

**Upper Grand District School Board**  
**Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 29, 2015**  
**Minutes**

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:35 p.m. All Trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Bailey who attended via teleconference. Student Trustee Challinor was also in attendance.

**Opening Prayer/Reading**

Trustee White read a story from the book Chicken Soup for the Soul, entitled A Street Kid Named Mike. The story was about a teacher who had a very positive impact on his student that resulted in a life-changing career path that lead to great success. Many teachers have great passion and care for their students and influence them in so many positive ways to be the best that they can be.

**Condolences**

Trustee Bailey, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: the family of Cody Brown, former student at College Heights SS, and Amanda Creed, Executive Assistant to Superintendent Morrell, on the loss of her Mother.

**Good News**

Dr. Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

**Princess Margaret PS**

Ashley Macijewych (Match-a- vitch), grade 6 teacher at Princess Margaret PS was hired by the Perimeter Institute for one year. She will be joining Glen Wagner at this prestigious institute.

**Erin DHS**

Phoenix, a student from Erin DHS was recently awarded the Skills Ontario Board of Directors Scholarship Award. This monetary award is conducted through an application process. The applications are reviewed and recipients are selected by members of the Skills Ontario Board of Directors.

Eligibility includes the following criteria:

- the applicant must have earned high school credits any time during the current school year (September 2014 to June 2015) and will graduate in the spring or summer of 2015.

- the applicant must have received a bronze, silver or gold medal at the Ontario Technological Skills Competition, and
- the applicant is pursuing a post-secondary education in the technologies through a technology program at community college or university within the Province of Ontario.

### **John F. Ross CVI**

Mark Yanchus – Good-to-Great! On September 19, 2015 Mark Yanchus, Rugby Coach for 16 years, received the Good-to-Great Coach Award from the Coaches Association of Ontario. A parent of the athletes stated that “Mark is one of those special people who leads with passion, knowledge, gratitude, and humility. I am truly amazed at the kind and gentle way he brings out the best in his girls”.

Emma, a student at John F Ross CVI, was recognized by the Guelph Mercury as one of the top 40 under 40 for her national level swimming achievements and strong academic studies, and, as was mentioned at a previous Board meeting, is being recruited by a number of tier one NCAA universities. These include Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida and include coaches who have lead Olympic teams. Emma has visited several campuses and university recruiters have also met with her and her parents here in Guelph. Emma has until the deadline of November 1 to decide which full scholarship she will accept to further both her swimming and academic career. Emma is the daughter of James Ball who has been recognized for his ability as a gifted physics teacher and a swim coach and OFSSA convener for swimming.

### **Victory PS**

Monique Cadieux, teacher at Victory PS will be named as an Honourable Mention in the October 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Toronto Star Teacher Awards.

### **Board Office**

As of Sept 19, Frances Norlen will be serving on the Provincial executive of the Science Teachers' Association of Ontario (STAO). The nine members of the Provincial executive are responsible for the governance of the organization and mapping future directions.

### **Confirmation of the Agenda**

Trustee Moziar moved, seconded by Trustee Topping, that the agenda be confirmed with the addition of one item “New East Guelph Public School (Couling Crescent) Project Approval Report – Construction Tender and Final Project Budget”.

**The motion carried.**

### **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting Held August 25, 2015**

Trustee Busuttill moved, seconded by Trustee Topping, that the minutes of the meeting held August 25, 2015, and the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, be approved as printed.

**The motion carried.**

### **Ratification of Business Transacted by the Committee of the Whole In Camera**

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee Cooper, that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole In Camera be now ratified by the Board.

**The motion carried.**

### **Motion to Rise and Sit in Committee of the Whole**

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Schieck, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole with the Vice-Chairperson presiding, in the absence of the Chair.

**The motion carried.**

### **Program Committee**

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held September 8, 2015 be received and considered.

**The motion carried.**

Trustee Moziar moved that the verbal report on Mental Health be received.

**The motion carried.**

### **Business Operations Committee**

Trustee Cooper moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held September 15, 2015 be received and considered.

**The motion carried.**

## **New East Guelph Public School (Couling Crescent) Project Approval Report – Construction Tender and Final Project Budget**

Operations Officer Scinocca presented a report on the new East Guelph Public School (Couling Crescent). The purpose was to consider the report and to approve the award of the construction tender and final project budget. Mr. Scinocca advised that there were 9 pre-qualified Stipulated Price Bids received and that Devlan Construction Ltd. was the lowest. If approved Devlan Construction Ltd. would be awarded the contract. Mr. Scinocca suggested that, once approved, this project may commence this fall and hoped for occupancy as soon as possible.

