

UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

February 23, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, 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 Trustee Gohn.

OPENING PRAYER OR READING

Trustee Bailey read "Imperatives for Education," an excerpt from a Report on a Policy Framework for Reforms in Education prepared by the Prime Minister of India's Council on Trade and Industry Special Subject Group on Policy Framework for Private Investment in Education, Health and Rural Development

CONDOLENCES

Dr. M. C. Rogers, Director, reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to Kathy McGirr, a teacher at Salem Public School and Dave Taylor, a teacher at J.D. Hogarth P.S., on the loss of Kathy's mother and Dave's mother-in-law; Karen Zorzi, Executive Assistant in the Operations Department, on the loss of her mother; Chris Eastmure, an Occasional Teacher currently teaching kindergarten at Salem Public School and Ian Eastmure, a Grade 5 Teacher at Eramosa Public School, on the loss of Chris' mother and Ian's mother-in-law; Cathy Laforet, in the Printing and Distribution Department in the Orangeville office, on the loss of her brother-in-law; Tracey Lee, a teacher at Montgomery Village Public School, on the loss of her father; Kris Zuber, an Educational Assistant at John F. Ross, on the loss of her mother; Judy Mayne, Office Co-Ordinator at Centre Peel P.S., on the loss of her mother; Laurie Hill, a teacher at Gateway Drive P.S., on the loss of her brother; and, Dale Beer, a teacher at Norwell D.S.S., on the loss of his father.

GOOD NEWS

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

Centre Wellington

Sarah Hennekins was one of 10 non-aboriginal Canadians selected to participate on the Students on Ice expedition to the Canadian Arctic through a Brita Scholarship. The expedition took 65 students and 45 scientists on a Russian Ice breaker for a 14 day journey this past summer. While on the expedition, Sarah witnessed the effects of global climate change, specifically the melting of the

perma frost and thinning of ice sheets in the arctic. From this experience Sarah has brought back what she experienced firsthand to share with her community and friends. Sarah speaks passionately about climate change and what she sees as the solution to climate change, an intrinsic motivation that must exist in all of us.

A You Tube Video of Nishin Nathwani's presentation to the World Economic Forum in Switzerland was played for Trustees. Nishin was selected as one of the six activists to present their vision to global leaders

CONFIRMATION OF THE AGENDA

Chair Borden reported that item 15 has been withdrawn from the agenda and that the remaining items should be renumbered accordingly.

Trustee Busuttill moved that the agenda be confirmed as amended.

The motion carried.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2010

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Topping that the Minutes of the Board Meeting held January 26, 2010 and the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, be approved as corrected.

The motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA

Trustee Schieck moved, seconded by Trustee Edwards, 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

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

The motion carried.

DELEGATION

1. City of Guelph – Active and Safe Routes to School Program

Mr. Rejan Philips, Manager Transportation and Mr. Tim Donegani, TDM Coordinator were introduced and welcomed. Mr. Philips provided the background of the Walk to School program explaining that in June 2007 a presentation was made to the Board and that with their support, a pilot project was undertaken at Mitchell Woods and Sir Isaac Brock schools from the fall 2007 to the Spring 2009.

Mr. Donegani provided details of the initiatives undertaken and the lessons learned. He also provided an overview of a social marketing campaign that is being launched in an effort to encourage a walking community and explained the plan to have a Walking School Launch at the new Westminster Woods School in September.

Trustees were asked for their support in extending the program to all schools; to identify promising schools for a walk to school program and work with principals to identify parent/staff champions; to establish a walk to school working group for facilitation of the program; and, to support Walk to School through board policy. Because the pilot project did not determine any change in the number of students walking to school, it is hoped that by expanding the program it will gain some traction.

Trustee Waterston noted that the UGDSB is much larger than the City of Guelph and that such a program would not be viable in the rural schools, making development of policy difficult. In addition, it was suggested that a good focus in the City this fall might be in helping schools to determine safe walking routes to school through areas of road construction.

Trustee Moziar suggested that presentation to the Parent Involvement Committee might be an effective way to get the word out in an effort to achieve a change in culture.

Student Trustee Steau asked if Secondary Schools are also involved or if the focus remains on elementary schools. It was felt that it would be good to target that age group as many students are getting their driver's licenses or ask their parents to drive them even when they live close to the school. It was explained the pilot was undertaken with elementary schools but it hoped to expand the project to include all schools.

Trustee Busuttill noted that there are several programs that are predominantly bussed, e.g. ESL at the secondary level, French Immersion, and that some dual track schools exist with both walking and bussed students.

It was clarified that a Walk To School Working Group would be formed to help coordinate strategy moving forward and to address concerns such as construction and accessibility. It was confirmed that Board Planning Staff is supportive and will participate in the group. Trustees indicated they would like to receive a report back from the working group.

