

Upper Grand District School Board

Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held virtually and in person on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:07 p.m. All Trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Bailey. Student Trustees Kim Tran and Taran Fournier were also in attendance.

Traditional Greeting – Student Trustee Taran Fournier

Opening Prayer / Reading – Trustee Kim Tran

Student Trustee Kim Tran read a poem by Morgan Harper Nicholls, entitled “When Everything is Changing All at Once”, with a message to promote positivity and optimism and that troubling times are temporary.

Condolences

Trustee MacNeil, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: Lisa Doering, Principal at Ponsonby PS, on the loss of her father-in-law; the family of Jan Klausen, retired Office Co-Ordinator at Mono-Amaranth PS; and the family of Alain Marceau, Custodian at the Guelph Board Office.

Good News

Director of Education Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

Terry Fox Foundation

Schools in the Upper Grand DSB should be very proud of the efforts that they made this year and in previous years to raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation.

Even in a year of uncertainty, Upper Grand schools showed resilience and found creative and safe ways for students and staff to participate in the annual Terry Fox School Run. In 2020, the Upper Grand DSB raised more than \$35,000 for the Terry Fox Foundation. The Elementary Remote School placed 14th in Ontario for Terry Fox school donations. This year, the Board reached a new fundraising milestone for the Terry Fox Foundation. Since the start of yearly Terry Fox school runs, the Upper Grand DSB has raised two million dollars for the Terry Fox Foundation. Great job Upper Grand!

Secondary Remote School

The Secondary Remote School hosted a successful Virtual Book Club Earlier this year, and started and ran a very successful White Pine Book Club. This club was held virtually and had 10 meetings between January and April. The one-hour sessions of the book club saw more than 100 staff and students from across the Board participate each week. The club offered students and staff prizes, makerspace activities and special guest readers. Great job Secondary Remote School in engaging readers.

Guelph Lake PS

Students at Guelph Lake PS collected non-perishable food items for donation to the local food bank. In the fall, the school donated 432 kgs of food to the food bank, which inspired students to want to donate even more during their spring food drive. On March 31st, staff members safely collected food items at the school before students entered the building. After all donations were in, students were thrilled to hear that they collected 620 kgs of food during the spring food drive. Great job Guelph Lake PS!

Aberfoyle PS

Grades 6, 7 and 8 students in Jamie Skeoch's class at Aberfoyle PS have been working hard on a kindness project this year. As a way of looking at this year differently, Skeoch wanted to give students the opportunity to give back through kindness. The class focused on learning about planned acts of kindness. As planned acts of kindness, some groups donated to the Canadian Cancer Society, The Bench, Wyndham House Guelph, the Guelph Food Bank, the Children's Hospital in Hamilton, Women in Crisis Guelph and the Guelph Humane Society. To get donations, student groups safely ran intramural events, within class cohorts, and hosted spirit days or created kindness slips for donations. Great job Aberfoyle PS!

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Foley moved, seconded by Trustee Ross, 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 Board Meeting Held March 23, 2021, and the Special Board Meeting Held April 15, 2021.

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved, seconded by Trustee Foley, that the minutes of the meeting held March 23, 2021, and the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, as well as the minutes of the Special Board meeting held April 15, 2021 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

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

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Busutil, 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 Ross, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

Delegation

Nasra and Moon were in attendance to delegate the Board regarding Police Presence in Schools. They requested that the Board remove the School Resource Officer Program, and replace the resources and program with community agencies. Trustees expressed thanks for the Delegation, as well as their passion, care, and respect.

Trustee MacNeil advised that the Police Presence in Schools issue would be addressed later this evening, and welcomed Nasra and Moon to continue to attend the meeting through live stream.

Program Committee

Trustee Topping moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held April 6, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Topping 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 Data and Evidence-UGDSB presentation dated April 6, 2021 be received.
4. The verbal OPSBA update be received.
5. The verbal report on the Retirement of Superintendent of Education Slater be received.

The motion carried.

Superintendents Selection Committee

At the In Camera session earlier this evening, Trustees agreed to appoint two Trustees to the Superintendents Selection Committee.

Trustees Lustgarten Evoy, Topping, Busutil, and Ross volunteered.

Voting took place by secret ballot, on a virtual form, with Director of Education Rogers and Superintendent of Finance Regier as scrutineers.

Trustees Lustgarten Evoy and Topping were the successful candidates to sit on the Superintendents Selection Committee.

Trustee Topping moved that Trustees Lustgarten Evoy and Topping sit on the Superintendents Selection Committee.

The motion carried.

Business Operations Committee

Trustee Campbell moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held April 20, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Campbell moved that:

1. The minutes of the Trustee Climate Emergency Committee (TCEC) held March 16, 2021 be received and considered.
2. The report entitled "School Year Calendar 2021-2022" dated April 20, 2021 be received.
3. The proposed school calendars for the 2021-2022 school year for the Upper Grand District School Board's elementary and secondary schools, as outlined in Appendix B and C respectively, be approved.

4. Memo PLN: 21-09 “Ministry of Education Request for Capital Priorities 2021” dated April 20, 2021 be approved.
5. Staff be directed to submit a Capital Priorities Program business case for the following project: Priority: New 308 pupil-place elementary school in the Township of Centre Wellington.
6. The report Preliminary Elementary Teacher Staffing for 2021-2022 School Year dated April 20, 2021 be received.
7. Based on the projected Elementary FTE of 23,917 and system needs, a preliminary allocation of Elementary teaching staff for the 2021-2022 school year be set at 1392.7 FTE teachers.
8. The report Preliminary Secondary School Teacher Staffing for 2021-2022 School Year dated April 20, 2021 be received.
9. Based on system needs and the projected Secondary ADE of 10,796 (includes projected international students), a preliminary allocation of Secondary Teaching staff for the 2021-2022 school year be set at 728.83 FTE teachers.
10. That the report entitled “Retirement and Resignations” dated April 20, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

Chairs’ Committee Meetings

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy took the Chair for consideration of this item

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Chairs’ Committee meeting held March 24, 2021, and April 7, 2021, be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil returned to the Chair.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Edwards moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held April 21, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy took the Chair for consideration of the next item.

