

Upper Grand District School Board Business Operations Committee Minutes

September 13, 2022

The Business Operations Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, virtually and in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, Ontario commencing at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairperson, Trustee MacNeil presided, and Trustees Bailey, Busuttil, Campbell, Edwards, Lustgarten Evoy, and Ross were present with regrets from Trustee Topping. Student Trustees Julia Elmslie and Brooke Hartley were also in attendance.

Present from the Administration were, Director of Education Sovran, Executive Superintendent McDonald, Executive Superintendent Regier, together with Superintendents Donaldson, Heaslip, Hamilton, McCutcheon, Taha, and Zen, Communications Officer Loney, Executive Officer of Human Resources Pyke, Manager of Planning Angrish, and Senior Facilities Manager Parmar.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the agenda be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee meeting held June 14, 2022 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Trustee Climate Emergency Committee (TCEC)

Trustee Edwards shared highlights from the Trustee Climate Emergency Committee held on August 31st. Information included the survey results regarding covered bike racks, leading through sustainability, a new Environmental Hero Award, and how to ensure the TCEC Committee continues for the next term of the Board. In environmental

news, Trustee Edwards shared information on a new vertical farm in the U.K, exploring how technology can help the world get to net zero faster, the melting of the ice sheet in Greenland, and a workshop Trustee Edwards attended about what a person can do to help mitigate climate change. The monthly challenge to the trustees was to go onto the Project Neutral website and to calculate their carbon footprint. A video was shared about the 6 pillars of reforestation. Trustee Edwards also advised that the tree purchased back in spring will be arriving soon and asked staff for direction on the process of choosing a location for the tree to be planted.

Recommendation # 1

Trustee Edwards moved that the minutes of the Trustee Climate Emergency Committee (TCEC) held August 31, 2022 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Facility Services Sustainability Plan

Senior Facilities Manager Parmar presented the Facility Services Sustainability Plan. The three key pillars highlighted in the Climate Action Plan were conservation, renewable and alternative sources of energy, and environmental adaptation. It was also reported that a good base of work has already been done by Upper Grand DSB regarding these efforts and moving forward the board will continue its efforts regarding sustainability.

Conservation methods would engage efforts across many different areas of the school board in finding ways to reduce overall carbon footprint. The following initiatives were highlighted: formalize targets for emission reduction, create strategies for each school and facility to meet targets, increase awareness and involvement of occupants in sustainable practices to reduce energy and water consumption, increase sustainable purchasing practices, and formalize a sustainable building standard for new construction and renewal projects.

The board will continue to install current proven technologies and invest in a diverse range of technologies with sustainability objectives in mind. Lastly, as the climate changes Upper Grand DSB will continue to adapt to the shifting weather patterns and create a sustainable landscaping plan for our schools to promote natural functions, learning environments and increased well-being.

Trustees asked questions of clarification and expressed thanks for the report.

Recommendation # 2

Trustee Campbell moved that the presentation titled, “Facility Services Sustainability Plan”, dated September 13, 2022 be received.

The motion carried.

South Guelph Secondary School Update

Executive Superintendent Regier provided a brief update on the zoning change for the new south Guelph school. At the City of Guelph Council meeting held on September 12th, there was a unanimous vote in favour of the zoning By-law change, which is a significant milestone for the new south Guelph school. The next milestone for the process will be the site plan approval. Trustees asked questions of clarification and expressed thanks and acknowledged all who were involved and helped the process along. Executive Superintendent Regier also shared appreciation for all the work and support received from the trustees to help in moving this project forward.

Recommendation # 3

Trustee Busuttill moved that the verbal South Guelph Secondary School update be received.

The motion carried.

OPSBA Update

Trustee MacNeil provided an update on the following:

Input for Draft Policies Requested

Three draft OPSBA policies (OPSBA Trustee Expenses, Purchasing and Procurement, and Executive Director Performance Appraisal) are being circulated for additional feedback prior to coming forward to the Board of Directors for final consideration. The development of these three draft policies took into consideration input collected from Project Compass and the OPSBA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Audit.

Important Dates

Central West Regional Meeting – Due to this being an election year, a Regional meeting will not be held in the fall. The next meeting will take place at the Public Education Symposium in January 2023.

Recommendation # 4

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the OPSBA update, dated September 13, 2022 be received.

The motion carried.

Other Business – nil report

Move to In Camera

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that this Committee move In Camera.

The motion carried.