

Upper Grand District School Board

Program Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

The Program Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, in the Board Room commencing at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairperson Trustee Moziar presided, and the following Trustees were present: Bailey, Busuttill, Fairbairn, Lustgarten Evoy, MacNeil, Schieck, Topping, and White, together with student Trustees Caitlin Ennis and Chloe Gear. Also in attendance were Director of Education Rogers, Student Success Lead Zen, and Superintendents Heaslip, Lindsay, McDonald, Morrell, Regier, Slater, and Van Ooteghem.

Agenda

Trustee Schieck moved that the agenda be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Topping moved that the minutes of the meeting held on October 2, 2018 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Report from Student Trustees

Student Trustee Caitlin Ennis, together with Student Trustee Chloe Gear, provided an overview of events for this year, which included an opportunity to provide input for the Secondary Program Review Committee. Also, Student Senators received a presentation from a former student Megan Harron, currently attending Carleton University in Ottawa, who provided a presentation to student senators on coping mechanisms and the importance of keeping up with regular practice, especially during stressful times. Future plans and events were also shared.

Recommendation # 1

Trustee Schieck moved that the verbal update from Student Trustees be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

Mental Health Update

Mental Health and Addiction Lead Marino advised of a new resource which was developed in alignment with the commitments in the action plan where mental health representatives would be identified in every school. Teachers will receive mental health information each month, and will share this with their staff to better assist their staff and students. Mrs. Marino advised that they soft launched this initiative. It was planned to put more emphasis on mental health on a regular basis and will move away from the one week mental health event. Every month there will be different themes, starting with the nurture of nature in November, and the gift of resilience in December. Trustees expressed thanks for the continued work in the area of mental health.

Recommendation # 2

Trustee Topping moved that the verbal update on Mental Health be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

Summer Learning

Superintendent of Schools Heaslip introduced Principal of Westwood PS Tara Topping, Principal of Centennial Hylands ES Tammy Fleming, and Elementary Curriculum Lead Caroline Mitchell who were in attendance to provide an update on the Summer Learning Program. This program is supported by CODE and runs for three weeks in July with a mandate to provide support to elementary children in the areas of literacy, numeracy, and robotics. This year, between Brant Ave. PS and Centennial Hylands ES, a total of 80 students enrolled. The evidence of learning and the benchmarks that the children achieved spoke to the success of the program. Report cards were forwarded to the home school, and highlighted progress in decoding/encoding, writing, confidence, phonics/pa, reading strategies, accuracy and fluency, counting, spatial reasoning, math language, and communication. Trustees expressed thanks for the program and to the staff in providing support to those children in need.

Recommendation # 3

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the verbal report on Summer Learning be received.

The motion carried.

International Baccalaureate

Bob Scott, Principal, Guelph CVI, together with his team outlined components to earn an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma. Each of the six courses studied by an IB student is graded out of 7 for a total of 42 points. In addition, students write a 4,000 word extended essay and they take a critical thinking course called Theory of Knowledge. Combined, these two extension experiences provide 3 points towards their diploma for a combined total of 45 points. Mr. Scott summarized the results for 2018 for the 51 Guelph CVI IB Diploma graduates. He noted that 80.5% of the students were accepted for their first choice of university. Currently, there are 307 students on their IB path at Guelph CVI, which indicates the level of interest and excitement for the program. Mr. Scott reported that it could not have been a better first year. Trustees asked questions of clarification and expressed thanks for the awesome program and support.

Recommendation # 4

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the verbal report on the International Baccalaureate Program be received.

The motion carried.

2018/19 Annual French Review Background Report

Manager of Planning Passy reported that the 2018/19 Annual French Review Background Report had been prepared to review the experiences of the 2018/19 application process, enrolment, retention, staffing and cap related information in order to present recommendations to the Board with respect to the 2019/20 school year. Together with Manager Elementary Staffing and Recruitment Crandall, Trustees were provided with an overview of information from the 2018/19 JK FI registration process, enrolment projections and projected space in schools, availability of French Qualified (FQ) teachers, feasibility of new FI program(s), review of the JK FI registration, selection and waitlist process, and, a review of JK FI enrolment caps. It was suggested that no new program be established, and that enrolment caps be increased at four elementary schools. Questions were raised regarding the ease of access to the programs,

concerns about families withdrawing from JK FI due to concerns about child care and transportation, and how to ensure that the Board sustains a successful program.

Recommendation # 5

Trustee Fairbairn moved that:

1. Memo PLN: 18-17 entitled “2018/19 Annual French Review Background Report” dated October 2, 2018 be received.
2. No new FI programs be established in 2019/20.
3. The JK FI enrolment caps be increased at École Guelph Lake PS, Victory PS, École Harris Mill PS, and Palmerston PS, for the 2019/20 school year to re-align the school-based JK FI enrolment caps to the FDK class size caps, as follows: École Guelph Lake PS from 56 to 58, Victory PS from 28 to 29, École Harris Mill PS from 28 to 29 and Palmerston PS from 28 to 29.

The motion carried.

École Guelph Lake Grade 7 and 8 Implementation Plan

Senior Planner Imm presented the École Guelph Lake Grade 7 and 8 Implementation Plan. Senior Planner Imm advised that École Guelph Lake PS was constructed as a JK-8 school and the boundary was set for a JK-8 configuration. In June 2015, the Board approved the JK-8 FI boundary for the new École Guelph Lake PS (formerly referred to as Couling Cres. PS). The school opened in September 2016 as JK-4 FI and has grown by a grade each year. In accordance with a Board motion which stated “that the Planning Department provide a report to the Board with recommendations about the start of Grades 7 and 8 at the Couling Crescent School supported by updated enrolment projections and information on intermediate class sizes” Trustees were presented with an implementation plan for starting grades 7 and 8. The presentation contained changes that followed the 2015 École Guelph Lake PS boundary review decisions, enrolment projections and utilization, information on intermediate class sizes, student transitions, implementation costs, transportation implications, and communication plan. Trustees expressed thanks for the report, after questions of clarification were answered.

Recommendation # 6

Trustee Busutil moved that:

1. That memo PLN: 18-27 “École Guelph Lake PS Grade 7 and 8 Implementation Plan” dated November 6, 2018 be received.
2. That the grades at École Guelph Lake PS continue to progress naturally at École Guelph Lake PS with Grade 7 in 2019/20 and Grade 8 in 2020/21.
3. That staff be directed to purchase and install science and technology equipment at École Guelph Lake PS prior to September 2019.

The motion carried.

OPSBA

Trustee Fairbairn advised of the Meeting of the Board of Directors for OPSAB will be held on the 7th and 8th of December, and provided a verbal update.

Recommendation # 7

Trustee Busutil moved that the verbal OPSBA update be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil moved that this committee move In Camera.

The motion carried.

In Camera

Other Business

Adjournment

Trustee White moved that this Committee adjourn at 9:16 p.m. to report to the Board.

The motion carried.