

Upper Grand District School Board

Program Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

The Program Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, virtually and in the Board Room commencing at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairperson Trustee Lustgarten Evoy presided, and the following Trustees were present: Bailey, Busutil, Campbell, Edwards, Foley, MacNeil, and Topping, together with student Trustees Emilie Hill and Vikasni Kuganesan. Also in attendance were Director of Education Sovran, Executive Superintendent of Business Operations and Support Services Regier, and Superintendents of Education Donaldson, Hamilton, Heaslip, McCutcheon, and Taha.

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy took a moment and advised that the Guelph Board office is open to visitors, and the doors are open and welcome to anyone wishing to watch the meetings in person.

Agenda

Trustee Topping 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 MacNeil moved that the minutes of the meeting held on March 1, 2022 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Report from Student Trustees

Student Trustees Emilie Hill and Vikasni Kuganesan reflected on the recent and very long overdue papal apology offered to Indigenous peoples in Canada, and as students, they are learning more about the trauma and abuse Indigenous peoples have and continue

to face over the years. They hope this is one step of many more in the journey towards Reconciliation. The students have been learning more about an upcoming survey called UGDSB Counts 2022, that will touch on items related to students' identity, culture, and values. The Ministry of Education has given the task of identifying barriers, and discrimination based on identity of students, to boards. The voluntary survey does involve informed consent, is not anonymous and the results can be edited by a parent for any student 18 or under, without the parent necessarily seeing the data a student has input. While this does protect sensitive data, some examples being gender identity, sexual orientation, citizenship, financial situation, from being disclosed to a parent, it may change the identity of the student and limit the validity of the results. Certain answers may also put the students in an unsafe situation with their parents, and reveal their personal identities unwantedly. They shared they are pleased that recognition of these important elements are happening, and that students are being consulted and brought into the process and are looking forward to bringing the student voice forward. The Trustee Students were deeply proud to share that the Student Senate secretary for the past two years, Jack Gillies, who is also a student senator at Orangeville DSS, is a 2022 Loran Scholar recipient. This award recognizes students that have been identified because of their commitment to building a better future for all by prioritizing compassion, courage of conviction and dedication to community. This year there were 5174 applicants, 90 exceptional finalists and Jack was one of the 35 newly selected scholars. This award will allow Jack, and the other student scholars, to attend university and continue their community engagement activities without any financial burden as well as participating in mentorship activities and an annual summer program. The March Student Senate meeting, 10 student senators attended with both student trustees there. They welcomed Blayne Primeau who is presently a data analyst with the board and learned that Blayne's career path from high school to his present job was not linear. He reminded everyone there are always different opportunities in any job that you take and to keep your passions in your career. Also at the March meeting, which was on World Water Day, they learned more about local water conservation authorities and their work in safeguarding water resources historically, now and in the future. The students were again reminded that they are privileged to live in a part of Ontario blessed with abundant water supplies whose value was recognized almost 100 years ago and managed prudently long before pollution, climate change, Earth Day and other modern environmental terms were invented. At the March meeting there were questions about the continuing path towards more regular school activities such as field trips, CWOSSA, OFSAA, food services, prom and commencement. Student Trustees thanked Superintendent Hamilton for quickly providing written answers that were able to be shared with senators and with COVID-19 still disrupting activities, they know this will be a slow process to adjusting to a new normal. The Student Trustees are looking forward to three things happening in April: work that has begun with Communications Officer Heather Loney and student senate on the "We Are UGDSB" social media campaign and the 5 ways that schools, students and community partners can feel safe, accepted, included, supported and kind; April 22nd is Earth Day and the students are working with student senator Thomas and others on promoting this in schools; at the April Student Senate meeting they will be welcoming Jenny Marino for a Mental Health

Moment and Gerard Walker who will be doing an equity update and preview of activities for Pride Month.

Recommendation # 1

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

The motion carried.

