

**UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

October 27, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:00 p.m.

The Chair, Trustee Borden, presided, and all members were present with the exception of Trustees Gohn and Topping.

**OPENING PRAYER OR READING**

Trustee Schieck delivered an inspirational reading "Somebody's Mother", author unknown.

**CONDOLENCE REPORT**

The Director reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to Sue Garcea, a cataloguer at the Terry James Resource Centre, on the loss of her mother-in-law; Sue Burke, a teacher at Edward Johnson School, on the loss of her father; Heather Chick, a teacher at Aberfoyle School, on the loss of her mother-in-law; John Gerwin, a teacher at GCVI and Heather Hoey, a teacher at Laurine Ave. PS on the loss of John's mother and Heather's mother-in-law.

**GOOD NEWS**

Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, highlighted "Good News" as follows:

**Dr. Eva Olsson's Presentation in Orangeville**

On October 7, 2009, students, parents and teachers from O.D.S.S., Hyland Heights, Centre Dufferin and Princess Margaret schools had the privilege to attend a free presentation by Dr. Eva Olsson, a Holocaust survivor and author, that was arranged by the U.G.D.S.B. and Westminster United Church. Many valuable lessons were learned during the presentation in which Dr. Olsson shed light on her struggle while living in a concentration camp. Dr. Olsson also spoke about the effect of bullying, the importance of bystanders and encouraged the students to remove the word "hate" from their vocabulary and actions. She informed the students that they cannot respect others until they respect themselves and stressed the importance of tolerance and to not give up.

Board Minutes...October 27, 2009Westwood Public School – The Power of a Penny

For the fourth year, the students of Westwood School raised funds for the “Knock off Your Socks for Terry Fox” campaign. Each year the students have been encouraged to bring in coins to fill a sock in their classroom as a way to raise money for the annual Terry Fox Run. The class with the sock that weighs the most at the end of two weeks wins the honour of leading the Terry Fox walk through the neighbourhood. A daily running total is kept and plotted on a graph in the school hallway. First place was earned by Mrs. McDermoot’s grade 3 class (300 lbs); second place was earned by the previous 3-year champs, Mrs. Woytco’s Grade 8 class (235 pounds); and, third place was earned by Mrs. Sproat’s Grade 5 class (210 pounds). Parents and staff are able to contribute paper money equivalent to \$1/pound raised. This year \$2,300.08 was raised, and is an amazing \$300 more than last year. Westwood School has been involved every year since 1996 and have donated a total of \$18,678.51 over the years.

Laurine Avenue P.S. 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Drive

Students at Laurine Avenue P.S. filled two large bins (330 pounds of food) to donate to the Guelph Food Bank as part of their 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Drive. Students who donated at least one food item participated in the Turkey Shoot. Each student took 10 basketball free throws and the top boy and top girl shooters won a pair of Guelph Storm tickets. Laurine Avenue P.S. has been sponsored by M&T Printing through the adopt a school program. Thanks were extended to Mr. Padovan for organizing the program and to all the students for helping others in our community.

Eramosa P.S.

The principal and two students from Eramosa P.S. attended an awards ceremony at the Grand River Conservation Authority to accept a \$500 grant. The purpose of the grant was to support a school-grounds naturalization project. The school added this money to some received as part of an Upper Grand District School Board “Green Up your School” grant last year. Working with a community partner, Nature’s Palette Landscaping, they have re-vitalized an outdoor classroom area in front of the school. The purpose was to create an attractive entrance to the school as well as a naturalized environment, where students will have opportunities to observe the natural world. The gardens now have fresh soil, the plants have been re-located and some additional ones planted. There are new birdhouses and butterfly feeding stations. Members of the school’s environmental club, the “Groovy Green Group” were involved in the planting and are creating clay toad homes to put in the garden. Grand Valley and Brant Avenue Public Schools also received this same grant.

Board Minutes...October 27, 2009Jean Little P.S.

A grade 4 class at Jean Little P.S. hand picked the lettuce used in the second course of the "A Taste of Our Future" dinner hosted by the University of Guelph Hospitality and Tourism Management program. The dinner featured all locally grown organic food. Most of the greens were harvested from the Guelph Centre for Urban Organic Farming as part of the school's Garden2Table program, an experiential learning initiative with Jean Little P.S. The grade 4 students have been interacting with the hospitality program and working in the garden this fall. A hospitality student guest lectured in the class earlier this fall. The fruits of their labour included "A Taste of Our Future" dinner and a Thanksgiving Dinner that they prepared for themselves.

AGENDA

Trustee Best moved, seconded by Trustee Bailey, that the agenda be confirmed as printed.

The motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Edwards, that the Minutes of the Board meeting held, September 29, 2009, the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, and the Special Meeting held October 13, 2009 be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS

Trustee Bailey moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar, that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole in camera be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried.

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**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Trustee Edwards moved, seconded by Trustee Best, that the Board rise and sit in Committee of the Whole, with the Chairperson presiding.