Trustee Moziar moved the report of the delegation on the Walk to School Program be received.

The motion carried.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Trustee Moziar moved that the minutes of the Program Committee held February 2, 2010 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Edwards requested that recommendation 3f be considered separately.

Trustee Moziar moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3a,b,c,d and e, 4, 5, 6a and b and 7a and b as contained in the minutes of the Program Committee held January 5, 2010.

The motion carried.

The recommendations are as follows:

1. the report entitled, "School Effectiveness Framework and Upper Grand District School Board K-12 Improvement Plan 2009-2010," dated February 2, 2010, be received.
2.
 - a) the report entitled, "YooMagazine – Health Literacy Program for Youth," dated February 2, 2010 be received;
 - b) the YooMagazine, an Internet-based provision of Health and Mental Health information, be piloted at Secondary schools in the Upper Grand District School Board for one year, with an evaluation to be completed by June 2011.
 - c) a team at each Secondary school, involving the social worker, child and youth counsellor, several interested students, student success teacher, and possibly a member of special education and/or guidance staff, be provided with training, including how to launch the program, and
 - d) the school team, in consultation with the administrators, select content relevant for the school population and monitor student usage and key topics of interest (e.g., in March there were 500 views on self-harm; 250 on cyber bullying).
3.
 - a) the report entitled, "Report Of The Co-Chairs Of The Immersion French Review Committee For Erin, Orangeville, and Dufferin County", dated January 19, 2010 be received,
 - b) the principals of the French Immersion family of schools in East Wellington and Dufferin meet annually with parents of their FI

- students to discuss the status of the program and plans for the following year to address student engagement and retention,
- c) the Chief Information Officer, the Superintendent of Program, and the Superintendents of Education for the area continue efforts to improve the ability of Erin DHS to digitally connect to other Secondary schools within the Board in order to improve access to a wider array of shared courses in the French Immersion program; and that a report on current status and plans be brought to Board by June 2011,
 - d) recognizing that Erin DHS is the destination Secondary school for Immersion French for Dufferin students, that the Board regularly communicate this to families of FI students in Dufferin,
 - e) the Superintendents and Principal of Erin DHS review the current course offerings, supports, and resources and prepare a long-term plan to provide a program of studies which will be attractive to all students and retain students in the FI stream.
4. the verbal OPSBA report be received.
 5. the verbal Student Trustee report be received.
 6.
 - a) Trustee be appointed as a representative of the Early Learning Steering Committee and 1 Trustee be appointed as an alternative and that,
 - b) Trustees Busuttil and Topping be appointed as Trustee representatives for the Early Learning Steering Committee.
 7.
 - a) Trustees be appointed as representatives on the Policy Review Committee members of the Policy Review Committee for Information Technology, and that
 - b) Trustees Bailey and Moziar, along with Student Trustees Cooper and Steau, be appointed.

Trustee Edwards suggested the timing of the report to the Board as indicated in recommendation 3f should be May 2010 instead of the summer of 2010.

Trustee Edwards moved THAT

- 3.f) staff explore the potential for FI Secondary credit courses similar to existing programs like CELP, DaVinci, and Headwaters, that may be offered either during the school year or in the summer and that Superintendent of Education Kelly investigate the feasibility and timing, and report to Board by May 2010. These are successful multi-credit course package offered in English.

The motion carried.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Busuttill moved that the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held February 9, 2010 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Busuttill moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 as contained in the minutes of the Business Operations Committee held February 9, 2010.

The motion carried.

The recommendations are as follows:

THAT:

1.
 - a) the report, "Resignations and Retirements" dated February 9, 2010 be received;
 - b) the Board approve the Executive Officer of Human Resources' decisions as outlined in the report "Resignations and Retirements," dated February 9, 2010 (Appendix A and B).
2. the verbal report on Health and Safety, as presented by Ms. J.L. Rose, Executive Officer of Human Resources, be received as information
3.
 - a) the report entitled "Accommodation for the Immersion French program in Orangeville for September 2010" dated February 9, 2010 be received;
 - b) the K-7 FI program in Orangeville be housed at Princess Elizabeth Public School for the 2010/11 school year;
 - c) a committee of Trustees, staff and parents of students in the Immersion French program at Princess Elizabeth PS be convened to examine the organization options for the program in Orangeville with a view to accommodating the K-8 program in Princess Elizabeth PS and another school starting September 2011.
 - d) a report recommending a proposed accommodation solution be presented for consideration by Trustees before June 30, 2010.
4.
 - a) the report entitled Naming of a School – Westminster Woods Public School dated 2010 02 03 be received
 - b) a School Naming Committee be established to make recommendations to the Board on the name of the new elementary school located in the Westminster Woods Development Area.