Policy Management Committee

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee meeting held April 6, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttil requested that item # 2 be considered separately.

Trustee MacNeil moved that

1. Policy 512 HIV/AIDS be rescinded.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttil suggested wording to implement and review the Director of Education Performance Appraisal procedure on an annual basis, as part of the Director of Education's performance appraisal process, as well as a review of the Director of Education's Performance Appraisal Policy.

In response to Trustee Busuttil's questions, Trustee MacNeil noted that it was hoped that the procedures manual would be completed for presentation to the Board by the end of the school year, and that she would bring forward Trustee Busuttil's suggestions to the committee.

Trustee MacNeil moved that Policy 113 Director of Education Performance Appraisal Policy be approved.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil returned to the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Police Presence in Schools Task Force

Deferred Motion from March 23, 2021 Board Meeting

Trustee Busuttil advised that she had placed the motion of deferral at the previous Board meeting. She noted that she received emails to encourage the Board to support the motions. Her purpose of deferral was not to indicate or suggest that the Board was not in favour of these motions, but to have space and time for consideration.

Superintendent of Education Van Ooteghem noted that, future considerations will be for the culture of restorative alternative practices, school level support and leadership, the rebuilding of community partnerships, and to build capacity in community and the school system. Trustees expressed sincere thanks to all the members of the Police Presence

in Schools Task Force for the hard work done in addressing both community and school concerns.

Trustee Busuttil moved that:

1. The UGDSB and police services continue to deliver all foot safety patrol training (including street, driveway, and parking lot patrols) and bus patrol training.
2. As per the Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Community Protocol, the presence of police at all UGDSB schools continue when a Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) is activated.
3. All police presentations be vetted using the Presentations in Schools Guidelines (updated in 2019) developed by the Student Support and Program Services department of the UGDSB.
4. All students and parents be notified in advance of all police presentations at school.
5. Staff collect feedback from students and staff on all police classroom/school presentations.
6. The School Resource Officer program in the UGDSB be discontinued.
7. Administrators collect data on all incidents that police respond to at UGDSB schools.

Trustee Busuttil requested a recorded vote.

Yeah: Trustees Bedi, Busuttil, Campbell, Edwards, Foley, Lustgarten Evoy, MacNeil, Ross, and Topping

Nay: nil

Absent: Trustee Bailey

The motion carried.

COVID 19 Update

Superintendent of Education Slater reported that there were seventeen cases of COVID-19 that involved individuals who were not infectious while in the school building, and therefore contact tracing was not required, as the risk was deemed to be no greater than the risk to the general public. The Board had five outbreaks declared during this time period. An outbreak in a school is defined as two or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in students and/or staff (or other visitors) in a school with an epidemiological link, within a 14-day period, where at least one case could have reasonably acquired their infection in the school. The targeted testing program indicated 608 completed tests,

done in 20 schools, and only 2 positive cases resulted. Enrolment numbers as of March and April were also included in the report. Elementary and secondary remote school data was also included.

Trustee Campbell moved that the monthly COVID-19 Update dated April 27, 2021 be received

The motion carried.

Board Correspondence

Trustee Edwards moved that the Board Correspondence dated April 27, 2021, be received.

The motion carried.

OPSBA Update

Trustee Busutil provided an overview from the OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting of April 24, 2021. Topics included supporting the health and well-being of Ontario students during the COVID19 pandemic, remote learning, education funding, and that June 12, 2021 was set for the Annual General Meeting. Trustee Busutil also reported that the FSL Labour Market Partnership Project was complete and the executive summary and final report will be released soon.

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the OPSBA verbal update dated April 27, 2021, be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustee Campbell reported that Superintendent of Education Heaslip was a truly heroic, loving and kind person. Through a very difficult time in her life, Trustee Campbell was supported with kindness, love, compassion, transportation to the hospital, snacks and more, by Superintendent Heaslip and her husband Gary. Trustee Campbell expressed sincere thanks and appreciation for a truly wonderful hero.

In response to a question raised by Trustee Foley, Superintendent of Education Slater reported that the nutrition programs for students continued during the pandemic with fresh food delivered to homes and gift cards provided to families in need.

Dates of Future Meetings

Trustee Topping moved that the May 2021 schedule for Board and Standing Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

Program Meeting May 04, 2021

Board Meeting, April 27, 2021

Business Operations	May 11, 2021
Board Meeting	May 25, 2021

The motion carried.

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

Wednesday, April 28, 2021	SAL, Orangeville, cancelled
Tuesday, May 11, 2021	Audit Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m., virtual
Thursday, May 13, 2021	Environmental Education Management Committee, cancelled
Tuesday, May 18, 2021	Trustee Climate Emergency Committee, 7:30 p.m. virtual

Trustee MacNeil reminded that the Everyday Hero awards ceremony was scheduled for Monday May 10, 2021 and would be held virtually.

Trustee Topping moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated April 27, 2021 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 Foley moved, seconded by Trustee Edwards that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried.

Adjournment

Trustee Ross moved, seconded by Trustee Bedi that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 8:38 p.m.

The motion carried.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.