The motion carried.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Bailey moved that the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated October 6, 2009, be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Bailey moved the adoption of recommendations, as contained in the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated October 6, 2009.

The motion carried.

The recommendations adopted are as follows:

1. THAT the presentation entitled, "System Directions 2009-2010", dated October 6, 2009, be received.
2. THAT the presentation regarding YooMagazine - Health and Mental Health Literacy Program, be received.
3. THAT the Upper Grand DSB explore the feasibility of using YooMagazine - Health and Mental Health Literacy Program to the benefit of Upper Grand students and that a report be brought to the January, 2010 Program Committee Meeting.
4. THAT the verbal OPSBA presentation be received.
5. THAT the Board that the verbal Student Trustee report be received.

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BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Waterston moved that the Minutes of the Business Operations Committee, dated October 13, 2009, be received and considered.

The motion carried

Trustee Waterston moved adoption of recommendations as contained in the Minutes of the Business Operations Committee, dated October 13, 2009.

The motion carried.

The recommendations adopted were as follows:

1. THAT the verbal report regarding the acquisition of the Sound Amplification System presented by P. Scinocca, Manager of Capital and Renewal Projects be received and that appreciation be expressed to the Rotary Club of Guelph.
2. THAT the verbal report on Health and Safety as presented by Ms. J. R. Rose, Executive Officer of Human Resources, be received as information.
3. THAT the report "Human Resources Department – Three Year Plan," dated October 13, 2009 be received.
4. THAT the report, "Finance Department – Multi-Year Plan, dated October 13, 2009 (FINANCE #2009-36)," be received.
5. THAT the report, "Multi-Year Plan – Custodial Services," dated October 13, 2009 be received.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Busuttill moved that the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, dated October 14, 2009, be received and considered.

The motion carried.

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### RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Ms. J. R. Rose introduced and reviewed her report, "Resignations and Retirements," dated October 27, 2009, as distributed at the meeting.

Trustee Schieck moved that:

1. the report, "Resignations and Retirements," dated October 27, 2009 be received; and
2. the Board approves the Executive Officer of Human Resources' decisions as outlined in the report "Resignations and Retirements," dated October 27, 2009 (appendix A and B)

The motion carried.

### APPOINTMENT TO MACDONALD STEWART ART CENTRE BOARD

Trustee Borden provided the background regarding this issue. He explained that when this board was constituted almost three years ago, the three representatives were appointed to the MacDonald Stewart Art Centre Board for a two-year term. That term elapsed at the end of 2008. It is being recommended that the representatives be appointed until November 30, 2010 which will coincide with the end of the term of this Board. Policy will be amended at that time to changed the term to four years to bring it in line with the term of the Board.

Trustee Edwards moved that Leanne Piper, Paul Tribe and Karen Silverstone be appointed to the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre Board with their term ending November 30, 2010.

The motion carried.

### EAST GARAFRAXA P.S. ONE CLASSROOM ADDITION – BUILDING PROJECT REPORT

Mr. P. Scinocca, Manager of Capital and Renewal Projects introduced and reviewed his memo, "East Garafraxa Public School, One Classroom Addition – Primary Class Size, Building Project Report (CP:09-03), dated October 27, 2009. This project will provide the school with a purpose built kindergarten. The plans extend two existing classrooms and include a vestibule and fenced play area. Primary class size additions funding is available and the total cost will be \$441,072.56. It was explained that the project is still in the preliminary design stage and consideration will be given to incorporating energy efficiencies, noting challenges exist as the site does not have the capability for natural gas.

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Trustee Waterston moved that:

1. the report entitled "East Garafraxa Public School, One Classroom Addition – Primary Class size, Building Project Report (CP:09-03), dated October 27, 2009, be received.
2. the "East Garafraxa Public School, One Classroom Addition – Primary Class size, Building Project Report attached as Appendix A to report CP:09-03, dated October 27, 2009, be approved.
3. the architect be instructed to proceed to detailed design without a building committee or approval of the concept design.
4. staff be instructed to proceed with construction provided that the project budget does not exceed the target budget of \$441,072.56, as identified in Appendix A of Report CP:09-03, dated October 27, 2009.

The motion carried.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Borden presented a written report of correspondence received during the past month. In addition, a letter dated September 30, 2009 from the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education inviting nominations for the Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence was distributed at the meeting. Brochures and nomination forms are available through the Board Secretary. Chair Borden also reported that, as directed by the Business Operations Committee, letters of thanks have been sent on behalf of the Board for the donations received through the Rotary Club of Guelph for the purchase of REDCAT InfraRed Portable Sound Amplification equipment for Tytler School.

Ms. J.D. Wright, Superintendent of Finance, provided further information regarding Item 2, the letter received from the Ministry of Education regarding Access Copyright's retroactive photocopying tariff. She reported there was a litigation resulting from proposed substantial increase in rates and that OBSPA negotiated on behalf of the province and a rate was determined and judgment issued. The U.G.D.S.B. was assessed arrears totalling \$347,000. On October 16, 2009, the Ministry of Education informed the UGDSB that we will receive a grant of an equal amount.

