

Upper Grand District School Board
Final Meeting of the 2021/2022 Board
Tuesday, November 14, 2022
Minutes

The Final meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board for the period December 1, 2021 to November 14, 2022 was held virtually and in person on Tuesday, November 14, 2022 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m.

The Chair, Trustee Busuttill presided. Trustees Bailey, Bedi, Campbell, Edwards, Lustgarten Evoy, MacNeil, and Ross were present, with regrets from Trustee Topping.

1. **Traditional Greeting – Trustee Lustgarten Evoy**
2. **Opening Prayer / Reading – Trustee Bailey**

Trustee Bailey expressed a simple gesture of well wishes to the new incoming Board of Trustees.

3. **Condolences – nil report**
4. **Good News/Director’s Report**

Director of Education Sovran indicated that the good news for the month of November will be brought to the November 29th board meeting. Director Sovran thanked the 2018-2022 Board of Trustees for their guidance, wisdom, direction, and courage. Deep appreciation was expressed by Director Sovran and the Executive Committee, and for all the students and families whom they served in the Upper Grand DSB.

5. **Confirmation of the Agenda**

RESOLUTION #22-304: Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil, that the agenda be confirmed as printed.

The motion carried.

6. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting Held October 18, 2022

RESOLUTION #22-305: Trustee Edwards moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil, that the minutes of the meeting held October 18, 2022, and the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

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

RESOLUTION #22-306: Trustee Bedi moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil, that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole In Camera be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried.

9. Motion to Rise and Sit in Committee of the Whole

RESOLUTION #22-307: Trustee Bailey moved, seconded by Trustee Campbell, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

10. Business Operations Committee

RESOLUTION #22-308: Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held November 8, 2022 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #22-309: Trustee MacNeil moved that:

1. Memo PLN: 22-24 "2023/24 Development Area School Assignments" dated November 8, 2022 be received.
2. The Development Area School Assignments as outlined in Appendix A to memo PLN: 22-24 "2023/24 Development Area School Assignments" be approved for the 2023/24 school year.
3. Memo PLN: 22-25 "2022 Community Planning and Facility Partnership Report" dated November 8, 2022 be received.
4. The Board advise the community partners on the Partnership List that there

are no partnership opportunities or suitable surplus spaces available at this time in existing facilities.

5. Staff be directed to continue consultation with community partners regarding interest in co-build opportunities at possible future schools and additions in the jurisdiction.
6. The minutes of the Trustee Climate Emergency Committee (TCEC) held October 25, 2022 be received and considered.
7. The report entitled "Trustee Expenses", FIN 1122-01, dated November 8, 2022 be received.
8. The report entitled "Trustee Honoraria", FIN 1122-02, dated November 8, 2022 be received.
9. The verbal Multi-Year Plan Progress Report presented on November 8, 2022 be received.
10. The verbal Transportation Update presented on November 8, 2022 be received.

The motion carried.

11. Special Education Advisory Committee

RESOLUTION #22-310: Trustee Edwards moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held November 9, 2022 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

12. Monthly COVID-19 Update

Earlier today Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of health Dr. Kieran Moor said he is "strongly recommending" that Ontarians wear masks in all indoor public settings, due to the circulation of respiratory viruses and the pressure this is putting on the province's health care system.

Director Sovran advised Trustees that a message was sent out to all staff within the system, that Upper Grand DSB strongly recommends everyone to continue to follow public health's preventative measures to reduce the spread of respiratory illnesses in schools. This information was posted on the Upper Grand DSB website as well.

Executive Superintendent McDonald provided an update on two key areas: Promoting Healthy, Safe Environments, and Monitoring Absenteeism and Unfilled Jobs. Continued measures and messages supported by Public Health that are being communicated to schools are: recommended daily screening, staying home when sick, and wearing a mask when out in public for 10 days after isolating. Also, Upper Grand DSB continues to stress and educate staff and students on the importance of the same protective measures that have been so effective over the past couple of years. Upper Grand DSB will resume Daily School Absence reporting on the board website allowing staff to monitor absenteeism rates and transparently share this information with the public. Starting on November 21, 2022, the Upper Grand DSB will post absenteeism data daily, by school, from Monday to Friday on the Upper Grand DSB public website. The webpage will show the overall percentage of absenteeism in any given school and compare it to that particular school's September attendance baseline.

Trustees asked questions of clarification.

