

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting, Tuesday, August 29, 2017
Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:42 p.m. All Trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Moziar. Student Trustees Caitlin Ennis and Allison Cai were also in attendance.

Traditional Greeting

Opening Prayer

Trustee Topping shared an inspirational prayer with encouragement to face the new school year with a positive outlook and be open to new possibilities.

Condolences

Trustee Bailey, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: the family of Les Enekes, retired Audio Visual Technician with the I.T. department; the family of Mike Vizi, retired Information Technology Field Service Supervisor; Janet Warden, Office Co-ordinator at Aberfoyle PS, on the loss of her mother-in-law; Faye Oakes Martin, Special Education Resource Teacher at Victoria Terrace PS on the loss of her father; and the family of Ross Beattie, retired teacher from Norwell DSS.

Good News

Dr. Rogers Highlighted the Good News as follows:

Centre Wellington DHS

Ethan, a Centre Wellington DHS student is representing Canada at the Union Cycliste Internationale Junior Track Cycling World Championship in Italy this week. Ethan is an up and coming future Olympian. Good luck Ethan!

Centre Wellington DHS students Megan and Madeline, along with teacher Jose Martinez were the winners of a video contest by Safe Communities Wellington County. Students had to submit a 60 to 120 minute video on the topic of distracted driving. The winning video showed what happens when a boy calls his father to ask him to pick up milk while the father is driving. The video will be used as an educational tool for Safe Communities Wellington County.

Emma, a 16 year old student at Centre Wellington DHS, took part in a 10 day Global Young Leaders conference in Washington, DC and New York City this July. Emma

joined 300 other student participants from around the world to learn about world affairs and work towards doing a Global Summit simulation at the United Nations headquarters. Emma was assigned to the Indonesia group and had to learn how to present on a variety of issues from an Indonesian perspective instead of a Canadian one.

The Groves Hospital Volunteer Association (GHVA) presented a \$2,000 bursary to CWDHS students Jordan and Meghan. The GHVA stated that the applications from the students were impressive and reassured that these exemplary leaders were the future of our communities.

Elora PS

The Elora Handmade Market donated \$4,952 to the Children's Foundation of Guelph and the Food and Friends' program at Centre Wellington DHS which feeds a healthy breakfast to approximately 150 students every day.

Centre Dufferin DHS

In July, Hannah a Centre Dufferin DHS student, gave a presentation to the Arthur Legion about her trip to Vimy Ridge and her participation in the Digital Historian Project. The Legion had financially sponsored part of the cost of the Vimy Ridge trip.

ETFO - 2017 Rainbow Visions Award [Guelph Mercury – Aug. 16, 2017]

Gordon Dunbar, a teacher from Paisley Road PS, was honoured for his work on a website promoting the achievements of LGBTQ individuals from around the world. ETFO presented Gordon with the 2017 Rainbow Visions Award. The award recognizes ETFO members and nonmembers who develop materials or incorporate practices which work toward the inclusion of lesbian, gay bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning realities. Gordon is managing editor of QueerBio.com, a website which lists more than 13,000 contemporary historical LGBTQ figures around the world. Sam Hammond, President of ETFO said, "The sheer size of the database that Gordon has created is a remarkable tribute to the contributions of members of the International LGBTQ community". Congratulations Gordon.

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil, 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 June 27, 2017

Trustee Lustgarten-Evoy moved, seconded by Trustee Fairbairn, that the minutes of the meeting held June 27, 2017, 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

The ratification of the Business transacted by the Committee of the Whole In Camera was postponed to the end of the meeting, due to the incompleteness of the In Camera session.

Motion to Rise and Sit in Committee of the Whole

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

The motion carried.

Delegation

Anne Gajerski-Cauley, New Central Library in the City of Guelph

Ms. Gajerski-Cauley, was in attendance to request that the Board submit formal correspondence to the City of Guelph in support of the new main library and requested that a delegate be sent by the Board to speak at the September 25th City of Guelph Council meeting.

In support of communities in learning and growth, but cautious not to step into the realm of the business of the City of Guelph, Trustee Busuttil placed a motion. Her motion stated that the Chair be directed to write a letter supporting the Guelph public library and that that libraries are an important part of our communities in learning and growth. After a lengthy discussion, Trustees agreed with the spirit of the motion to support a learning community, but did not want the perception that the Board interferes with Municipal governance or priorities. Trustee Busuttil withdrew the motion, with thanks for the consideration for the delegation and the conversation.