2022-2023 JK FI On-Time Application Overview

Manager of Planning Angrish advised that the on-time window for applications to attend Junior Kindergarten (JK) French Immersion (FI) in 2022/23 was open from January 4, 2022 to January 21, 2022 at 4:00 pm. The on-time window was extended by one week due to the pandemic. Where the number of on-time in-area applications to a school offering JK FI does not exceed the JK FI cap imposed, on-time in-area applicants will be placed directly into JK FI. However, where there are more applicants than spaces available, random selection was required. Trustees were provided with preliminary information on the number of applications received for JK FI for the 2022/23 school year as well as a comparison with previous years' on-time application information. Ms. Angrish advised that the Board identified 644 JK spaces throughout the district which included only on-time, in-boundary applications. Out of Area and Out of District requests would only be considered in accordance with Policy 501. The number of on-time JK FI applications received this year was lower than the last few school years and staff expect schools will continue to receive JK FI applications until the end of the current school year. The report identified the schools where applications exceeded the cap and schools where spaces are currently still available. She elaborated on the placement process and compliance requirements with policy 501 Out of Area. Trustees asked questions of clarification.

Recommendation # 2

Trustee MacNeil moved that the report PLN: 22-08 "2022/23 JK FI On-Time Overview" be received.

The motion carried.

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) – Education (French Focus)

SHSM Lead Charles Benyair shared a new initiative through Upper Grand's ever expanding Specialist High Skills Major Program.

Through the analysis of Labour Market Research, a need was identified to develop a SHSM sector for students that represent careers in Education. The aim of the SHSM Non-profit Education Stream is to: assist our future workforce in developing the skills that would make them great educators, encourage students to explore teaching in the French language, and identify teaching as a viable career option for students regardless of the sector they are interested in.

In order to fit the needs of all students interested in pursuing a career in education, the following pathways have been developed: SHSM Non-Profit in Education, and SHSM Non-Profit in Education – French Immersion (FI) and extended French. SHSM Non-Profit in Education and Non-Profit in Education – FI and extended French, will allow students to further explore the Education sector through a set of curated course credits and certifications in English and French. The students would benefit by: exploring the education sector while completing their high school diploma; develop the necessary skills to excel in an education environment; expose the pathways that lead to education including right to work, apprenticeship, college and university pathways; create a future workforce that can fill critical French language teaching positions; and provide students with work experience in a French language education environment.

The following components, which make up a bundle of eight Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits, have been recommended:

SHSM Non-Profit in Education

- 4 Major Credits (including two courses with at least one at the Grade 12 level focusing on leadership or education)
- 2 Other Credits (includes one in English and one in Math)
- 2 Cooperative Education Credits (should be completed in an education environment)

SHSM Non-Profit in Education – Extended French, Core French, or French Immersion

- 2 Major Credits (including one course with at least one Grade 12 level focusing on leadership or education)
- 2 French Credits (should be extended French, Core French, or FI)
- 2 Other Credits (includes one in English and one in Math)
- 2 Cooperative Education Credits (should be completed in an education environment)

Current Upper Grand DSB Footprint

- 41% footprint (Provincial average 18%)
- Translates into 91 programs, representing 13 different sectors with an enrollment of over 2500 students.
- Participation from all 11 Secondary Schools

New for 2022-2023

- 4 SHSM Non-Profit Education Stream programs
- Centre Wellington DHS, John F. Ross CVI, Norwell DSS and Orangeville DSS – all applied for the SHSM education stream and were successful
- Approximately 100-150 students board wide that will be involved in the education stream in Upper Grand next year
- OPSBA approaches for provincial scan. Looking and studying what can be delivered in French. Start developing those resources.

Trustees raised questions and asked for clarifications.

Recommendation # 3

Trustee Mark Bailey moved that the verbal report for SHSM – Education (French Focus) be received.

The motion carried.

OPSBA Report

Trustee MacNeil provided the following OPSBA report:

Elections for Executive and Regional OPSBA roles

Ontario Public School Boards' Association elections will be held as part of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on June 9th to 11th, 2022 in Ottawa. Information about elected positions and the nomination process is summarized below. More details are available in the OPSBA Roles and Responsibilities Guide and Candidates' Election Guide. All trustees, candidates and (Voting) Delegates are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these documents prior to submitting nominations and/or voting at the AGM.

The nomination deadline is Tuesday, May 10, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m. A list of nominees and

their biographies will be published in the OPSBA Election Guide and distributed to member boards and (Voting) Delegates. It will also be posted on the OPSBA AGM page.

