

UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

MINUTES

2009 06 02

The Program Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, June 2, 2009, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Bailey presided, and the following Trustees were present: Borden, Busuttill, Edwards, Gohn, Moziar, Schieck, Topping, and Waterston, along with Student Trustees Ciaschi and Redpath. Present from the Administration was Director of Education Dr. M.C. Rogers, Communications Officer Maggie McFadzen, along with Superintendents Benallick, Boswell, Evans, Fyfe, Kelly, and Wright.

AGENDA

Trustee Schieck moved that the Agenda be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Topping moved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, May 4, 2009 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

MATH GAINS SMARTBoard PROJECT

Curriculum Leader Paul Costa introduced the Math GAINS (Growing Accessible Interactive Networked Supports) Project. The project was intended to increase student confidence and competence in learning mathematics through the use of Interactive White Board (SMARTBoard) lessons. Based on curriculum expectations, students engaged in problem solving, communication, the use of technological tools and applications. Eight project teams of grades 7-10 teachers participated in modified lesson study and job-embedded professional learning. Feedback indicated greater student interaction and engagement. Growth in teacher collaboration and improved questioning strategies appealed to the various learning styles of students.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Superintendent of Program Boswell introduced the topic with a statement regarding community partnerships from the February 2009 Interest Survey circulated by Trustee Bailey. Collaborative Projects Lead Sandra Szpular shared that The Ministry of Education, Ministry of Children and Youth Services, and Ministry of Health are facilitating inter-ministerial collaboration in the release of publications, funding opportunities and special projects. These resources will help support the growing needs of student mental

health and learning needs. Ms. Szpular stressed that complex learning needs cannot be dealt with alone and that community partnerships are necessary in providing a broad variety of help at the school level.

Curriculum Leader Mike Anderson gave another example of how community partnerships can benefit our students. Through his work in environmental education, he provided a list of current initiatives where the board is already working with the community.

Trustee Borden suggested that a Trustee workshop should be provided, to discuss community partnerships, and address how to further explore and encourage involvement in partnering.

RECOMMENDATION #1

Trustee Moziar moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the presentation entitled, "Upper Grand District School Board Community Partnerships", dated June 2, 2009, be received.

The motion carried.

STUDENT SUCCESS INDICATOR DATA

Superintendent of Education Euale provided a PowerPoint presentation on a Ministry of Education Student Success Learning to 18 document entitled, "Board Indicator Data – Supplemental Board – Provincial Comparison Reports", dated May 20, 2009. The report includes contrasting provincial and Board data, by way of graphs and charts, pertaining to Grades 9 and 10 credit accumulation, and compulsory pass rates of applied and academic courses. EQAO Grade 9 Academic Mathematics and Grade 10 OSSLT Gap Analysis' were also presented. Statistics provided indicate the Upper Grand is continuing to show higher achievement than the province.

RECOMMENDATION #2

Trustee Schieck moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the presentation entitled, "Student Success Indicator Data", dated June 2, 2009, be received.

The motion carried.

OPSBA

Trustee Borden reminded those Trustees who will be attending the OPSBA AGM next week to review the update to Bill 177 - Student Achievement and School Board Governance Act before attending, since some discussion is expected.

RECOMMENDATION #3

Trustee Waterston moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the verbal OPSBA presentation be received.

The motion carried.

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Student Trustees Ciashi and Redpath reported on the OSTA-AECO AGM they attended in Toronto on May 29, 2009. Trustee Bailey noted that this would be the final Program Meeting for the Student Trustees, since their term has come to an end. He thanked the Students for their involvement, passion, and the impression they have made with staff and wished them well in their future endeavours.

RECOMMENDATION #4

Trustee Borden moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the verbal Student Trustee report be received.

The motion carried.

IN CAMERA

OTHER BUSINESS

Superintendent of Education Benallick provided an elementary staffing update. As of June 2, 2009, a decision to stop the recall process of laid-off elementary teachers was made. A meeting with ETFO President Ruth McLean will be held tomorrow to plan next steps.

RECOMMENDATION #5

Trustee Borden moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the verbal staffing report be received.

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Edwards moved that this Committee adjourn at 9:30 p.m. to report to the Board.

The motion carried.