

UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MINUTES *

January 20, 2009

The Business Operations Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, in the Cafeteria at Orangeville District Secondary School, 22 Faulkner Street, Orangeville, Ontario commencing at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairperson, Trustee Waterston, presided, and the following Trustees were present: Bailey, Best, Borden, Busuttil, Edwards, Gohn, Schieck and Topping.

Present from the Administration were Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, together with Superintendents Benallick, Boswell, Euale, Evans, Fyfe, Kelly and Wright; J. Alder, Manager of Plant Operations; D.S. Cuomo, Manager of Planning; P. Scinocca, Manager of Capital and Renewal Projects; and J.M. Shanks, Chief Information Officer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Best moved that the Agenda be approved as printed with the deletion of the Delegation presentation by Mr. Andy Hughes, with the addition of a new Item 12 - Other Business in Open Session and a new Item 13 (a), (b) and (c) In Camera, and with originally numbered Items 12 to 17 inclusive being considered in camera.

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Topping moved that the Minutes of the Meeting of December 9, 2008 be approved as recorded.

The motion carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

Chair Waterston welcomed the Delegation presenters. The procedures related to a Delegation presentation had been previously outlined.

DELEGATIONS

French Immersion Review for Erin, Orangeville and Dufferin County

On behalf of the Dufferin County/Orangeville Parent Representatives and with regard to the East Wellington/Dufferin FI Program Review, Ms. Rhonda Nalli addressed the issue of Community Support and Interest, noting that the "parent community is in support of returning Dufferin children to Dufferin and growing a quality (FI) program close to home". Ms. Lori McNeill-Chong spoke about the benefits to the community and the belief of Dufferin families that "FI is the right education for their kids". Ms. Sonia McDonald concluded the presentation by expressing appreciation for the opportunity to be part of the process and requested Trustee consideration of the recommendations to "bring a new FI program to Orangeville that will grow and flourish to match the outstanding program at Brisbane PS".

At this evening's meeting, copies of a document with the heading, "French Immersion Parent Advisory Group, Chaired by Anna Spiteri" were provided. Representing that parent group (sitting on the FI Board Committee for Erin/Orangeville/Dufferin), Ms. Anna Spiteri identified three vital factors that need to be assessed as part of a recommended French Immersion program; its overall impact on Erin Public and Erin DHS, its long-range plans and its quality. In response to Trustee questions, Ms. Spiteri requested that whatever time was required, to further investigate the above-noted issues of concern, be taken.

Chair Waterston thanked the presenters and advised that a response would occur under Item 9 - Report of the Co-Chairs of the Immersion French Review Committee for Erin, Orangeville and Dufferin County.

RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS

This evening, copies of a report entitled "Resignations and Retirements" were distributed.

Recommendation #1:

- Trustee Schieck moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that:
- (a) the report entitled, "Resignations and Retirements" dated January 20, 2009 be received, and
 - (b) the Board approve the decisions of the Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, as outlined in the report entitled, "Resignations and Retirements" dated January 20, 2009 (Appendix A and B).

The motion carried.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Ms. B.L. Evans, Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, noted that Health and Safety Officer, Mr. Jim Bowie had advised that the two members from the Joint Health and Safety Committee had been seconded and were being trained to perform the daily school inspections, and that he was working with (a) Plant Operations to develop electrical safety procedures and training to address the new CSA standard which came into effect in December 2008, (b) the new Environmental Officer on various environmental issues, and (c) Outdoor Education Centre staff to develop Emergency Preparedness procedures specific to the Centre.

Recommendation #2:

Trustee Gohn moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the verbal report on Health and Safety, as presented by Ms. B.L. Evans, Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, be received as information.

The motion carried.

REPORT OF THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE IMMERSION FRENCH REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR ERIN, ORANGEVILLE AND DUFFERIN COUNTY

On behalf of Co-Chair Ms. Anna Spiteri, Mr. D.R. Walpole, Co-Chair, presented their document, "Report of the Co-Chairs of the Immersion French Review Committee for Erin, Orangeville and Dufferin County", for Trustees' consideration and approval. Using PowerPoint technology, information was presented under the headings of The Mandate, The Committee, Meeting Dates, Critical Areas of Interest, Guiding Principles, Assumptions, Values, Preferences, Concerns, and Options 1 and 2. Attention was focused on the data contained in the Appendices (B - Orangeville/Dufferin FI Projection - Support List Based Scenario, C - Draft Enrolment by Grade, Classroom Requirements and School, and B-1 - Erin PS 7/8 Impact Under Committee Proposal) and on the resulting Recommendations. Trustee Edwards provided rationale in support of his proposed referral motion.

