

Upper Grand District School Board
Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 22, 2021
Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Grand District School Board was held virtually and in person on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, in the Board Room at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m. All Trustees were present. Student Trustees Kim Tran and Taran Fournier were also in attendance.

Traditional Greeting – Trustee Foley

Opening Prayer / Reading – Trustee Edwards

Trustee Edwards shared a reading about looking at the whole world as a garden, and sharing peace, kindness and understanding.

Condolences

Trustee MacNeil, Chair, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to the following: The family of Jason Parks, custodian at Paisley Road PS; Emma Reay, IT Support Teacher for the Elementary and Secondary Remote Schools, on the loss of her father; Chad Reay, Principal at Gateway Drive PS, on the loss of his father-in-law.

Good News

Director of Education Rogers highlighted the Good News as follows:

Montgomery Village PS Student Won National Writing Contest

Grade 6 student Kara from Montgomery Village PS recently won the “Meaning of Home” National Writing Contest.

The Meaning of Home contest allows for students in grades 4 to 6, from across Canada, to submit a poem or essay that explains what home means to them. The winner in each grade category gets to direct \$30,000 toward a local Habitat for Humanity project.

Kara submitted her poem ‘*What Home Means to Me*’ to the contest and was announced as the grand prize winner in the grade 6 category. Her grant will go to a Habitat for Humanity Halton-Mississauga-Dufferin project. Congratulations Kara!

Guelph CVI Students Competed in a Virtual Brain Bee Competition

Two students from Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute recently competed in the regional virtual Brain Bee.

The Brain Bee is a competition for students in grades 9 to 12. During the competition, students are tested on their knowledge about the brain and about neuroscience research. The competition is designed to stimulate interest and excitement in brain research.

During the regional competition, Guelph CVI students Leo and Sanya placed first and second, respectively. Leo was able to advance to the National competition because of his first-place ranking. At the virtual National competition, Leo placed second overall among students in Canada. Congratulations Leo and Sanya.

Eramosa PS Teacher Won Associate Teacher Award

Allison Semanyk, a teacher at Eramosa PS, was recently named the winner of the Schulich School Education Associate Teacher Award from Nipissing University.

This award recognizes an associate teacher who went above and beyond to help their teacher candidate thrive. Some of the criteria for the award application included consistent feedback and check-ins with the teacher candidate, positive reinforcement and feedback, providing resources and spending additional time assisting their candidate.

Allison was nominated for this award by teacher candidate Jocelyn Dunsmoor. Dunsmoor said that the inspiration behind nominating Allison for this award was simply that watching Allison teach was the reassurance that she needed to know she had picked the right career. Congratulations Allison for winning this award.

Jean Little PS Won Safety Patroller Award

The Jean Little PS street and bus patrollers have recently won the Patroller Team of the Year award from the Guelph Police Service.

Earlier this month, Officer Sherry Pettapiece presented the patroller team with the award. During the presentation, Pettapiece shared how the Jean Little patrollers have demonstrated the criteria for what makes a great patroller team.

Each day this team worked together to ensure that parents/guardians and students were safe as they crossed the street and while riding the bus.

Great job Jean Little safety patrollers!

Centennial CVI Student Took on Leadership Role in School GSA group

Due to the nature of the school year, a lot of school clubs could not meet regularly like they would in previous years.

After the Centennial Collegiate Vocational Institute's Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) group took a pause, group member Viktoria approached the group's teacher-advisor about reviving the school's GSA classroom online.

According to teacher-advisor Jennifer Manzo, Viktoria has taken on a leadership role with the group and has created posts and activities over the last few months to help further engage the group.

One of the ideas that Viktoria came up with was to create a series of animation videos to help celebrate Pride Month, since the group cannot celebrate this year in person. Viktoria asked the group for suggestions of movies, books and songs to use in the videos and then worked hard over the last few weeks to put the videos together.

In June, the Centennial CVI GSA classroom shared one video each day to help celebrate Pride Month. Each video has a different focus to recognize figures in the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and that support 2SLGBTQIA+ focused arts.

Some of Viktoria's work can be viewed on the board website.

Great job, Viktoria for your leadership on this project!

More UGDSB Students Won the Prestigious Schulich Scholarship

Two more students have won the Schulich Leader Scholarship (a reminder that we were happy to announce a third student's scholarship news at the May Board meeting).

The Schulich Leader Scholarship is awarded to 100 students across Canada each year by partner universities. Each student is awarded funds to pursue an undergraduate degree in the field of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

This scholarship gives Canadian students \$80,000-\$100,000 to use toward their post-secondary studies.

