Gohn moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee meeting November 12, 2014 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill moved that item # 1, (Policy 515 Learning Choices) as contained in the minutes of the Policy Management Committee Meeting held November 12, 2014, be considered separately.

The motion carried.

Trustee Gohn moved that Policy 304 Transportation be approved as amended.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill expressed thanks to staff and Trustees for the work done on the Learning Choices Policy and Procedures Manual which will help shape and respond to new educational initiatives.

Trustee Gohn moved that Policy 515 Learning Choices be approved as amended.

The motion carried.

Resignations and Retirements

Executive Officer of Human Resources Rose presented the resignations and retirements dated November 25, 201, and noted that a number of people had a considerable length of service. Trustee Waterston noted the retirement of Michael Albano, and acknowledged and expressed thanks to him for his dedication and many long hours worked to assist with evening meetings.

Trustee Schieck moved that the report entitled Resignations and Retirements dated November 25, 2014 be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

2013 2014 Audited Financial Statements

Superintendent Wright, together with Tom Mennill from KPMG, presented the 2013-2014 Audited Financial Statements for the Board's consideration. Ms. Wright noted that both Sheila Parker and Linda Bailey were responsible for the great work done on the financial statements. She provided an overview of the reports and highlighted certain details. Ms. Wright noted that the Ministry of Education required that the financial information contained in the Education Finance Information System (EFIS) needed to be submitted by November 14, 2014. The Audit Committee directed staff to file this information in order to comply with the Ministry deadline and avoid the cash flow

restrictions associated with late filing. The data in the EFIS forms the basis for the Financial Statements. The deadline to file the Financial Statements with the Ministry is December 6, 2014. Mr. Mennill noted that due to good accounting records, and good quality of work by staff, there are no significant changes in accounting or practices. He praised staff for the quality of record keeping and appreciated the assistance and cooperation received by staff. He noted there was no critical or serious issue to report and was pleased to present clean financial statements. Trustees expressed thanks to Mr. Mennill for his professionalism and excellent report, to staff, the Audit Committee for a job well done in keeping the Board in a very good financial state, and to the Director of Education Dr. M.C. Rogers for her superb leadership and business acumen.

Trustee Waterston moved that:

1. The Report: 2013 2014 Audited Financial Statements dated November 25, 2014, be received.
2. The Audit Findings Report to the Board, as prepared by KPMG, for the year ended August 31, 2014, be received.
3. That the 2013 2014 Audited Financial Statements for the Upper Grand District School Board and the 2013 2014 Audited Financial Statements of the Upper Grand District School Board Trust Funds be approved.

The motion carried.

Board Correspondence

Trustee Bailey highlighted the Board Correspondence for November 25, 2014. In reference to the letter addressed to Mr. David Tilson, Q. C. M.P., Trustee Waterston suggested that the letter be shared with all public school boards, OPSBA, and to other local M.P.s in the area.

Trustee Waterson moved that the letter dated November 6, 2014 addressed to Mr. David Tilson, be shared with public school boards, OPSBA, and to the other local M.P.s in the area.

The motion carried.

Trustee Cooper raised a safety concern with regard to traffic in front of Brisbane PS on highway 24, and the potential for future accidents. She suggested that the Chair address a letter to the County of Wellington to request the installation of a flashing yellow light, to highlight the school zone, and make the area safer for drivers, students, parents, and staff. She noted that parents plan to delegate the County of Wellington, and, although traffic concerns are not a school board responsibility, support of the Board in this matter was requested. It was suggested, and agreed unanimously, that a letter be sent to the County of Wellington to request that a yellow flashing light on

highway 24, in the Brisbane PS area be installed. It was agreed that the letter acknowledge that the Board recognizes that it is the County of Wellington's responsibility, under the Highway Traffic Act, to ensure safety from traffic hazards in school zones, in particular on highway 24, and that for safety reasons, and to avoid potential accidents, the Board request the installation of a yellow flashing light. Trustee Cooper agreed to find out to whom the letter should be addressed, and would forward that information to Chair Bailey.

Trustee Cooper moved that the Chair be directed to write a letter to the County of Wellington requesting that a yellow flashing light be installed on highway 24 in front of Brisbane PS.

The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Borden moved that the Board Correspondence dated November 25, 2014, be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Questions and Reports

Thanks

Trustee Borden expressed his heart-felt thanks and appreciation to staff, colleagues, and to Director M. C. Rogers, for the support, education, and wonderful experience he had as Trustee for the past 13 years.

We Day

Trustee Schieck reported that he had the opportunity to attend We Day, and was very proud of one student in particular from Minto Clifford PS, who received the Governor General's award. The student raised funds for the purchase of goats in Kenya, and expressed how one goat would lead to many and result in food sustainability.

Student Trustee Representation/Opportunity

Trustee Busuttil advised that, as a result of the approval of Policy 515, there is an opportunity for student Trustee representation, and suggested the student Trustees consider this opportunity.

Ministry Financial Orientation

In response to a question raised, Trustees advised of which format they planned to attend the Ministry Financial Orientation sessions scheduled for December 8th and 11th. It was reported that Trustees Bailey, Busuttil, Topping, Schieck, Moziar, MacNeil, will attend in person on the 8th, at 2:00 p.m. Trustee Cooper will dial in on the 11th. Trustees Lustgarten Evoy and White will dial in on the 8th. Director of Education Rogers advised

that she will check into the best format for Trustee Fairbairn in consideration of his work schedule.

Elementary Principal/Vice-Principal Eligibility List and Appointments

Director of Education Rogers announced that the following teachers were placed on the elementary Principal eligibility list: Lisa Doering, Ozma Masood, Rochelle Murray-Cako and Julie Young. Olivier Cutz, Tim Dickieson, Amy Ewing, Nicole Hamilton, Marina Harrison, Suzee Kennedy, Kaye Martin, Tammy Reiner and Dianna Secord were placed on the Elementary Vice-Principal Eligibility List. Francis Noventa and John Colton were placed on the Secondary Principal Eligibility List, and Adam Rowden was placed in the Secondary Vice-Principal Eligibility List. Rochelle Murray-Cako was appointed Principal of Central PS effective January 1, 2015, and Tim Dickieson will be Vice-Principal at Taylor Evans PS.

Dates of Future Meetings

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the November December 2014 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

The motion carried.

Program Committee	No Program Meeting in December
Final and Inaugural Board Meetings	December 2, 2014
Business Operations	December 9, 2014
Board Meeting	December 16, 2014

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

November 25, 2014	Accessibility Meeting not November 26 th as was listed on the Dates of Future Meetings
Monday, December 1, 2014	Safe, Equitable, and Inclusive Schools Committee, Room 9, 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday, December 2, 2014	Student Discipline Committee Meeting, Boardroom, 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 11, 2014	Kiwanis Luncheon, Italian Canadian Club, 11:30 a.m.
Monday, December 15, 2014	SAL, Orangeville, 1:30 p.m. Orangeville.
Tuesday, December 16, 2014	Student Senate, Room 9, 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 17, 2014	SAL, Guelph, 12:00 p.m.

Board Meeting, November 25, 2014

Friday, December 19, 2014

SAL, North Wellington, 9:00 a.m.
(was listed as December 11,2014), 9:00 a.m. – 12:00
p.m.

Trustee Topping moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated November 25, 2014 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 Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Cooper 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 Borden, that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 8:00 p.m.