

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting, Tuesday, December 15, 2015
Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m. All Trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Schieck. Student Trustees Challinor and Johnson were also in attendance.

Four grade eight, female students from Jean Little PS performed four beautiful songs.

Opening Prayer

With thoughts and concern regarding the Syrian refugee struggles, Trustee Cooper read a poem of hope.

Condolences

Trustee Bailey, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: Gayton Fairfield, CYC at Island Lake, Ross R MacKay and Kortright Hills public schools on the loss of her father; Marg Todoroff, retired Principal from Princess Margaret PS on the loss of her husband; the family of Kathy Hunt, Administrative Assistant to the Vice-Principal at Orangeville DSS; and Deb Wilson, Office Co-Ordinator at Victoria Terrace PS on the loss of her mother.

Good News

Dr. Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

Drayton Heights PS

Andy Speers, a teacher from Drayton Heights PS won a prestigious award for his leadership in accessibility and disability issues in the community. Andy was presented with the AODA 10th Anniversary Champion Award on Monday at the Township of Centre Wellington Council meeting. This is a one-time award that recognizes an outstanding individual who shows passion and commitment “in the promotion of awareness of accessibility and inclusiveness in their community.” To qualify, nominees must have demonstrated leadership in promoting awareness of accessibility in their community. Andy was nominated by the Township of Centre Wellington, Mayor Kelly Linton and was supported by Matt Tucker, Manager of Parks and Facilities Operations for Centre Wellington. Andy spearheaded a project that saw the first fully accessible playground open in Fergus, Ontario, in September 2013 and an accessible playground open in Elora in 2014. Andy and his organization Power of Play raised \$200,000 for the park in Fergus and \$100,000 for the park in Elora. Funds came from a number of

sources, including the Rotary Club of Fergus-Elora, the Ontario Trillium Foundation and community members. His goal was to finish the project in five years, but both parks were complete within three, two years ahead of schedule. The parks were designed to ensure everyone could play together, regardless of their age or ability. Among the playgrounds' features are accessible swings, ramps rather than stairs, special resilient surfaces, and interactive and educational panels. When accepting the award, Andy said he was honoured, adding that he was "accepting this award on behalf of the hundreds of people that donated, helped or simply spread the word about the projects. As a community we all came together to make something outstanding happen in our Township that we can be proud of. Thinking inclusive and about accessibility needs has to become a priority. You never know when you or someone you care about is going to need it."

Westside SS

Westside SS has been named the top fundraiser in the country for the Breast Cancer Society of Canada's (BCSC) annual campaign. The national charity announced Monday that the school was this year's "Dress for the Cause" top fundraiser. According to BCSC, Westside's 2015 donation was higher than any other company or group in Canada. "For the first time in our history, a group of students has surpassed the contribution of every other business in Canada," said Kimberly Carson, CEO of BCSC. This November, the school held its 11th annual Pink Day, where staff and students raise money for BCSC's breast cancer awareness fundraiser. Pink Day is the school's largest spirit day of the year. In the days leading up to Pink Day, students donated money in exchange for pink highlights in their hair, pink painted nails, cotton candy and cupcakes, with all proceeds going to their fundraising efforts. At the Pink Day assembly, nearly all 900 students showed up wearing pink. Teachers and students faced off in tug-of-war competitions, and staff tested their performance skills in dance-offs and lip sync contests. Several students shaved their heads and donated their hair to groups that make wigs for cancer patients. Over the years, the school has raised more than \$96,800 for breast cancer research; this year alone they raised a whopping \$12,056. "The selflessness of Westside's student body and faculty sets an example for all Canadian donations. We are deeply thankful for Westside's continued support," Carson said. Breast cancer awareness is a deeply personal issue for many at Westside SS. The school began Pink Day as several faculty members have been impacted by breast cancer. "We are passionate about hosting our Dress for the Cause event every year, as breast cancer has touched many families at Westside SS," said teacher Christine Kirkland. "There is no greater event that brings together the spirit, hope and generosity of Westside and our community," she said. As the top fundraiser, a \$5,000 donation will be made in the school's honour to a local cancer treatment facility.

College Heights SS

For the second year in a row, College Heights SS students are building 50 much needed dog houses. They're learning about teamwork, using skills that will serve them in real-life work experiences and are getting involved in something that will have an impact well beyond the classroom. The construction students, grades 9 through 12, are building dog houses that will become life-saving shelters for dogs in a First Nations community in northern Ontario.

Board Office

The Board office elves have been very busy again this year, under the direction of Head Elf, Sheila Parker. Christmas will be a little merrier for a single mom with three teenage children, a single dad with two small children, and two independent teens. Thanks to everyone who gave so generously of both money and time. A special thank you was expressed to Sheila for organizing this annual event and to her husband, Len who helped with the shopping.

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Fairbairn moved, seconded by Trustee Topping, that the agenda be confirmed as amended to include one additional item; Property Committee Report.

The motion carried.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Approval of the Minutes of the Final Board and Organizational Board Meetings held December 1, 2015

Trustee Cooper moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar, that the minutes of the Final and Organizational Board Meetings held December 1, 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 White 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.

OSSTF Ratification

Trustee Bailey announced that the Board negotiating team and OSSTF successfully concluded negotiations and ratified the new agreement with a 93% vote. He expressed thanks and appreciation for our partnership and long standing relationship with OSSTF.