Director's Objectives for 2017-2018

Director of Education Rogers advised that her performance appraisal, which was discussed earlier this evening in the In Camera portion of the meeting, linked performance to the establishment of annual objectives, which were tied to the Annual

Operating Plan and linked to the Strategic Plan. She elaborated on the objectives which included achieving excellence, promoting well-being, ensuring equity of access and opportunity, enhancing public confidence, and leadership and management. Student achievement and well-being were identified as the primary goals for the school system. Director of Education Rogers was praised and thanked for her dedication and commitment to the creation and implementation of various objectives which ensured that many aspects of education were met, for staff and students, in both the local and Provincial community. Trustee Busuttill drew attention to the importance of the Provincial involvement and leadership provided by Director of Education Rogers. Though her Provincial leadership and involvement, she has brought experience and expertise to various tables, benefiting the Ministry of Education, as well as many staff and students in boards across the province. Along with the Director of Education, many supervisory officers in this Board also volunteered time and expertise at the Provincial level.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that:

1. The report entitled Director's Objectives for 2017-2018 dated August 29, 2017 be received.
2. The objectives outlined in Appendix A of the report entitled Director's Objectives for 2017-2018 be approved.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill moved that the Board publically acknowledge the Provincial leadership of Director Rogers and this Board's Supervisory Officers and highlight the activities and initiatives developed, implemented and shared both locally and Provincially.

Unanimously, the motion carried.

Ministry of Education Request for Capital Priorities 2017

Manager of Planning Passy provided Trustees with a list of capital projects identified by staff for submission to the Ministry of Education for funding. These included a new Guelph Secondary School, classroom additions at Glenbrook ES and Hyland Heights ES.

Trustee Busuttill moved that memo PLN: 17-13 "Ministry of Education Request for Capital Priorities 2017" dated August 29, 2017 be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttil moved that the Board directly recommend to the Ministry of Education that the Capital Priorities as outlined in PLN: 17-13 “Ministry of Education Request for Capital Priorities 2017” dated August 29, 2017 be approved and that the Chair of the Board be directed to write a letter to the Ministry of Education to accompany the submission.

The motion carried.

New Option Area Impact Report

Further to a Board motion of June 27, 2017, Manager of Planning Passy provided an evaluation of current Board policies that would govern the establishment of an Option Area between Wellington Heights SS and Centre Wellington DHS and the impact of a new Option Area. Based on historical reference and current policy direction regarding student accommodation, staff is of the opinion that should Trustees wish to further address the concerns of the parent delegations from June 2017, then a full Boundary Review process would be required to consider changing secondary school boundaries. The creation of an option area could be considered as part of a boundary review, however, she noted that adding such areas are not a preferred method for addressing school direction. It was also noted that no specific policy permits or precludes the creation of an option area, and a small number of students would not significantly impact capacity at either school. She cautioned that if a Boundary Review was initiated to address this secondary school related request, similar requests may follow related to other Regular Track and French Immersion elementary and secondary school boundaries in this area. Trustee Schieck expressed thanks for the report. He drew attention to the fact that neither school would be impacted, and there were no additional transportation costs. Furthermore, the enrolment forecast for the next five years indicated that both schools will be underutilized. He also noted that when Arthur DHS was closed, secondary boundaries in that area were not changed. In view of the fact that it was 8 minutes to Centre Wellington DHS and 45 minutes to Mount Forest DHS, he suggested a full boundary review be done to better accommodate students and families in that area.

Trustee Schieck moved that memo PLN: 17-18 “New Option Area Impact Report” dated August 29, 2017 be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Schieck moved that staff be directed to proceed with a full boundary review to consider boundaries for Wellington Heights SS and Centre Wellington DHS to better accommodate students and families within that area.

A recorded vote was requested.

Yeah: Trustees Bailey, Busuttil, Schieck, Topping, and White

Nay: Trustee Fairbairn

Abstained: Trustees Cooper and MacNeil

Absent: Trustees Lustgarten-Evoy, and Moziar

The motion carried.

Annual Update on Capital/Renewal Projects

Operations Officer Scinocca provided an update on the renovation and renewal projects. The update included 42 schools and included various aspects such as paving, roofing, mechanical, electrical, energy, accessibility, general renovation projects, building envelope improvements, classroom refresh, student washrooms, science classrooms, asbestos abatement, and sanitary and domestic piping. Mr. Scinocca expressed thanks and appreciation to the Capital/Renewal Projects team for the completion of this work.

Trustee MacNeil moved that the verbal report on Capital/Renewal Projects be received.

The motion carried.