Elections for 2022-2023

Elections for three executive positions will occur at the 2022 AGM for a two-year term beginning immediately following the election and ending upon election of a successor at the 2024 AGM. The three executive positions are President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President. Elections for the following positions for each of the five Regional Councils (Central East, Central West, Eastern, Western and Northern) will occur at each Regional meeting at this year's AGM. The positions are Regional Chair*, Regional Vice-Chair, two regional representatives and one alternate on the Policy Development Work Group, and two regional representatives and one alternate on the Education Program Work Group.

*The five Regional Chairs are members of Executive Council and the Board of Directors along with the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Enrolment

Important Information for Candidates

President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President or Regional Chair Positions

Any trustee currently serving on a member board is eligible to run for these positions. The nomination deadline is 30 days prior to the AGM. The nomination forms and biographies must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 and details about the nomination process was outlined and could be found in the Candidates' Election Guide. Nominations will only be accepted from the floor at the AGM and/or Regional Council meetings if no nominations have been received in advance. If only one nomination is received by the nomination deadline for these positions, that person shall be declared acclaimed and noted in the AGM Handbook. Candidates who are interested in standing for more than one position are encouraged to declare their interest in each position by the nomination deadline. This will help member boards and voting delegates in their deliberations in advance of the AGM and Regional elections.

Regional Vice-Chair and Regional Representatives on Core Issue Work Groups

To be eligible to run for the position of Regional Vice-Chair, candidates must be appointed to the OPSBA Board of Directors by their member board and confirmed at the Regional meeting. Any trustee currently serving on a member board is eligible to be a member of a Core Issue Work Group. Advance nominations are encouraged; however, the nomination and election process, for the position of Regional Vice-Chair (alternate to the Regional Chair) and regional representatives on the Education Program and Policy Development Work Groups, permits nominations to be taken from the floor at the Regional meeting. During Regional meetings at the AGM, elections to select regional members and alternate members to serve on the Education Program and Policy Development Work Groups will be held. Nominees are asked to submit their nomination form and a one-page biography by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2022.

Policy Resolutions

The submission deadline is Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. Trustee input is important and OPSBA member boards are asked to submit policy resolutions for consideration at the 2022 Annual General Meeting by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2022. Resolutions that are passed at the AGM will be incorporated into the work of OPSBA for 2022-2023. The Policy resolution submissions: must reflect the corporate position, by way of a passed motion at your Board, to address issues that have provincial implications; should include background information and data, where applicable, to support proposed actions; and must be written as a policy resolution. Executive Council will review all policy resolutions submitted by the deadline and recommend actions to the Board of Directors before being forwarded to member boards. Policy resolutions may also be submitted by member boards, from the floor, at the Annual General Meeting with approval of two-thirds of the voting delegates. Once approval to consider the new resolution has been obtained, the member board representative (delegate) who introduced the new resolution must provide written copies of the resolution for every voting delegate.

Constitution and By-Law Amendments

The submission deadline is Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. Each year, member boards have an opportunity to submit proposals for amendments to the OPSBA Constitution and By-Laws for consideration by the Board of Directors. The

deadline for submission this year is Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in order to allow time for staff and legal counsel to review the proposals and prepare language before submission to the Board of Directors. Revisions to the OPSBA Constitution and By-Laws that emerged from Project Compass, based on input and feedback from trustees, will be presented at the AGM. This year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in-person in Ottawa from June 9th to 11th, 2022. Constitutional amendments will take effect once they are confirmed by at least two-thirds of the votes cast at the AGM. In some cases, a proposed constitutional amendment may be referred to a work group for further study and consideration of the full impact of the proposed change. Recommendations from the work group would be reported through Executive Council to the Board of Directors and action(s) requiring consideration may be forwarded to the subsequent AGM. The current Constitution and By-Laws (last amended July 2019) are available on the OPSBA website.

Important Dates to Remember

Central West Regional Meeting April 9th Virtual 9 am – 11 am
Please RSVP to Carla Garbas or Donna Danielli

Human Relations and Labour Symposium April 28th - 29th Virtual

AGM June 9th - 11th Ottawa/Virtual

Recommendation # 4

Trustee Edwards moved that the verbal OPSBA report be received.

The motion carried.

Other Business – nil report

Adjournment

Trustee MacNeil moved that this Committee adjourn at 8:06 p.m. to report to the Board.

The motion carried.

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.