

Upper Grand District School Board

Program Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

The Program Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, virtually and in the Board Room commencing at 7:01 p.m.

The Chairperson Trustee Topping presided, and the following Trustees were present: Bailey, Campbell, Edwards, Foley, Lustgarten Evoy, MacNeil, and Ross, together with student Trustees Kim Tran and Taran Fournier. Also in attendance were Director of Education Rogers, Mental Health and Addiction Lead Jenny Marino, Equity and Inclusion Lead Jessica Rowden, Eric Campbell from Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, Principal of Program Jonathan Walker, Student Success Lead Zen, and Superintendents Heaslip, Lindsay, McDonald, Regier, Van Ooteghem, and Acting Superintendent Hamilton.

Agenda

Trustee Campbell moved that the agenda be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Bailey moved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 6, 2021 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

Report from Student Trustee, Kim Tran

Student Trustee Tran provided the verbal update. At their April 27th meeting, the student senate received an interactive presentation with Mental Health and Addiction Lead Jenny Marino. They celebrated World Heritage Day on Sunday April 18th with Acting

Superintendent Pat Hamilton. Paul Fry shared information about CELP with them recognizing Earth Day in April. The student trustees provided an update from the April 22 OPSOA conference. It was reported that Jack Gillies has been a huge help recording the meeting minutes and assisting with the report to Board. Students in grades 9, 10 and 11 are encouraged to student senate so graduating students do not reduce the group severely. New senators are invited to the May meeting, where Indigenous Lead Colinda Clyne, is scheduled to do a presentation. At the June meeting, Sarah Gillies, a recent Orangeville DSS graduate and an accomplished para-athlete, will present to the student senators. Trustees expressed thanks for the report.

Recommendation # 1

Trustee MacNeil moved that the verbal update from Student Trustees be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

Mental Health Update

Mental Health and Addiction Lead Jenny Marino thanked those involved in sending out messages for Mental Health Week, happening currently. She showed a video compilation of the Kid to Kid: COVID-19 Lessons submissions including a poem about perseverance presented with graphics submitted by students sharing their experiences with COVID-19 restrictions. There were 87 submissions and higher number of students due to teams. Mrs. Marino provided an update of recent events. The April 28 webinar with Dr. Michael Ungar, on the topic of Hope in Times of Uncertainty: Raising Resilient Children was a great collaboration and a wonderful discussion with the Parent Involvement Committee. There has been great participation in the Wellness Works Youth Conferences that are aligned with the Umbrella themes. Regarding Mental Health and Education Week May 3-7th - Learning, Wellness & Community will be celebrated and communications are being shared on social media. The logo was designed by an intermediate student from Kortright Hills Public School. This year, the required child abuse prevention presentations are being delivered virtually.

Trustees expressed thanks for the presentation and commented that the video was very moving and although it started angry, it ended hopeful.

Recommendation # 2

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the verbal update on Mental Health be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

WHY Survey

Superintendent Cheryl Van Ooteghem introduced the WHY (Well-Being and Health of Youth) Survey. This started as two separate surveys: Upper Grand District School Board Climate Survey, and the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Youth Survey. The WHY Survey is a combined single survey of the two which incorporated diversity survey questions as well. It was first introduced in 2019 but was delayed by sanctions and then COVID-19. WDGPH developed an easy to use dashboard for administrators to use. The dashboard is: interactive, has detailed data points, shows school, board and regional data. The data and interpretation were presented by Mental Health and Addiction Lead Jenny Marino, Equity and Inclusion Lead Jessica Rowden along with Eric Campbell, a Health Analytics Specialist from Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health. The information from the data collected will help each school identify their focus and next steps based on their data trends.

Recommendation #3

Trustee MacNeil moved that the WHY Survey presentation dated May 4, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

Environmental Programs and Eco Portables

Superintendent Zen introduced the session that was prepared in response to Trustee Bailey's request for an overview of the Environmental Program and the Eco Packs (Eco Portables). Principal of Program, Jonathan Walker with Secondary Curriculum Leader - Experiential Learning, Tracy Hunter, Elementary Curriculum Leader, Heather Walker and Secondary Curriculum Leader, Glen McMillan collectively presented the report entitled Environmental Programs, Eco Portables and UGDSB Environmental Education, dated May 2021. The presentation provided a thorough look at the five elementary eco

packs, the environmentally friendly features of each and the curriculum linked activities. Features of the eco packs include straw bale insulation, rainwater cisterns, corn or wood pellet biomass boiler, solar hot water collector. The secondary experiential learning programs; CELP at Centennial CVI, Norwell DSS, Wellington Heights SS, Da Vinci at John F. Ross CVI and Headwaters at Centennial CVI, were described. The Upper Grand District School Board Environmental Sustainability Action Plan four quadrants of Learning and Teaching, Staff and Student Engagement, Environmental Leadership, and Community Connections and Partnerships were described with highlights in both elementary and secondary panels and updated with current goals. The Eco School program has adapted during the pandemic, and is allowing a participant designation. Trustee Bailey expressed thanks for the report, appreciated seeing the overview and were heartened to see the success of the board. The presenters were described as proud and passionate and that they exemplify excellence in environmental education. Further, Trustee Bailey raised a question regarding how the trustees support and keep up positive, passionate momentum in response to the climate change emergency. Superintendent Zen expressed appreciation and recognized the trustee involvement in the Environmental Education Management Committee (EEMC). Trustee Edwards gave thanks and shared that she learned a lot. It was clarified that students from other secondary schools are eligible for the Experiential Learning Programs but transportation is not provided. Trustee Lustgarten Evoy shared thoughts regarding future activities of outdoor learning and online environmental curriculum ideas.

Recommendation #4

Trustee Bailey moved that the Environmental Programs and ECO Portables presentation dated May 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

OPSBA Report

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy shared Trustee Busuttill's OPSBA Report with a reminder of the AGM on June 12, and May 24 deadline for the Student Trustee Leadership submission, and encouragement to attend the speaker series.

Recommendation # 5

Trustee Edwards moved that the verbal OPSBA update be received.

The motion carried.

Other Business- nil report

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that this committee move In Camera.

The motion carried.

In Camera

Adjournment

Trustee Foley moved that this Committee adjourn at 9:44 p.m. to report to the Board.

The motion carried.

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