

Upper Grand District School Board PIC Committee

March 27, 2023

APPROVED M I N U T E S

Those present:

Alex Carter, Matt McCutcheon, Martha MacNeil, Katherine Hauser, Jennifer Edwards, Laura White, Gillian Prieur, Kumudine Kariyapperuma, Ben McCabe, Barb White, Jen Tulloch, Paula O'Donnell, Shaila Carter

1. Welcome and introductions

Barb White made Land Acknowledgement

Gillian Prieur made an Anti Racism statement and then welcomed everyone to the meeting and individuals in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Approval of agenda

Gillian Prieur asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motioned by Alex Carter.

3. Approval of minutes

Gillian Prieur asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motioned by Jason Boyce seconded by Martha MacNeil

4. Board Report

Board Report Matt McCutcheon

- Updating the Boards Visual Identify
 - Meeting in small groups to get input on updating Visual Identify Policy
 - Part of the Board Multi Year plan
 - Visual Identity includes colour scheme, branding, logo, fonts, advertising styles, etc.
 - Create something that aligns with the key pillars of the multi year plan
 - Director Sovran and Communications Manager Heather Loney to meet virtually with some PIC Representatives on Monday, April 17th at 6:30pm to share work done so far
 - Calendar invitation and meetings link to be sent to those interested to attend
- Upcoming Dates and Events
 - May 1st to 5th Mental Health and Education Week
 - Theme this year will be STRIVE - to strive together
 - Board accepting submissions for a student designed logo for the STRIVE together focus
 - Students welcome to submit JPEG/PNG file to Amy.Villeneuve@ugdsb.on.ca by April 6th
 - Ontario Government Skilled Trades and Tech Credit Announcements
 - March 8th Provincial government announced changes to apprenticeship program
 - Students in grade 11 can now transition to full time skilled trades apprenticeship

- Once they receive their certificate of apprenticeship they can apply directly for their Ontario Secondary School Diplomas
- Need more people in skilled trades, a big shortage across Canada
- Government also consulting with employers, unions, education stakeholders, colleges to see how to assist young people to enter a career in trades
- March 10th Provincial government announced its implementing a new graduation requirement for any secondary students who start grade 9 in September 2024
- All students at that point will be required to earn either grade 9 or grade 10 technological education credit as part of their OSSD
- Currently 70% of workers in skilled trades are male
- Need to ensure increasing opportunities for females
- The Board currently working to ensure proper resources, staff and space for these skilled trades programs that will be offered in 2024
- Good News from Across the Board
 - UGDSB students compete at Golden Horseshoe Music Festival
 - Waverley Drive music teacher Jeff Jackson releases children's album titled "Hello Friends"
 - UGDSB students excel at OFSAA Wrestling championships
- Important Dates and Events
 - Mar. 28 – Board Meeting (7:00pm)
 - Apr. 2 – World Autism Awareness Day
 - Apr. 7 - Good Friday
 - Apr. 9 – Easter (Monday)
 - Apr. 12 – International Day of Pink – Anti-Bullying & Anti-Homophobia
 - Apr. 14 - Vaisakhi (Sikhism/Hinduism)
 - Apr. 21 - Eid-ul-Fitr (Islam)
 - Apr. 22 – Earth Day
 - Apr. 25 – Board Meeting (7:00pm)
 - Apr. 26 – PIC Event – Building Engaging School Councils (5:30pm)

6. Treasurer's Report

Presented by Kumindine Kariyapperuma

- No expenses in March, balance remains unchanged at \$50,392.12

7. Trustee Report

Martha MacNeil shared information

- Trustee MacNeil presented a report about the public consultation for Policy 315 – Privacy Protection and Information Access with a brief description of the policy and the reasons for the changes
- She showed the committee members the page on the Board website where policy consultation opportunities can be found and walked the members through the process of providing feedback on policies
- The policy of the UGDSB is to protect personal information and personal health information

8. Chairs' Report

Barb and Gillian lead discussion

- PIC Event for Building Better School Councils
 - Event scheduled for April 26th at Central Wellington District High School in Fergus
 - 40 people have registered as of now
 - Please ensure all school councils are represented, communication has been sent out, please share with your own councils
 - Barb White to facilitate role of High School Council, Paula to discuss Secretary role in council, Kumindine for Chair/Co-chair, Jen for Communication, Pam for fundraising and community building
 - Looking for facilitators for the event such as Parent role in council, and working with school administration (Principal/VP to facilitate with a parent council volunteer)
 - Role of facilitator is to discuss role in council, positives, their experience, questions they might have for council, basically discussion on how to be effective in your school council

- Discussion PIC Funding:
 - After PIC Event, about \$28,000 left over in Fund to use
 - This year funding has come to board in different way than previous years
 - Funding has been provided as Grant for student needs (GSN)
 - Can be used for materials for books, computers, learning resources to support students
 - Account and reporting requirements not as strict as previous years
 - August 31st is new deadline to use the funds
 - Some ideas that have been brought up in past is to split money between all schools that could be used for parent engagement (additional \$300), hosting different speakers in schools, have money go to specific schools – priority need schools to move student wellbeing ahead
 - 4 schools identified by each of the 4 superintendents = 16 to help school (\$2000/school)
 - There will need to be a reporting requirement for schools if PIC decides to give the schools money
 - Requirement to report back on how PIC and schools would spend the funds
 - Some examples of support would be a Literacy program or educating parents on literacy at home
 - May 1st deadline to have the 16 schools identified provided proposal on how funds will be used

9. Questions, New Business and Final Remarks

The next meeting will be on Monday May 29th, 2023 at 7:00 PM