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Trustee Bailey moved that the Board Correspondence Report dated October 27, 2009 be received.

The motion carried

## TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AND REPORTS

Trustee Edwards reported that Trustee Gohn has notified the Chair that he is unable to attend the October 27, 2009 and November 24, 2009 meetings of the Board for personal reasons and has asked that his absences be excused.

Trustee Edwards moved that Trustee David Gohn be excused from the Board meetings scheduled on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 and Tuesday, November 24, 2009 for personal reasons.

The motion carried.

Trustee Best passed on the best wishes received from former Superintendent, Dave Euale.

Trustee Busuttil reported on the Legion library event and Book Fair she attended on behalf of the Board on October 6, 2009.

Trustee Busuttil reported that she, Trustee Edwards and Superintendent Kelly participated in the final meeting for the Erin French Immersion group. In addition, along with Chair Borden, she attended the last meeting for the Orangeville group. The report is being drafted and will be brought forward to a future meeting of the Board. The principals and Superintendents were thanked for their contributions to a very positive process.

Trustee Busuttil reported that on October 22, 2009, she, along with Trustee Waterston and Director Rogers, attended the College Heights Graduation.

Trustee Moziar reported that she, along with Trustee Busuttil and Director Rogers, attended the Mayor's World Mental Health Fair and recognized the high level of work being undertaken by the U.G.D.S.B. in support of children with mental health issues.

Chair Borden noted a memo he had distributed to members of the Board regarding the new draft policy for reimbursement of Trustee expenses and the draft

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Reimbursement of Expenses Handbook for Trustees and Staff. All Trustees are invited to attend the Chairs' Committee meeting on November 10, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. where the documents will be discussed prior to presentation to and consideration by the Policy Management Committee.

## DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- Wednesday, October 28, 2009 - Secondary Principal Interviews, 8:45 a.m., Room 8
- Wednesday, October 28, 2009 - Official Opening of John McCrae P.S., 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 29, 2009 - Learning Foundation, 5:15 p.m.
- Thursday, October 29, 2009 - Central Guelph Accommodation Review Committee, 7:00 p.m., Victory P.S.
- Friday, October 30, 2009 - Secondary Vice Principal Interviews, 10:30 a.m., Room 8
- Saturday, October 31, 2009 - Parent Learning Fair, Fergus Sportsplex, 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Monday, November 2, 2009 - Elementary Principal Interviews, 12:30 p.m., Room 4
- Tuesday, November 3, 2009 - Policy Management Committee, 2:30 p.m., Boardroom
- Tuesday, November 3, 2009 - Trustee/Administration Workshop on Strategic Planning, 4:00 p.m., Boardroom
- Thursday, November 5, 2009 - Central Guelph Accommodation Review, Public Workshop #3, 7:00 p.m., College Heights Secondary School
- Monday, November 9, 2009 - Accessibility Meeting, ????
- Monday, November 9, 2009 - Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP), 1:30 p.m., Orangeville
- Tuesday, November 10, 2009 - Audit Committee, 4:00 p.m. – Room 8
- Tuesday, November 10, 2009 - Chair's Committee, 5:00 p.m. – Boardroom
- Wednesday, November 11, 2009 - Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), 7:00 p.m., Boardroom
- Sunday, November 15, 2009 - June Avenue School 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 17, 2009 - Open House re Closure/Sale of Harriston PS., 7:00 p.m. Minto-Clifford P.S.
- Wednesday, November 18, 2009 - Central Guelph Accommodation Review Committee, 7:00 p.m., Edward Johnson P.S.
- Wednesday, November 18, 2009 - Central Guelph Accommodation Review Committee, 7:00 p.m., Edward Johnson P.S.

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- Wednesday, November 25, 2009 - Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP), 9:30 a.m. – Room 4
- Wednesday, November 25, 2009 - Central Guelph Accommodation Review Committee, 7:00 p.m., Paisley Road P.S.
- Thursday, November 26, 2009 - Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP), 10:30 a.m., Wellington Heights

**“You Can’t Make Me”  
Presentation by Jane Bluestein  
(Parent Involvement Committee Event)  
Wednesday, November 4, 2009, 7:00 p.m.  
E.L. Fox Auditorium**

**“Your Future Your Choice” Education Fair  
Wednesday, November 25, 2009  
6:00 p.m., John F. Ross CVI**

Trustee Schieck moved that the schedule for Board and Standing Coming meeting for October be approved as follows:

- Program Committee Meeting - Tuesday, November 3, 2009
- Business Operations Committee Meeting - Tuesday, November 10, 2009
- Regular Board Meeting - Tuesday, November 24, 2009

The motion carried.

Trustee Best moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated October 27, 2009 be received.

The motion carried.

REPORT TO BOARD

Trustee Moziar moved that the Committee of the Whole rise and report to the Board.

The motion carried.

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RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS

Trustee Edwards moved, seconded by Trustee Best that the business transacted by the Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Bailey hat the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 7:40 p.m.

The motion carried.