Louise is a graduating student from Centre Wellington DHS and will be using the scholarship at Queens University.

According to Louise's teacher, Tim King, "I've always been impressed with Louise's breadth and development of technological skill, but the biggest thrill for me this year was seeing Louise assume a leadership role on her CyberTitan team and then again in co-op and now in software engineering."

When reflecting on this exciting scholarship opportunity, Louise said, “I am so incredibly honoured and grateful to have received this scholarship. When I applied, I never expected I would be chosen as a recipient. This is genuinely life changing.”

Daniel is a graduating student from Norwell DSS. He was offered this scholarship to use at Western University where he will enter the Engineering program.

According to Daniel’s teacher, Marla Spencer, “Dan is an exceptional young man. He is generous and kind to everyone, and approaches life with curiosity, determination and grace. His keen wit and ‘joie de vivre’ attract positivity and create excellence.”

Congratulations Louise and Daniel on this incredible scholarship opportunity.

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy shared the following good news, which was submitted by Director Martha Rogers:

Director of Education Martha Rogers was the recipient of Fred L. Bartlett Memorial Award

I am honoured to say that I have been named the recipient of the Fred L. Bartlett Memorial Award.

The award is presented annually by the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA) and honours “an active or retired member of the teaching profession for outstanding contribution to education in Ontario.” The award has been presented annually since 1970.

When announcing the award, OPSBA President Cathy Abraham said, “We have long had a great working relationship with Dr. Rogers at the OPSBA Board of Directors table as the liaison for the Public Council of Ontario Directors of Education (PCODE). She continued, “Dr. Rogers is one-of-a-kind, and her more than 25 years as Director of Education at the UGDSB are truly impressive. Her deep understanding of the public education system and sustained commitment to honesty and integrity have always been clear, and we will greatly miss her voice when she retires later this year. I can’t think of a more fitting recipient for the Fred L. Bartlett Award.”

I was nominated by Trustee Linda Busuttil, with unanimous support from the Board of Trustees. Thank you Trustee Busuttil for your consideration in nominating me for this award and thank you to the Trustees for your support.

Confirmation of the Agenda

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved, seconded by Trustee Foley, 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 May 25, 2021, and the Special Board Meeting Held June 8, 2021.

Trustee Topping moved, seconded by Trustee Campbell, that the minutes of the Board meeting held May 25, 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 June 8, 2021 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

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

Trustee Foley moved, seconded by Trustee Campbell, 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 Lustgarten Evoy, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

Delegation #1, Donna Haskett, Concerns about Supportive Housing Project with Respect to Willow Road PS, Willowdale Daycare, and Shelldale Family Gateway

Ms. Haskett virtually attended to inform the Board of the potential impact the supportive housing project posed to the safety and wellbeing of children. Ms. Haskett noted this area is a vulnerable community which is highly populated, marginalized, and underserved, and which may be more susceptible to criminal activities. Presently there are many incidents occurring in the area such as needles in the parks, drug use,

and overdoses. Ms. Haskett's goal is to work together with the Board in hope of supporting the community and keeping the children's mental health and wellness secure.

In gaining clarification from the questions asked by Trustees, the following points were confirmed: there was no community engagement or proper public consultation on planning orders, and the concern from the community is not the use but the close proximity of the building to a school.

Delegation #2, Jakki Jeffs, Issues of how Safe Injection Sites (SIS) have Affected other Communities

Ms. Jeffs virtually attended to share with the Board the dangers which may arise. Ms. Jeffs supports housing projects in Guelph but mentioned these facilities shouldn't be in areas where schools are because children will be traumatized from what they will be exposed to. Dangers include needle debris, broken drug pipes, Opioid deaths, crime, aggressive behaviour, increased police calls, and urination. Ms. Jeffs suggested the Board develop protocols to address any dangers which have been expressed and which may arise, affecting students attending the schools in close proximity.

Trustee Bailey asked for a copy of the statistics on SIS, specifically on police calls to the area and thanked Ms. Jeffs for a remarkable job. Trustee Bailey asked Ms. Jeffs if she is objecting to this kind of development or is it more the location in proximity to Willow Road. Ms. Jeffs answered the placement of the site is the priority for her.

Response to Delegations

Trustee Foley suggested after listening to these two members of the community, and the Board being part of that community, that the Board support them and their organization to draft a letter to the City of Guelph and the Province. Trustee Foley agreed the priority is the wellbeing of the students and staff and the need to protect all future generations of students.

