

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting, Tuesday, March 22, 2016
Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:20 p.m. All Trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Cooper. Student Trustees Challinor and Johnson were also in attendance.

Opening Prayer

Trustee Moziar read a Native American Prayer.

Condolences

Trustee Bailey, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: George Reid, Maintenance Staff, on the loss of his brother; Heather Godwin, Teacher at John F. Ross CVI on the loss of her father; Kathleen Dropka, Teacher at Sir Isaac Brock PS on the loss of her mother; Valerie Jameson, Teacher at Kortright Hills PS on the loss of her father; Bruno Richter, Teacher at Erin DHS on the loss of his mother; the family of Gene Hrycyszyn, former teacher at Centennial CV I; Tania Gauthier, Teacher at JD Hogarth PS on the loss of her husband; Debbie Kelly, Head Caretaker at J. F. Ross CVI, on the loss of her husband Frank, a former Custodian; and Diane Ridge, Teacher at Centennial CVI on the loss of her father-in-law.

Good News

Dr. Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

Central PS

The Friends of Simon Wiensenthal Center (FSWC) for Holocaust Studies have chosen an Upper Grand student to share her ideas on how to make the world a better place! Anna, a grade 6 student from Central PS will present her speech at the FSWC's annual speaking competition, Speakers Idol. The event will take place on March 31st at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. The FSWC is a leading non-profit human rights foundation directly representing over 30,000 members. FSWC is committed to countering racism and anti-semitism and to promoting the principles of tolerance, social justice and Canadian democratic values through advocacy and educational programs.

John F. Ross CVI

Greg Cawsey a teacher at John F. Ross CVI has been chosen by the Ontario Business Educators' Association (OBEA) awards committee to receive an Award of Merit for his

contribution to Business Education. Greg will be presented with his award at the OBEA Spring Conference in April.

Students in Upper Grand DSB Learn about Accessibility

(Information from the Wellington Advertiser, Friday March 4, 2016) Upper Grand elementary students are learning about accessibility, inclusion and acceptance in a new way. The Board has initiated a new sledge hockey program for elementary students that will be rolled out over the next five years. Thanks to Drayton teacher Andy Speers and the generous support of Polycorp Inc. the Board now owns 30 sledges and equipment. Mr. Speers contacted Polycorp Inc. via email with the idea of developing a sledge hockey team, and asked for sponsorship money. Andrew Haber the head of Polycorp Inc. responded by donating enough money to pay for the entire program. The program ran for the first time at Drayton Heights PS at the beginning of February. One of the students is confined to a wheelchair and another has cerebral palsy – both had previous sledge hockey experiences. For the first time in their entire lives in a sport setting they were the best players. When picking teams they would be captains or picked first because they were better than everyone else. Their smiles said it all! The program also allows all participating students to learn what it's like to have a disability while they're on the ice. The program was also offered at JD Hogarth PS and is currently running at Minto-Clifford PS. There will be eight trained coaches throughout the Board, two each from North Wellington, Centre Wellington, Guelph and Dufferin. Next year, the program will be rolled out in Guelph and the following year it will be rolled out in Dufferin.

William C. Winegard PS

William C. Winegard PS Social Justice and Me to We Team donated a large collection of gently used clothing for Syrian newcomers to the Salvation Army. They also held a bath and beauty blitz and collected toothpaste, shampoo and other essentials.

The Board Office Eco Team

The Board Office Eco Team celebrated National Sweater Day with a Chili Cook-off and raised \$131.25 to donate to the Syrian families in our Board.

Spencer Avenue ES

The Me to We Club at Spencer Avenue ES organized and completed a cupcake day and raised \$230.00. The Me to We Club at Spencer Avenue ES local bakery, Quest for Cakes, provided the cupcakes for \$1.00 each tax free!

East Garafraxa PS

East Garafraxa PS Me to We Team had a bake sale for the Syrian newcomers and raised \$307.80.