Trustee Moziar moved that:

1. The report entitled “New East Guelph (Couling Crescent) Public School, Project Approval Report Construction Tender and Final Project Budget” dated September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015, CP:15-04, be received.
2. A Final Project Budget of \$8,650,000 outlined in Appendix A in the report CP:15- 04, be approved.
3. The contract for the New East Guelph (Couling Crescent) Public School building project be awarded to the low tenderer Devlan Construction Ltd. subject to the Ministry of Education’s response to the Approval to Proceed request form.

## **Special Education Advisory Committee**

Trustee Schieck moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held September 16, 2015 be received, with the following amendment on page 5: “71 **new** students”.

**The motion carried.**

## **Resignations and Retirements**

Executive Officer of Human Resources Rose presented the Resignations and Retirements report dated September 29, 2015.

Trustee Busuttill moved that the report Resignations and Retirements, Appendix A and Appendix B dated September 29, 2015 be received.

**The motion carried.**

## **2014 2015 Environmental Report**

Environmental Sustainability Lead Acton presented the annual overview of the progress and accomplishments made on environmental initiatives during the 2014-2015 school year. She reported that Upper Grand DSB is an environmental leader among school boards across the province. An Environmental Education Management Committee coordinates activities guided by an action plan with four pillars; learning and teaching, staff and student engagement, environmental leadership, and community connections and partnerships. Successful initiatives in the previous year were numerous, including a slogan contest, guest speakers, environmental conferences, workshops, a record number of EcoSchool certifications, the “Less Paper Campaign”, school greening projects, and the opening of a fifth Environmental Learning Centre. Trustees congratulated staff and students on the passion, dedication and commitment to the Board’s vision of environmental sustainability. Trustee Busuttil raised a concern about comparison, competition and context. She suggested that energy data and photocopy data alone do not address equity, individual schools, or the difference between rural and urban schools. Furthermore, she noted that the concerns with comparing the data had been raised many times in the community.

Trustee Moziar moved that the 2014 2015 Environmental Report be received.

**The motion carried.**

## **2014 2015 Interim Financial Reporting on August 31, 2015**

Superintendent of Finance Janice Wright presented a snapshot of the Board’s finances as of August 31, 2015, the last day of the fiscal year for 2014-2015. She advised that staff are working on year-end adjustments, in preparation for the final report.

Trustee Schieck moved that the report 2014 2015 Interim Financial Reporting on August 31, 2015 dated September 30, 2015 be received.

**The motion carried.**

## **Board Correspondence**

Trustee Bailey advised that correspondence was received from Sylvia Jones, MPP, Dufferin – Caledon, regarding Bill 113, Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015, and from Fred Hahn, President CUPE Ontario Division regarding the proclamation of October 8, 2015 as Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day.

Trustee Busuttil moved that the Board Correspondence dated September 29, 2015, be received.

**The motion carried.**

## **Trustee Questions and Reports**

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy advised of Board signs that are posted with incorrect wording. She was advised to discuss the issue with Manager of Operations Veit to have the signs corrected.

Trustee Fairbairn announced that Monday October 5<sup>th</sup> is World Teachers Day and expressed thanks and appreciation to teachers.

Trustee Bailey brought up the issue of school closures in extreme cold weather. He advised that he will forward an email to Trustees with the minutes from the June 16 2015 Chairs Committee meeting, where it was decided that “all Trustees obtain and compile comments and concerns from parents, and have the information available prior to the September Business Operations Meeting”.

Thanks were expressed to Superintendent McDonald and staff for all the work done with the transition from First Class email to Outlook Exchange, and dealing with the complications related to the transition.

## **Dates of Future Meetings**

Trustee Topping moved that the October 2015 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

Program Committee	October 6, 2015
Business Operations	October 13, 2015
Board Meeting	October 27, 2015

**The motion carried.**

Director Rogers added the following to the Dates of Future Meetings:

Monday, October 5, 2015	Environmental Education Management Committee, Room 9, 1:00 p.m.
-------------------------	--

Monday, October 26, 2015	Learning Foundation, Room 3, 5:30 p.m.
--------------------------	---

Trustee Cooper moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated September 29, 2015 be received, with the above noted additions.

**The motion carried.**

**Motion to Rise and Report to the Board**

Trustee Topping moved that the Committee of the Whole rise and report to the Board.

**The motion carried.**

**Ratification of Business**

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.

**The motion carried.**

**Adjournment**

Trustee White moved, seconded by Trustee Topping that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 9:40 p.m.

**The motion carried.**