

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting, Tuesday, April 26, 2016
Minutes

Student Presentation

Trustee Bailey advised that in February of this year, the Board ran a system-wide contest for the Education Week logo. A grade 12 student from Centennial CVI, Samuel Oh was the successful winner. Samuel designed a thoughtful and professional logo that represents the power education has to broaden options in life and take us wherever we want to go. As a token of the Board's appreciation and thanks, Chair Bailey presented Samuel with a framed copy of his artwork.

Opening Prayer

Trustee Schieck read a poem entitled Thankful for Little Things by Pauline Drew Stone.

Condolences

Trustee Bailey, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: Donna Perry, Administrative Office Assistant in Human Resources on the loss of her husband; Jason Perry, Teacher at Rickson Ridge PS on the loss of his father; Ashleigh Perry, Teacher at Westminster Woods PS on the loss of her father-in-law; Grant Evans, former Director of Education for Dufferin County Board of Education on the loss of his son; Tara Moore, Teacher at John F. Ross CVI on the loss of her mother; The family of John Ellstrom, retired Custodian; Helmie Schenk, Head Caretaker at Brant Ave. PS on the loss of his mother; Joyce Schenk, File Clerk in Human Resources on the loss of her mother-in-law; Stephanie Klaver-Croezen, Teacher at John Black PS on the loss of her father; and Yvonne Cummings, Elementary Inclusion Technology Coach with Student Support and Program Services on the loss of her father.

Good News

Dr. Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

Centennial CVI

SHAD

SHAD is a registered charity based in Waterloo Ontario that works to empower exceptional high school students, shaping the leaders and change makers of tomorrow. Each year, top-performing students from across Canada compete for a spot at SHAD, a month-long summer program that focuses on STEM (science, technology, engineering

and math). Approximately 600 students are accepted each year, usually one or two from a school. This year, twelve students were accepted from Centennial CVI. These students will spend the month of July studying at various Canadian universities, including the University of British Columbia, Carleton, Dalhousie, and McMaster. Congratulations to Centennial CVI students, Ally, Jessica, Grace, Brandon, Marissa, Claire, Anish, Bassil, Nikhil, Cathy, Rachel and Yili. Thanks to teacher Ruth Tanner for encouraging students to apply.

National Science and Engineering Fair

Nine students from the region, including three from Centennial CVI, earned a place at the Canadian National Science Fair finals. The fair took place on April 5 at Bingemans in Kitchener. Students in grades 7 through 12 from the Upper Grand and Waterloo Region showcased the projects they had spent months preparing. The Gold award winners and the three students selected for the Canada-wide science fair were Owen, Allison and Devanshi. Allison won for her project "Influence of habitat on cellobiase activity". Grade 12 student Devanshi won for "A biosensor for microbial contamination," and grade 12 student Owen won for "Detection of DNA integration after anhydrobiosis". A number of students from Centennial CVI, John Galt PS, Laurelwoods ES, and John McCrae PS were also awarded medals. The Canada-wide Science Fair will be held this year at McGill University in Montreal from May 15th to 20th. Congratulations to all of the participants!

Upper Grand DSB Schools Continue to Care and Give

This year was the tenth anniversary of the "10 for 10" fundraiser event held at John F. Ross CVI. To mark this special anniversary, John F Ross CVI issued a challenge to other elementary and secondary schools to partake. April 9th marked the day of their collective labour at John F. Ross CVI with the "Sounds of Silence" event, where it was announced that they had surpassed their goal of \$100,000. Together they raised an amazing \$146,994! These funds will be donated to the Brain Tumour Foundation and will be used to fund a special project in partnership with Brain Canada and the Canadian Cancer Society. These organizations are matching the community contributions to provide a total of \$293,988 for a research project on medulloblastoma, the most common childhood brain cancer. Congratulations were expressed to everyone involved.

Science News from Ontario Association of Physics Teachers Conferences May 12-14

Teacher James Ball will be presenting a workshop at Wilfrid Laurier University on May 13th on Peer Instruction for a Diverse Audience. Mr. Ball will be addressing some of the incorrect assumptions on how students with lower academic skills learn, and how all

students can benefit from peer instruction, rich context problem solving and using multiple choice questions to improve conceptual understanding. In the workshop, teachers will learn how to apply these teaching approaches to improve overall student learning. Mr. Ball has been recognized by both the Science Teachers Association of Ontario and the Canadian Association of Physicists in the past year as the outstanding Ontario science educator. He was also one of the organizers for “10 for 10” at John F Ross CVI.

Teacher Glenn Wagner will also be presenting a workshop on May 13 on Question-Centred Learning Environment. Mr. Wagner will be showing how students feel empowered when they can ask and work with questions and develop valuable skills in the process; communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. Teachers will develop a question-centered learning environment that prompts students to generate questions and learn how to build knowledge with their questions within a community of like-minded learners. Mr. Wagner is the head of Science at Centre Wellington DHS however, he is presently on assignment to the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics and was selected as one of the top 50 in the Global Teacher Prize of 2015.