RESOLUTION #22-311: Trustee Ross moved that the verbal monthly COVID-19 update be received.

The motion carried.

13. Director of Education Action Plan and Goals 2022-23

Trustee Busuttil informed item #13 was discussed In Camera prior to the public session. The Executive Report provided to Trustees included the following recommendations to receive and respectfully bring forward to the incoming Board for their consideration.

RESOLUTION #22-312: Trustee MacNeil moved that:

1. That the Executive Report "Director's Action Plan 2022-23" dated November 14, 2022, be received.
2. That the Director of Education Action Plan and Goals 2022-23 be approved and forwarded for consideration by the 2022-2026 Board of Trustees.
3. That the Director prepare a Report with measurable outcomes, based on the approved Multi-Year Plan and Board/Director's Action Plan for the January 2023 Board meeting.

The motion carried.

14. Staff Retirements and Resignations

Executive Officer of Human Resources Pyke presented the Staff Retirements and Resignations report dated November 14, 2022.

RESOLUTION #22-313: Trustee Bedi moved that the Staff Retirements and Resignations report Appendix A and Appendix B dated November 14, 2022 be received.

The motion carried.

15. Board Correspondence

RESOLUTION #22-314: Trustee MacNeil moved that the Board Correspondence dated November 14, 2022, be received.

The motion carried.

16. Expressions of Appreciation of the Board

RESOLUTION #22-315: Trustee Bailey moved that the official appreciation of this Board be expressed to Peter Sovran, Director of Education, for his co-operation and assistance during the past year, and to all staff members for their loyalty and dedication; and that the Board's best wishes be extended to all staff for the coming year.

The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #22-316: Trustee Ross moved that the official appreciation of this Board be expressed to all Committee Chairs and members for their services and dedication.

The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #22-317: Trustee Bedi moved that the official appreciation of this Board be expressed to Student Trustees and Student Senator for their services and dedication.

The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #22-318: Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the official appreciation of this Board be expressed to the representatives of the Media for coverage of educational matters during the past year; and that sincere appreciation be expressed to the various radio stations for their co-operation and help in broadcasting school bus information on the inclement weather days which occur during the school year.

The motion carried.

17. Chairs, Trustee Busuttil's Closing Remarks

Trustee Busuttil's remarks were as follows:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide some closing remarks.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to first thank all of our staff. Our staff who every day go above and beyond for our students, communities, and each other as colleagues. This is a testament to the exceptional quality of education offered in our classrooms, and the inclusive and caring culture nurtured and valued by the Upper Grand District School Board.

At this table, we have the opportunity to engage and recognize the leadership of our Student Trustees and the work of student senators across schools in our system. Through their initiatives and leadership, we can look forward to further strengthening Student Voices in the Upper Grand DSB.

As a system, and as Trustees, every day we are focused on our students who give us purpose and hope. In the Upper Grand DSB, in Wellington, Dufferin and Guelph, we have a strong sense of direction and purpose. We have been working closely with Director Sovran, our senior staff, our family, and community stakeholders, to set strategic goals and develop action plans that stretch and grow us as individuals and as a learning system to continuously benefit our students, from JK to graduation.

After 16 years this evening is my last board meeting as a Guelph trustee. Two terms for Wards 1 and 5, as well as two terms for Wards 2,3 and 4. It has been an honour and privilege and I can't thank the Guelph voters enough for their trust, support, and honest feedback over the years. It has been a pleasure to serve along with so many excellent trustee colleagues since 2006.

I look forward to seeing the work and accomplishments of the Upper Grand District School Board in the years ahead and I wish the incoming board all the very best in their public service work.

18. Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustee Busuttil invited others to make any end of term comments. Trustees expressed their heart-felt thanks for their years served as Trustees, experiences gained, and relationships developed. Best wishes were expressed to all.

19. Motion to Rise and Report to the Board

RESOLUTION #22-319: Trustee Bedi moved that the Committee of the Whole rise and report to the Board.

The motion carried.

20. Ratification of Business

RESOLUTION #22-320: Trustee Bailey moved, seconded by Trustee Campbell that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried.

21. Adjournment and Closure

RESOLUTION #22-321: Trustee Ross moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil that having now officially completed its business, Upper Grand District School Board close this meeting at 7:49 p.m. and that the Board as constituted for the period November 14, 2022 to November 15, 2023 be now dissolved.

The motion carried.

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