Trustee Ross shared from her work experience, that this will be an ongoing disaster for students due to the easy access to the school grounds. Trustee Ross understands the need for the building and resources but there is no way to stop students from seeing overdoses without a barrier. Trustee Ross mentioned finding ways to keep the students on school property and not experience everything that will come out of the building.

Trustee Busuttill gave a heartfelt thanks to both Ms. Haskett and Ms. Jeffs for their courage to speak up for the community and their neighbourhood. Trustee Busuttill questioned who has power and control over this process and mentioned a long history

of planning in vulnerable neighbourhoods. Trustee Busutill proceeded to ask the planning department about safe injection sites and if there is a requirement to engage, consult, and respect the needs of schools, school boards, and children. Superintendent of Finance Regier confirmed that it is a separate application process, which is provincial, and it does include public consultation.

Trustee Bailey stated he is in favour of developments such as this one, as addiction is a disease that requires therapy support and resources. However, Trustee Bailey noted a grave concern around the location of this building and mentioned his responsibility is to make decisions which safeguard the staff and students. If the decision has already been made, he questioned what resources will be allocated by municipality or the developer to ensure the school grounds are protected and students kept safe.

Trustee Busutill acknowledged the Board does not have enough information and understanding of what the building is and the use of the building.

Trustee Campbell requested a report on the process that the city of Guelph has taken and all the necessary information as far as the location of the site.

Director of Education Rogers agreed the report will come to the Business Operations meeting in September.

Trustee Busutill moved that the Board direct planning staff to provide a report with an update on the zoning motion that was passed by Guelph City Council and information on the building use and the process for establishing safe injection and harm reduction sites.

The motion carried.

Secondary Principal/Vice-Principal Transfers and Appointments

Director of Education Rogers was pleased to announce that, in the In Camera session earlier this evening, the Selection Committee's decisions regarding Superintendent Appointments, were announced.

Acting Superintendent of Education Patrick Hamilton is being appointed Secondary Superintendent of Education effective July 1, 2021.

Matthew McCutcheon is being appointed Elementary Superintendent of Education effective September 1, 2021.

The Board also received Secondary Principal/Vice-Principal Transfers and Appointments as follows:

Principal Appointments

Name	From	To
April King	Vice Principal, Erin District HS	Acting Principal, Westside SS
Adam Rowden	Vice Principal, Centre Dufferin DHS	Principal, Centre Dufferin DHS

Vice Principal Appointments

Name	From	To
Stacey Anne Dunkley-Buckley	Teacher, Toronto DSB	Vice Principal, Centre Dufferin DHS
Ross Watson	Teacher, Erin District HS	Temporary Vice Principal, Erin District HS

Thanks to Student Trustees

Trustee MacNeil presented both Student Trustees Kim Tran and Taran Fournier with a gift of appreciation from the Board for all of their hard work and dedication in the past year, and for bringing student voice to the table and increasing awareness of Student Senate and Senators.

Program Committee

Trustee Topping moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held June 1, 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 year-end Progress Report of the Upper Grand DSB Three-Year Equity Plan be received, with thanks.
3. The verbal update on Mental Health be received, with thanks.

4. The Summer Programs and Supports presentation be received, with thanks.

The motion carried.

Business Operations Committee

Trustee Campbell moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held June 8, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Campbell moved that:

1. Memo PLN: 21-08 “2021 Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) Annual Review Report” dated June 8, 2021 be received.
2. The Board approves, in principle, the updated short-term work plan priorities described in Figure 1 in Appendix A of PLN: 21-08 “2021 Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) Annual Review Report”, with the understanding that work plan priorities may change as a result of future annual and 5-year LTAP review cycles.
3. The Communication Plan as described in memo PLN: 21-08 “2021 Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) Annual Review Report” be approved.
4. The Board direct staff to complete the Secondary program review prior to the completion of the new Guelph Secondary School Boundary review.
5. The report entitled, “PLN21-12 West Guelph Consolidated JK-8 FI Feasibility Study– Initiation Report”, dated June 8, 2021 be received.
6. The minutes of the Trustee Climate Emergency Committee (TCEC) held May 18, 2021 be received and considered.
7. The report entitled “2019/2020 Broader Public Sector Energy Reporting” (CP: 21:02), dated June 8, 2021, be received.
8. The verbal Health and Safety 2020-2021 summary provided June 8, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy took the Chair for consideration of this item

Chairs' Committee Meetings

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Chairs' Committee meeting held May 26, 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 June 9, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

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

Policy Management Committee

Trustee MacNeil advised that a couple of minor amendments were required to Policy 205 School Volunteers and Policy 503 Educational Field Trips and Off-Site Activities. Policy 205 School Volunteers and Policy 508 Educational Field Trips and Off-Site Activities; the header shows a consultation period ending on September 23, 2021, which needed to be amended to read October 14, 2021. Policies 205 and 508 consultation plans refer to a 120 day consultation period which needed be amended to 113 days. The amendments result in a minor delay and will be returning to Board in November rather than October, 2021.