Centre Wellington DHS - Rain Barrels

Centre Wellington DHS is now accepting pre-sale orders for a truckload rain barrel sale scheduled for May 4 at the school from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The proceeds from the sales will help fund the student environment group.

International Business Competition

Four Centre Wellington DHS students are heading for Nashville to compete in an International Business Competition. Sydney, Morgan, Aida and Kayla, all grade 12 students, competed at the Provincial DECA competition in Toronto in February where they earned their spot at the International competition this month in Nashville. These senior “A” students are part of the DECA business club and work on oral and written business challenges throughout the year. In December, Kayla, Aida and Morgan put on a “Souper” Bowl where 33 teachers made soup or chili that was then sold to staff and students for \$5. More than \$1,000 was raised and split between the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada and Pediatric Brain Cancer Research. The students submitted a 30 page report about the “Souper” Bowl and gave a presentation to the judge at the Provincial competition. The students received a rating of 98% overall. Sydney took a different route to the International competition. She competed in the quick serve restaurant management category. Sydney was required to complete a 100 question multiple choice exam and analyzed and presented two case studies to the judge. She placed sixth in her competition. We wish all four students the very best at the International competition and look forward to hearing the results.

Shelburne Elementary Schools Receive Funds to Support Students with Special Needs

Deanna Avison, also known as “Autism Grandma” has been working to promote awareness and raise funds for elementary schools in Shelburne, through her initiative “Hearts Wide Open for Autism”. On April 2nd, Deanna, with the help of Megan Young, held a mystery dinner theatre fundraiser at the Shelburne Golf and Country Club. The community event raised \$5,200 which will be divided among the four elementary schools in Shelburne. The funds will support students with a wide range of special needs, such as the provision of additional educational resources, technology or teaching aids.

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee White, 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 March 22, 2016

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved, seconded by Trustee Fairbairn, that the minutes of the meeting held March 22, 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.

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

Trustee Cooper 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.

Motion to Rise and Sit in Committee of the Whole

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

The motion carried.

Delegations

1. Robin Ross and Korb Whale, FI parents from Palmerston PS

Robin Ross, together with Korb Whale, FI parents from Palmerston PS delegated in support of FI education, and an equal opportunity for all. Their delegation included a response to the French Review Committee Final Report, recommendations for equal access to French Immersion education, and recommendations for improving the regular track program. In their closing remarks, they reported that parents do not want enrolment caps on the FI program, do not want the FI instruction time for JK- grade 2 to be reduced, want an alternative policy similar to the Toronto DSB to manage the growing popularity of the FI program, and that every child deserves an equal opportunity to FI education. They requested that the Board not cap kids future opportunities. They suggested that there is enough room for all students and that space is not an issue. They offered assistance to help attract and retain teachers, help the local economy, help with access to resources, and noted that they had the support of the local municipalities. They requested a commitment to equity, growth, excellence and to both the present and future students in Upper Grand. Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions of clarification and expressed thanks for the presentation.

2. Lindsey Glavaz, Parent and Chair, Couling Cres. PS, and
Shawna LeBouthillier, Parent

Parents Lindsey Glavaz together with Shawna LeBouthillier delegated the Board in support of equal opportunity for all students in Upper Grand DSB to enroll in the FI program. They discussed two main issues included in the French Review Committee Final Report; Caps and decreased instruction time. The reported that neither option is supported by parents. They had suggestions for recruitment and retention strategies, professional learning opportunities for teachers, and initiatives that could be implemented for the growth of the FI program. Trustees again had the opportunity to ask questions of clarification and expressed thanks for the presentation.

Program Committee

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held April 5, 2016 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar moved that:

1. The verbal update from Student Trustees be received, with thanks.

2. The verbal update on Mental Health be received, with thanks.
3. The verbal report on Technology Plan and Technology Integration at the UGDSB be received, with thanks.
4. The verbal OPSBA report be received.
5. The Trustee Report dated April 5, 2016 be received.

The motion carried.

Business Operations Committee

Trustee Schieck moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held April 12, 2016 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill requested that item # 5 be considered separately.

Trustee Schieck moved that:

1. The report Preliminary Elementary Teacher Staffing for 2016 2017 School Year dated 2016 04 12 be received.
2. Based on the projected Elementary FTE of 22,740 and system needs, a preliminary allocation of Elementary teaching staff for the 2016 2017 school year be set at 1327.0 FTE teachers.
3. The report Preliminary Secondary School Teacher Staffing for 2016 2017 School Year dated April 12, 2016 be received.
4. Based on system needs and the projected Secondary ADE of 10,591.3 (includes international students) a preliminary allocation of Secondary Teaching staff for the 2016 2017 school year be set at 731.16 FTE teachers.
6. Report PLN: 16-11, Elementary Identified Schools Report – 2016 2017 dated April 12, 2016 be received.
7. The Everyday heroes selection committee update be received.

