

# **UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

2009 05 05

The Program Committee of Upper Grand District School Board met on Tuesday, May 5, 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, Moziar, 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 Borden moved that the Agenda be approved as printed, with the addition of 2 items under "Other Business".

The motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Waterston moved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009, be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

### **SECTION 23 EDUCATION PROGRAMS, GIVE YOURSELF CREDIT AND YOUTH OPTIONS UPDATE**

Special Education Consultant Jeni Vaughan provided an outline of Section 23 programs. Ms. Vaughan referred to the distributed handout entitled, "Update on Section 23 Education Programs" and highlighted new and existing programs, youth options, and next year's changes. A PowerPoint outline of the "Give Yourself Credit" program was given by teacher Roberta Kraven. The program assists students in completing credits towards their OSSD, and offers life and employment skills, community involvement, career exploration, money management and other personal responsibilities. A booklet entitled, "Suspension and Expulsion: What Parents Need to Know" was presented and highlighted by Ms. Vaughan. The Suspension and Expulsion process is utilized, within the Board, for grade 6-12 students. "Youth Options" teacher Beth Charles reviewed a typical day at the centre, which is located in Arthur. After consulting with the student, parents, and teachers, a student action plan is put into place, along with goal setting. Academic and non-academic components are equal in the success of the program. Graphs of monthly student enrolment and suspensions and expulsions by grade level and region were displayed.

**RECOMMENDATION #1**

Trustee Busuttill moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the presentation entitled, "Section 23 Education Programs, Give Yourself Credit and Youth Options Updates", be received.

The motion carried.

**UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONFIGURATION**

Further to a request, resulting from a French Immersion Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) meeting, Director of Education Dr. Martha Rogers compiled a report that addressed concerns around the review process. A Committee of Trustees and Senior staff members was struck to discuss the review process and Grade 7/8 programs, while considering input from the community. The Committee agreed that Upper Grand should provide clearer direction to the community on its direction in relation to elementary school configuration. The report includes a history of Board Motions for Elementary School Consolidations, Closures, New Schools and Renovations Leading to JK-8 Schools (Appendix "A"), Foundation Allocation (Appendix "B"), Board minutes and Recommendations (Appendix "C" and "D"), Determining Program Considerations (Appendix "E"), and Program Considerations (Appendix "F").

**RECOMMENDATION #2**

Trustee Moziar moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that;

- a) the report entitled, "Upper Grand District School Board Elementary School Configuration, MCR: 09-027", dated April 28, 2009, be received, and
- b) the Board confirm its commitment to developing programs in schools that are either JK-6 or JK-8, not 7/8 stand alone.

The motion carried.

**OPSBA REPORT**

Trustee Bailey provided the following details from the April OPSBA Board of Directors' meeting:

- the annual budget passed with a 3.27% increase
- the School Board Governance report was reviewed and recommendations have been made. The report can be found in the Trustee conference on FirstClass
- some time was spent discussing the School Information Finder website around demographics and socio/economic
- The Ontarians with Disabilities report continues to moving forward towards meeting compliance requirements by January 2010

- Central West played a key part in an exercise to determine new OPSBA priorities over the next year. Three priorities were achieved; 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning, Mental Health, and Community Partnerships
- The discussion paper entitled, "What If? Technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom" was released on April 29, 2009. Trustee Bailey will take part tomorrow in the CBC call-in show "Ontario Today".

### **RECOMMENDATION #3**

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

The motion carried.

### **REPORT FROM STUDENT TRUSTEES**

Trustees Ciaschi and Redpath discussed the Student Senate meeting held April 21, 2009, where 2 new Student Trustees were appointed. Representation, at meetings, from each Upper Grand secondary school continues to be encouraged. The 4 Trustees anticipate attending the upcoming OSTA-AECO conference, May 28 – 31, 2009.

### **RECOMMENDATION #4**

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

The motion carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Trustee Borden proposed that, in lieu of National Teachers' Day on Tuesday May 5, 2009, Upper Grand acknowledge "National Education Week".

### **RECOMMENDATION #5**

Trustee Borden moved that this Committee recommend to the Board that the Trustees of the Upper Grand District School Board, in celebration of National Educational Week, express their appreciation to:

- Our in-school staff - for the job that you do to keep our buildings clean and safe, our lines of communication open, developing and presenting dynamic lessons, providing strong leadership, and supporting those special students.
- The crossing guards and bus drivers - who safely shepherd our students to and from school each day. We know that they are safe in your hands.
- Our external support staff - who work behind the scenes to keep our schools and offices running smoothly, and our programs up to date and relevant.

- Please accept a big THANK YOU for your part in helping our students to be successful in their educational journeys.

The motion carried.

Trustee Borden attended the Ontario Technological Skills Competition held today at Rim Park, May 4 – 6, 2009.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Edwards moved that this Committee adjourn at 8:30 p.m. to report to the Board.

The motion carried.

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