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Policy Management Committee held June 1, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil moved that:

1. P09 Police-School Board Protocol be received.
2. Policy 419 Teacher Hiring Practices be approved.
3. Policy 508 Educational Field Trips and Off-Site Activities be received and released for public consultation.

4. Report "Policy Public Consultation Plan for 508 – Educational Field Trips and Off-Site Activities" dated June 01, 2021 be received, as amended.
5. Report "Policy Public Consultation Plan for 508 – Educational Field Trips and Off-Site Activities" dated June 01, 2021 be approved, as amended.
6. The Policy 205 – School Volunteers be received and released for public consultation.
7. The report "Policy Public Consultation Plan for 205 – School Volunteers" dated June 01, 2021 be received, as amended.
8. The report "Policy Public Consultation Plan for 205 – School Volunteers" dated June 01, 2021 be approved, as amended.

The motion carried.

Trustee MacNeil returned to the Chair.

Board as Budget

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that the minutes of Board as Budget Committee dated June 22, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried

Trustee Lustgarten Evoy moved that:

1. The Operating Budget for the period September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022 be approved in the amount of \$426,387,256 as provided for under Section 231 of the Education Act.
2. The proposed Capital Budget in the amount of \$48,255,205 be approved. This Capital Budget includes Debt Repayment and Interest, Amortization Expense, New School and Portables, School Renewal Projects, and School Condition Improvement.
3. The Board designate \$0 from Non-Classroom Operating Budget for the purpose of acquiring those school sites eligible to be funded through the Education Development Charges By-Law, as there are insufficient funds in Non-Classroom.
4. The Board approves the use of \$4,094,821 from Accumulated Surplus to balance the Operating Budget.

The motion carried

COVID 19 Update

Superintendent of Education Slater informed the Board of two new COVID 19 cases since May 17th. In both cases the individual was not infectious while at school therefore no other action needed to be taken. Superintendent Slater reported that the situation in Ontario is constantly evolving and the Upper Grand DSB continues to monitor the changing conditions and impact of COVID-19 restrictions and protocols. A monthly summary of key data, updates and changes in practice was provided to keep Trustees informed with regard to COVID-19 and the impact on school communities. The Ministry of Education released additional details on COVID-19 supplemental funding at the beginning of June. The final amount that Upper Grand DSB would receive would be determined after the submission of the 2021-22 financial statements which will be presented in November 2022.

Trustee Topping moved that the monthly COVID-19 Update dated June 22, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

UGDSB/WCDSB First Nations, Métis, Inuit Education Advisory Council

Trustee Topping moved that the minutes of the UGDSB/WCDSB First Nations, Métis, Inuit Education Advisory Council held June 7, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Topping took the Chair for consideration of the next item.

Safe, Equitable and Inclusive Schools Steering Committee

Trustee MacNeil moved that the minutes of the Safe, Equitable and Inclusive Schools Steering Committee dated June 9, 2021 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

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

Special Education Report and Plan

Superintendent of Program Lindsay presented the Special Education Report 2020-2021 which highlighted department goals to support students with special needs. The six goals outlined were:

1. System leaders continuing work to embed the Student-Centered Instructional Tool (SCIT) as the process by which the school/board staff inform, develop and monitor the success of interventions.
2. Collaborating with school and Board teams to promote purposeful pathway planning for students in all placements with intellectual disabilities.
3. Supporting teachers in specialized class placements to implement literacy and numeracy best practices.
4. Working with classroom and special education staff K-12 to develop their understanding and implementation of high leverage strategies to support students with complex needs.
5. Continuing to enhance the use and meaningful integration of Google Suite tools into classroom practices across both panels.
6. Moving to offer a training focus to develop school staffs' knowledge, development and implementation of Individual Education Plans (IEP) K-12. This work will also include building staff proficiency in the use of CLEVR which is an online student database that supports staff to access and share files in a secure location.

Each year the Ministry of Education provides a memo to school boards which includes a checklist, direction and timelines for boards regarding the submission of plans that describe Special Education Programs and Services. A Special Education Plan 2021-2022 was presented to the Board for approval.