Motion to Rise and Sit in Committee of the Whole

Trustee MacNeil moved, seconded by Trustee White, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

Business Operations Committee

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held December 8, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

1. Trustee MacNeil moved that:
2. The report entitled: Upper Grand District School Board Trust Funds dated December 8th, 2015, be received.
3. Martha Rogers, Director of Education and/or Janice Wright, Superintendent of Finance be and they are hereby authorized and empowered on behalf of the Board to accept and convey, assign, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or any shares, stocks, bonds, debentures or debenture stock and other securities of every description now or hereafter registered in the name of the Board or held or owned by the Board and to make, sign and execute on behalf of the Board all and any instruments of acceptance, assignment and transfer and documents whenever necessary or proper to effectuate the same with full power to appoint in their place and stead an attorney or attorneys with full power of substitution therein

and that any and all instruments of acceptance, assignment and transfer and other documents in connection therewith and heretofore signed and executed on behalf of the Board in accordance with the authority set out above are hereby ratified and confirmed.

4. The report "Resignations and Retirements" dated December 8, 2015 be received with thanks for the many years of service.
5. The verbal report on Health and Safety be received, with thanks.
6. Memo PLN: 15-29 "New East Guelph (Couling Crescent) School Accommodation Plans for the 2016/2017 School Year" dated December 8, 2015 be received.
7. The Annual Accessibility Report for 2014-2015 dated December 8, 2015 be received with much gratitude.

The motion carried.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Busuttil moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held December 9, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Policy Management Committee

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee held December 8, 2015 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttil requested that items 1, 2, and 4, be considered separately.

Trustee MacNeil moved that Policy 319 Community Planning and Facility Partnerships be received and released for public consultation.

The motion carried.

Trustee Cooper moved that PMC and Communications Staff develop a communication process for public policy consultation, and that the process incorporate communication objectives, timelines, measures of success, plain language and accessibility, and provide a variety of communication channels for sharing and gathering input, which might include discussions at Parent Council Meetings, postings in schools, newsletters, and websites and use of social media. The purpose of this process is to increase transparency, engagement and public involvement in the policy development process.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil moved that the staff report recommending public consultations on Board policies be approved.

The motion carried

Trustee MacNeil moved that Policy 305 Pupil Accommodation Review be received and released for public consultation.

Trustee Busuttill moved that the above motion be deferred to the February 2016 Business Operations Meeting, and that Board staff prepare a workshop on this item before the consultation process.

**The motion to defer,
having precedence,
was put first and carried.**

Trustee MacNeil moved that policy 320 School Boundary Review be received and released for public consultation.

Trustee Busuttill moved that the above motion be deferred to the February 2016 Business Operations Meeting.

**The motion to defer,
having precedence,
was put first and carried.**

Property Committee Report

Trustee Busuttill provided a verbal Property Committee report. She noted that the Property Committee moved a motion to request that the Board Chair forward a letter to the Ministry.

Trustee Busuttil moved that the Board Chair be directed to forward a letter of response to the Ministry of Education, with a copy to OPSBA, advising agreement of the 90 + 90 day circulation option, expanding the list of circulated entities amendment, including a statement addressing repurposing for educational uses.

The motion carried.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the verbal report from the Property Committee be received.

The motion carried.

Resignations and Retirements

Executive Officer of Human Resources Rose presented the Resignations and Retirements report dated December 15, 2015.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the report Resignations and Retirements, Appendix A and Appendix B dated December 15, 2015 be received with thanks for many years of service.

The motion carried.

Board Correspondence

Trustee Bailey advised that correspondence was received from the Ministry of Education regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action Report, and from the Greater Essex County DSB regarding Honoraria for Student Discipline Committee.

Trustee Cooper moved that the Board Correspondence dated December 15, 2015, be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustee MacNeil advised that the Art Gallery of Guelph posted an ad for the position of Executive Director and that the committee will review the applications in January. Trustee Moziar reported that she and Trustee Busuttil attended the SWAF event at Linamar and it was a very positive experience. She congratulated the students involved.

Trustee Cooper advised of an upcoming Beyond Borders fundraiser event scheduled for the 16th of January 2016 which will be held at the River Run Center in Guelph. Tickets are available at the River Run Center and proceeds will go to Mount Sinai Hospital., She noted that it was an amazing program and encouraged everyone to support the fundraiser. Trustee Lustgarten Evoy also commented on Beyond Borders and noted it was a fantastic group of students she had the pleasure of working with. She encouraged everyone to attend the fundraiser event as it would be a great experience.

Trustee Fairbairn advised that Cheryl Fail received an honourable mention for her 5th Career Pathways event which was held at Cineplex on Woodlawn Rd. in Guelph. He reported that Cheryl very successfully put through in excess of 1500 grade 8 students investigating career pathways.

Dates of Future Meetings

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the December 15, 2015 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

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| Program Committee | January 5, 2016 |
| Business Operations | January 12, 2016 |
| Board Meeting | January 26, 2016 |

The motion carried.

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

Monday, January 11, 2016 Dufferin Parent Council, Spencer Ave. PS, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 11, 2016 Learning Choices Committee, tentative, Board Room, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 25, 2016 Learning Foundation, Room 3, 5:30 p.m.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated December 15, 2015 be received, with the above noted additions.

The motion carried.

Motion to Rise and Report to the Board

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

The motion carried.

Ratification of Business

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Fairbairn 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 Moziar that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 8:15 p.m.

The motion carried.