Recommendation #3:

Trustee Borden moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the report entitled, "Report of the Co-Chairs of the Immersion French Review Committee for Erin, Orangeville and Dufferin County" dated December 15, 2008 be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Edwards moved that the "Report of the Co-Chairs of the Immersion French Review Committee for Erin, Orangeville and Dufferin County" dated December 15, 2008 be referred back to the Review Committee; further that the Committee do an indepth investigation of the effects on Erin Public School and, more specifically, on Erin District High School that would result from the French Immersion students moving to Orangeville.

The motion to refer,
having precedence,
was put first, and was lost.

Recommendation #4:

- Trustee Borden moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that :
- (a) the Board approve the implementation of a JK to grade 6 French Immersion Program in Orangeville to begin in September 2009 and that the program be expanded to include grade 7 in 2010 and grade 8 in 2011,
 - (b) the Planning Department identify a school, or if necessary, schools, where the program is to be located and report to Board no later than February 2009,
 - (c) the Program Department work with the principals of the schools or schools where the French Immersion program is to be located in order to provide the necessary resources for the program start-up,
 - (d) senior staff identify the costs of implementing these changes to the Immersion French program in Dufferin and East Wellington and prepare a budget for consideration in the annual budget process,
 - (e) senior staff continue to work with the Erin DHS, Centre Wellington DHS and Norwell DSS principals in order to supply quality programming and increase student retention in the French Immersion program,
 - (f) senior staff facilitate meetings of the principals of schools with grade 7/8 Immersion French programs to explore ways of strengthening the program at Erin Public School, and
 - (g) the French Immersion Review Committee continue to meet in 2009 to continue the discussion of implementing a new program and supporting existing programs for the benefit of all Immersion French students in East Wellington and Dufferin Counties.

The motion carried.

CENTRAL GUELPH (FI) ACCOMMODATION REVIEW PROGRESS REPORT AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In his introductory comments, Trustee Borden, Co-Chair of the Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review Committee, commented on the policies and procedures

of the review process. Ms. Deb Steplock, Co-Chair, reported on the ARC's progress to date, as outlined in the Background of the report, "Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review Progress Report and Guiding Principles" dated January 13, 2009. In conclusion, Trustee Borden noted the need for Trustees to reaffirm the Board's Guiding Principles, approved by Board motion of 2004 08 31, for the Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review and all current accommodation reviews. Discussion followed with regard to the Board's Guiding Principles, and which value takes precedence, who makes that determination and when, and how this information was communicated.

Recommendation #5:

- Trustee Borden moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that:
- (a) the report entitled, "Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review Progress Report and Guiding Principles" dated January 13, 2009 be received, and
 - (b) the Board reaffirm the report, dated and approved by the Board on August 31, 2004, entitled "Accommodation Review Criteria Public Workshops - Summary of Results and Recommendations, Report PLN: 04-57 as a basis for the current, ongoing accommodation reviews being undertaken by this Board.

The motion carried.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION - CONTRACTING PRACTICES

Further to information presented at the September 16, 2008 Meeting of this Committee, Ms. J.D. Wright, Superintendent of Finance, reported on the Request for Proposal (RFP) procedures established by the Ministry of Education, and related training sessions. It was noted that the Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation Services was one of three pilot consortia that would be undertaking the process.

Recommendation #6:

Trustee Schieck moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the report Student Transportation - Contracting Practices dated January 13, 2009 (FINANCE #2009-07) be received.

The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS**Centre Wellington Boundary Review - Report #2**

Trustee Borden presented, for the Committee's consideration, a recommendation

that would provide guidance to staff. In response to a request, by Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, and Mrs. L.C. Benallick, Superintendent of Education, for clarification and direction regarding the issue of parental consultation. Trustees debated the process, who should be consulted and when, and the manner in which information should be communicated. Mr. D.S. Cuomo, Manager of Planning, assisted in providing additional information and/or clarification, as required. Trustees Best, Borden, Gohn and Schieck volunteered to meet with staff to discuss addressing and resolving the concerns of the Centre Wellington community.

Recommendation #7:

Trustee Borden moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the Board direct the Senior Administration to bring to the February 24, 2009 Board Meeting, a report concerning the Accommodation of French Immersion students in the Centre Wellington area that:

- (a) responds to requests/delegations from the community, specifically "recommendation 4B" and the cost implications if implemented,
- (b) takes into account the costs and other implications of such things as - transportation and the impact on other ongoing and future reviews, and
- (c) the implication of remaining in a status quo accommodation, for the foreseeable future.

The motion carried.

IN CAMERA

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Topping moved that this Committee adjourn at 9:23 p.m. to report to the Board.

The motion carried.

/djn

factors.at the Grade 7/8 Immersion French programs be investigated further, taking as much time as required to develop an overall strategic plan for strengthening the related East Wellington program.