OFSAA News

Nordic Skiing: Alexander Maycock, an ODSS student won a silver medal in the 7.5 km individual race and the senior boys' team received bronze in the team relay. In addition, Alex is also a member of the Ontario Ski Team. He received a silver medal at the Ontario Provincial Cup and is currently in Whitehorse competing in the Nationals.

Swimming: Two Upper Grand schools, Westside SS and Orangeville DSS placed in the top ten schools in the OFSAA Women Open Division. Westside SS received bronze for the 200 meter Medley Relay. Guelph CVI men junior high school division placed 9 out of 10 in the team rankings. Centennial CVI placed 6th out of 10 in the team rankings for the men team scores in the open division. The Centennial CVI boys 14 and under won the silver medal in the 50 meter freestyle and the boys open 100 meter breaststroke. Congratulations to all of our athletes.

Elementary Cardboard Boat Teams in the Elementary Championships

Superb results were experienced in Provincial Championship for elementary cardboard boat teams. The Aberfoyle PS Team B placed second overall in the province, Erin PS placed fifth overall, and Aberfoyle PS Team A placed 18th.

Buddy Bench to Inspire Inclusion and Empathy at Aberfoyle PS

On March 23, Aberfoyle PS will be presented with a Buddy Bench, a designated seat in the school where students can sit if they're looking for a friend to play or talk with. Representatives from the Get In Touch For Hutch campaign will be there, to talk to students and present the bench to the school. This month at Aberfoyle PS, students are learning about being inclusive. School staff hope that the bench will encourage students to be more inclusive in an independent way, rather than inclusion being initiated by a teacher. They also hope the bench will also inspire empathy and remind children to be kind to each other, and that eventually no child will have to walk or play by themselves, unless it is by choice. Get In Touch For Hutch is an organization that works to break down the walls of stigma around mental health and illness. The group raises money through education and awareness events. Funds support various youth mental health organizations, which work to build the skills and abilities of youth to improve and support their mental health and well-being.

Digital Saturday

Digital Saturday, once again was a big hit with students and parents alike. Over 180 families attended Digital Saturday on March 5, 2016 at Westminster Woods PS. "Many parents watched in awe as the children worked, undaunted, with sophisticated machines, programs, devices and gadgets." (Guelph Today.com March 5, 2016)

Trustee Schieck reported that Maryborough PS students created a buddy bench, under the direction of the parents in the community. He personally bought the material and the parents helped to create the bench.

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Fairbairn moved, seconded by Trustee Lustgarten Evoy, that the agenda be confirmed as printed.

The motion carried.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting Held February 23, 2016

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar, that the minutes of the meeting held February 23, 2016, and the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Motion to Rise and Sit in Committee of the Whole

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil, 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 March 8, 2016 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil moved that:

1. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 305 Pupil Accommodation Review, dated March 8, 2016 be approved.
2. Draft Policy 305 Pupil Accommodation Review be received and released for public consultation.
3. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 319 Community Planning and Partnerships, dated March 8, 2016 be approved.
4. Draft Policy 319 Community Planning and Partnerships be received and released for public consultation.
5. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 320 School Boundary Review dated March 8, 2016 be approved.
6. Draft Policy 320 School Boundary Review be received and released for public consultation.
7. The report entitled Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) Subscription Period Renewal dated March 8, 2016 be received.
8. Staff be instructed to renew the Subscribers' Agreement with OSBIE for another five year period, commencing January 1, 2017.
9. The verbal report on health and safety be received.

The motion carried.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held March 9, 2016 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Policy Management Committee

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee held March 1, 2016 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar requested that item 1 (208 Smoke-Free Environment) and item 4 (516 Asthma Friendly Schools) be considered separately.

Trustee MacNeil moved that:

1. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 208 Smoke-Free Environment dated March 1, 2016 be received.
2. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 208 Smoke-Free Environment dated March 1, 2016 be approved.
3. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 516 Asthma Friendly Schools dated March 1, 2016 be received.
4. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 516 Asthma Friendly Schools dated March 1, 2016 be approved.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar raised a concern regarding enforcement of the Smoke-Free Environment Policy, particularly, possession of tobacco. In response, Superintendent Slater advised that this policy was based on the Smoke Free Ontario Act, and that there could be consequences to students for possession.