8. Three Trustees be appointed to the school naming committee for Couling Cres. PS at the April Board Meeting.
9. The report Resignations and Retirements dated April 12, 2016 be received.
10. The verbal report on Health and Safety be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttil was concerned that her comments and work done with recruitment and retention of French teachers was not captured in the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held April 12, 2016. She referred to implementation of the Human Resources recommendations regarding recruitment and outreach to universities and colleges, her involvement in this process, and where we are now with recruitment practices, comprehensive plan, and strategic core business. In response, Trustee Bailey advised that these concerns were not included in the minutes as they were an interaction/conversation at the meeting. However he suggested that a report could be compiled and presented and received at the next meeting, and a statement could be included in the minutes of the Business Operations meeting, amending the minutes. Trustee Busuttil agreed to prepare a report which summarizes her concerns, her involvement and contact with universities, her engagement in the recruitment process, and her examination within Board strategic plans and Human Resources practices.

Trustee Schieck moved that (# 5) the report Implementation of the Report of the French Review Committee (Recommendations 5 to 11) dated April 12, 2016 be received.

The motion carried.

Appointment of Five Trustees for the Everyday Hero Selection Committee

Trustee Bailey requested volunteers for the Everyday Hero Selection Committee. Trustees Lustgarten Evoy, Fairbairn, MacNeil, White, and Schieck volunteered.

Trustee Topping moved that Trustees Lustgarten Evoy, Fairbairn, MacNeil, White and Schieck be appointed to the Everyday Hero Selection Committee.

The motion carried.

Appointment of Three Trustees to the School Naming Committee for Couling Cres. PS

Trustee Bailey requested volunteers for the School Naming Committee for Couling Cres. PS. Trustees Busuttil, Moziar and MacNeil volunteered.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that Trustees Busuttil, Moziar, and MacNeil be appointed to the School Naming Committee for Couling Cres. PS.

The motion carried.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held April 13, 2016 be received and considered, with an amendment to the Mental Health conference item to remove the word Windsor and replace it with Toronto.

The motion carried.

Policy Management Committee

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee meeting held April 5, 2016 be received and considered.

Trustee MacNeil moved that

1. Policy 215 Public Concerns be received and released for public consultation.
2. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 215 Public Concerns dated April 7, 2016 be received.
3. The report Policy Public Consultation Plan for 215 Public Concerns dated April 7, 2016 be approved.

The motion carried.

Resignations and Retirements – nil report

Board Correspondence – nil report

Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustee Busuttill raised a concern about communication protocol for Trustees and whether or not emails received should be included in the Board packages as Board correspondence. In response, Trustee Lustgarten Evoy advised that a communications committee was in the development stage and that item could be referred and considered by the committee.

Trustee Moziar requested that, after attending a conference, Trustees provide an update to other Trustees at an upcoming Board or standing committee meeting. It was suggested and agreed that this item be referred to the communications committee to determine optional or mandated reporting, and that the issue be brought back to Board.

Trustee Moziar moved that the protocol for updates on conferences attended be referred to the communications committee, with a report back to Board.

The motion carried.

Trustee White shared her excitement after attending many events which included the Empowerment day in Fergus, the Aboriginal celebration at Westside SS, the EESP Gala, the librarian learning commons bus tour, and the Dufferin Arts Festival. She was honoured, excited and inspired to have attended such wonderful events, and encouraged others to attend.

Trustee Schieck expressed thanks to Mr. Speers for the success of the Empowerment day at Wellington Heights SS. He shared a student's excitement who had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to play guitar with Chris Hadfield.

Trustee Moziar expressed thanks for the organization and co-ordination of the Brain Tumour fundraiser at John F. Ross CVI and appreciated the opportunity to attend.

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy advised that she, together with Trustee Bailey and Communications Officer Loney, were in the process of developing a communication committee. As a pilot project, she advised that they will compile good news items from all high schools each month to be aired on the radio.

Trustee Busuttill highlighted the Skills Competition she attended this month and advised of an upcoming Provincial competition May 2nd to 4th, 2016 at RIM park. She advised that College Heights SS will hold their annual plant and handcraft sale on Thursday May 5th, 2016 to Saturday, May 7th, 2016.

The motion carried.

Dates of Future Meetings

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

Program Committee	May 3, 2016
Business Operations	May 10, 2016
Board Meeting	May 24, 2016

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 Moziar 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 Cooper that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 8:22 p.m.

The motion carried.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.