Trustee Edwards moved that:

1. The Special Education Report 2020-2021 of the Upper Grand District School Board, dated June 22, 2021 be received.
2. The Special Education Plan 2021-2022 of the Upper Grand District School Board, dated June 22, 2021 be approved.

The motion carried.

Report of the Chief Executive Officer – 2020 (Director's Annual Report)

Director of Education Rogers proudly presented the Upper Grand DSB Annual Report 2020, which provided an overview of great achievements and accomplishments that occurred in the Board in the preceding year. The report featured; messages from the

Director and Board Chair, Trustee information, Upper Grand DSB facts, initiatives and information, and memorable moments in the 2019-2020 school year.

Trustee Campbell moved that:

The Report of the Chief Executive Officer - 2020 dated June 22, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

Summer Meeting Schedule

Trustee Edwards moved that:

1. At the conclusion of the Board meeting on June 22, 2021, the Board adjourn its regular meetings until Tuesday, August 31, 2021.
2. The Standing Committees adjourn for the summer period and resume as scheduled in September 2021.
3. For the period July and August 2021, the Negotiations Steering Committee be empowered to deal with matters concerning negotiations and grievances, on the understanding that, if it is warranted, in the opinion of the Chair or Vice-Chair, a Special Board meeting will be held.
4. For the period July and August 2021, the Chairs' Committee be empowered to deal with matters, as required, if a quorum (either in person or using "audio only" teleconferencing, or live streaming) is not available to participate in a Special Board Meeting.
5. The Director of Education, in consultation with the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board, be authorized to deal with Municipal By-laws, zone-changes and subdivision plans that may be submitted to the Board during the months of July and August 2021.

The motion carried.

Staff Retirements and Resignations

Senior Manager of Human Resources Rose presented the Staff Retirements and Resignations report dated June 22, 2021.

Trustee Foley moved that the Staff Retirements and Resignations report dated June 22, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

OPSBA Report

Trustee Busuttill shared a verbal OPSBA report. The report was a quick overview of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) that was held on Saturday, June 12th. The Executive will remain in office as their term was adjusted to two years. Executive elections will take place at the 2022 AGM.

At the AGM it was announced that Director Rogers was the recipient of the Fred L. Bartlett award that recognized the Director for her contributions to public education in Ontario. Director of Education Rogers will be presented with the award at the Public Education Symposium in January 2022.

Trustee Busuttill highlighted some strong advocacy resolutions that came to the AGM that were supported and passed.

1. Anti-Racism Research Funding: that OPSBA advocate to the Ministry of Education to fund Research Officers within the Grant for Student Needs (GSN) to assist school boards with their data collection and analysis;
2. Mandatory Black Heritage in Social Studies and History Curriculum: that OPSBA advocate to the Ministry of Education to mandate learning expectations that focus on the over 400-year Black presence in Canada and that curriculum be updated and new learning materials be created;
3. Funding for Indigenous Trustee Positions in School Boards: that OPSBA lobby the Ministry of Education to revise Reg 462/97, or provide an alternative mechanism, in order for boards to have a process to add an additional, funded, designated Indigenous Trustee.
4. Whereas the OPSBA acknowledges the seriousness of the climate "emergency" and its growing impact on the environment; Be it Resolved that the OPSBA will endeavor to promote practices and procedures toward reducing its environmental impact(s) for our students' future and will include the environment, amend its vision statement and update its Exemplary Practices on the OPSBA website.

Trustee Edwards moved that the OPSBA report dated June 22, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

Board Correspondence

Trustee MacNeil advised that correspondence was received from Sam Turton regarding vaccine and masking plans for schools in September.

Trustee Topping moved that the Board Correspondence dated June 22, 2021 be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Questions and Reports

Trustee Edwards commented on the many trees lost in the past to the Emerald ash borer and asked if there was anything being done to prevent the current loss of trees on school property to the Gypsy moth caterpillar infestation. Director Rogers received correspondence on this matter and noted it is a widespread infestation. Superintendent of Operations Zen stated they are investigating the matter and are currently reaching out to the City of Guelph in terms what is being done. Trustee Edwards shared photos of trees stripped hoping the infestation would cease the beginning of July. Trustee Edwards recommended putting a plan in place for next year so all the trees are not lost.

The motion carried.

Dates of Future Meetings

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

Board Meeting	August 31, 2021
Program Committee	No meeting
Business Operations	September 14, 2021
Board Meeting	September 28, 2021

The motion carried.

Trustee Foley moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated June 22, 2021 be received.

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 Campbell 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 Foley moved, seconded by Trustee Edwards that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 9:26 p.m.

The motion carried.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.