Addition to Spencer Ave PS / Building Project Report

Paul Scinocca, PDS Project Consulting Ltd. presented the details for a proposed addition to Spencer Ave. PS. A five classroom addition was proposed, and Ministry approval was pending.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that:

1. The report entitled "Addition to Spencer Ave PS Building Project Report" dated August 29th, 2017, CP:17-03, be received.
2. A 5 classroom addition at Spencer Ave PS be constructed and open as soon as possible, subject to Ministry approval to proceed.
3. The "Addition to Spencer Ave PS Building Project Report" attached as Appendix B, dated August 29th, 2017, CP:17-03, be approved.
4. A Building Committee not be established for the 5 classroom addition to Spencer Ave. PS.
5. The Board not require a Concept Design Report for the Spencer Ave. PS Addition unless the plans are changed substantially from those shown in the Building Project Report.
6. The architect for the addition to Spencer Ave. PS be approved as Allen

and Sherriff Architects Inc. subject to successful negotiation with staff and Ministry approval to engage the Architect.

The motion carried.

Addition to Parkinson PS / Building Project Report

Paul Scinocca, PDS Project Consulting Ltd. presented the details for a proposed addition to Parkinson PS. A two FDK classroom addition was proposed, and Ministry approval was pending.

Trustee Cooper moved that:

1. The report entitled "Addition to Parkinson Centennial PS Building Project Report" dated August 29th, 2017, CP:17-04, be received.
2. An addition at Parkinson Centennial PS consisting of 2 FDK classrooms be constructed and opened as soon as possible subject to approval of the project by the Ministry of Education.
3. The "Addition to Parkinson Centennial PS Building Project Report" attached as Appendix A, dated August 29th, 2017, CP:17-04, be approved.
4. A Building Committee not be established for the 2 classroom addition to Parkinson Centennial PS.
5. The Board not require a Concept Design Report for the Parkinson Centennial PS addition unless the plans are changed substantially from those shown in the Building Project Report.

The motion carried.

Request for Approval, SEAC member

Director of Education Rogers requested approval for a new member of SEAC. The Wellington County LD Association nominated Jennifer Patterson as a LD representative. Trustee MacNeil moved that Jennifer Patterson be approved as a member of SEAC. After some discussion, it was noted that the current position had not yet been officially vacated by way of a letter of resignation, and that the term of the appointment was unclear. Until a resignation letter was received, and the term clarified, the motion was subsequently withdrawn. It was agreed that Superintendent Lindsay would check further into this issue.

Board Correspondence

Trustee Bailey advised that correspondence was received from Rainy River and Waterloo Region School Boards regarding requests for reduction of class size requirements for Native Language Courses.

Trustee Cooper moved that the Chair be directed to write a letter to the Honourable Mitzie Hunter in support of the Thames Valley District School Board letter which requested that the minimum number of resident pupils for Indigenous Language classes funding be lowered, and to copy Thames Valley DSB.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill referred to correspondence from OPSBA regarding a copy of an invoice requesting payment for labour relation fees from the Ministry of Education for central negotiations in the amount of \$49,000.00. This invoice raised some concerns. She noted that it was very important to recognize volunteer time spent by the Director of Education Rogers and Supervisory Officers of this Board, on Provincial matters. Trustee Busuttill raised a concern about OPSBA's lack of responsiveness to various issues. She suggested a letter be written thanking OPSBA for advocating for school boards, and include concerns that this Board has with the lack of responses from OPSBA regarding various issues, particularly requests for guidance, criteria around executive compensation, acknowledgement of correspondence sent, initiatives regarding French labour force, and available funding.

Trustee Busuttill moved that the Chair be directed to write a letter to OPSBA expressing the Board's willingness to work with OPSBA and also express concern with regards to lack of responsiveness to various issues.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill moved that the Chair be directed to write a letter to OPSBA with thanks for taking leadership with central bargaining and also to acknowledge that the Board and its exemplary Director of Education Rogers and Supervisory Officers worked together with OPSBA staff at the Provincial level and shared leadership skills.

The motion carried.

Trustee Topping moved that the Board Correspondence dated August 29, 2017, be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustees White, Fairbairn, and MacNeil expressed sincere thanks to Superintendent McDonald, his Executive Assistant, Lynne McInnis, and staff, for all the work done in organizing the Learning Fair which resulted in a very successful event.

Trustee Cooper expressed sincere thanks to the Board as well as to Director of Education Rogers for the new digital traffic signs to address traffic near Brisbane PS.

Dates of Future Meetings

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the September 2017 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

Program Committee	No Meeting
Business Operations	September 12, 2017
Board Meeting	September 26, 2017

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 approximately 10:44 p.m. in order to complete the confidential items on the agenda.

Trustee Topping moved that this committee move In Camera to complete the remainder of the In Camera agenda.

The motion carried.

Motion to Rise and Report to the Board

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

The motion carried.

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

Trustee Topping 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 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 White moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 10:55 p.m.

The motion carried.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.