Trustee MacNeil moved that Policy 208 Smoke-Free Environment be received and released for public consultation.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar raised a concern about new materials and off-gassing related to Policy 516 Asthma Friendly Schools. She suggested a minor amendment to the definitions section to include an additional example of an asthma trigger; Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) off-gassing of new materials such as carpeting, paint, and particle board.

Trustee Moziar moved that the definitions section of Policy 516 Asthma Friendly Schools, be amended to include an additional example of an asthma trigger; Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) gassing off of new materials, such as carpeting, paint, and particle board.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil moved that Policy 516 Asthma Friendly Schools be received, as amended, and released for public consultation.

The motion carried.

Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustee Busuttil advised of a SEAC event scheduled for April 30, 2016, and that more information would be forwarded for this event.

Trustee Busuttil highlighted the YMCA summer work student exchange program. This is a national program that offers opportunities for youth to improve second official language skills while gaining important employment experience.

Trustee Busuttil questioned whether there was an evaluation process around the effectiveness of the policy public consultation plans and whether or not the target audience receive all necessary information, no matter the media form. Director Rogers agreed that evaluation was a good idea.

Trustee MacNeil advised that PIC met last night, and reminded everyone of the upcoming spring event scheduled for April 14, 2016. She noted that there are 187 participants signed up for the event, and encouraged everyone to sign up. She further advised that PIC is also supporting a diversity day event, run by Willow Road PS, scheduled for May 4, 2016, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. She commended everyone involved in Digital Saturday which was a huge success.

On March 3rd, Trustee MacNeil, together with Trustees Lustgarten Evoy and White, attended Inter-Cultural Training, presented by Curriculum Lead Colinda Clyne.

Trustee Schieck reported that earlier today the student and OPP fun event was held at the Drayton Arena and was a huge success.

Trustee Schieck also advised that the Mapleton and Minto fire fighters borrowed the Board's sledge hockey sleds to participate in a tournament and experience how sports are played by handicapped persons.

Dates of Future Meetings

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the April 2016 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

Program Committee	April 5, 2016
Business Operations	April 12, 2016
Board Meeting	April 26, 2016

The motion carried.

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

Tuesday, March 29, 2016 Trustee Workshop, Sportsfield, Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 4, 2016 Learning Choices Committee Meeting,
Board Room, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Board Meeting, March 22, 2016

- Friday, April 15, 2016 Empowerment Day, **location change**, not Drayton Arena as was listed on dates of future meetings, but Fergus Sportsplex, 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 26, 2016 Safe and Inclusive Schools Committee meeting, **cancelled**
- April 26 – 29, 2016 Dufferin Youth Festival of the Arts, Compass Community Church, Highway 10 and Hockley Road, just north of Orangeville
- Wednesday, April 27, 2016 Dufferin Youth Festival of the Arts Awards, Princess Margaret PS, 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 27, 2016 Art Show Opening, Wellington County Museum, in conjunction with the Turtle Island Festival
- April 26 – 29, 2016 Turtle Island Festival, (formerly Aboriginal Heritage Festival), Wellington County Museum, whole day
- Saturday, April 30, 2016 SEAC event, Centennial CVI

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated March 22, 2016 be received, with the above noted additions.

The motion carried.

In Camera Resuming

As directed at the Committee of the Whole meeting earlier in the evening, the In Camera session was resumed at approximately 8:10 p.m. in order to complete the confidential items on the agenda.

Trustee Moziar moved that this committee move In Camera to complete the remainder of the In Camera Agenda.

The motion carried.

Motion to Rise and Report to the Board

Trustee Bailey 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 Bailey that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried.

Resignations and Retirements – nil report

Board Correspondence – nil report

Adjournment

Trustee White moved, seconded by Trustee MacNeil that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 9:10 p.m.

The motion carried.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.