Chair Borden called for volunteers to serve on the School Naming Committee.

Trustee Waterston moved that Trustees Busuttil, Bailey and Moziar be appointed to the School Naming Committee.

The motion carried.

POLICY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Trustee Bailey moved that the minutes of Policy Management Committee meeting held February 2, 2010 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Bailey moved the adoption of recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 as contained in the minutes of the Policy Management Committee held February 2, 2010.

The motion carried.

The recommendations are as follows:

THAT

1. Policies 706 Corporate Credit Card, and 701 Reimbursement of Employee Expenses be approved.
2. Policy 302, Purchasing, be approved.
3. Policy 202, Community Use of E.L. Fox be approved.
4. the Protocol for Collaborative Agreements, be received.

CHAIRS COMMITTEE

Trustee Edwards moved that the minutes of the Chairs Committee held February 2, 2010 be received.

The motion carried.

Trustee Edwards noted the upcoming OPSBA deadlines for Constitutional Amendment (March 19 2010), Submission of Policy Resolution (March 26, 2010) and Nominations for OPSBA positions (May 6, 2010).

A memo from Superintendent of Finance, Janice Wright, regarding the Preparation of the 2010-2011 Budget was circulated at the meeting. The budget figures for 2008-09 and 2009-10 (budgeted and year to date) are included. Trustees are asked to submit budget requests to the Chair by March Break. There can be no increases in overall totals. The topic will be discussed at the March Chairs meeting. It was noted that Trustees' expenses must now be released in the public forum.

A request was made to have the January 2009 figures for comparison and Superintendent Wright will post the information on the Trustees' Conference.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Busuttill moved that the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee held February 10, 2010 be received and considered.

The motion carried.

It was clarified that the bus drivers are able to voluntarily complete the module regarding autistic children; there is no existing or underlying issue.

Trustee Waterston noted that in the minutes SEAC acknowledged the UGDSB for their assistance to Family and Children's Services to maintain community development workers through some short-term funding. Funding for this purpose had been withdrawn by Family and Children's Services because it does not fall within their child welfare protection mandate. SEAC expressed their gratitude for the work of community development workers with special needs students in our Board.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Ms. J.L. Rose, Executive Officer of Human Resources introduced and reviewed the report entitled "Retirements", dated February 23, 2010, as distributed at the meeting.

Trustee Waterston moved

THAT

1. the report, "Retirements", dated February 23, 2010 be received;
2. the Board approve the Executive Officer of Human Resources' decisions as outlined in the report "Retirements," dated February 23, 2010 (appendix A and B).

The motion carried.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Borden presented a written report of correspondence received during the past month. In reference to the memo regarding Determination and Distribution of Trustee Positions (item 2), Chair Borden reported that the information has been received and when the numbers have been determined a meeting of interested Trustees will be called to look at Trustee Distribution for the next election.

Trustee Best moved that the Board Correspondence Report dated February 23, 2010 be received.

The motion carried.

TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AND REPORTS

Trustee Busuttill reported that following further investigation, no other Early Learning sessions are currently planned by other area Boards similar to the one reported on by Trustee Topping at the last meeting.

Trustee Busuttill reported that, along with Trustee Bailey, she attended the Bengali Community's Mother Language Day event on February 21st. The Community is preparing a petition that will be brought forward to the Board.

Trustee Busuttill reported on her attendance at the first Guelph Elementary Music Festival held on January 29th at the Guelph Youth Music Centre.

Trustee Busuttill reported that the Accessibility Committee has received the school audit schedule and that it will be circulated to Trustees.

Trustee Schieck requested an update on the registration numbers for the all day JK/SK program. Superintendent Bernalick reported that Principals are anticipating fewer JK/SK students than projected based on registrations to date, and that some early learning sites received fewer than expected enrolments while others exceeded the number. Director Rogers further reported that the Ministry of Education has agreed to fund all students who enrol in the all day JK/SK at all 13 identified schools in the UGDSB.

Trustee Moziar reported on her attendance at Brant Avenue's World Café Night held February 18th.

Trustee Bailey reported on his attendance at a Conference at York University hosted by Advanced Broad Band Enabled Learning on the topic of 21st Century Learning.

Trustee Borden reported on a meeting held with the Accessibility Committee of the County of Dufferin also attended by Trustee Topping, Superintendent Evans, Paul Scinocca, Manager of Capital and Renewal Projects, and Director Rogers. The topic of discussion was our level of preparedness in two of our Shelbourne schools. Trustee Borden commended staff on the thoroughness of the information provided.

Chair Borden publicly apologized to Vice Chair Edwards for an omission in process that led to the withdrawal of item 15 from the agenda this evening.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The list of Dates of Future meeting, dated February 23, 2010 was reviewed and updated and is as follows:

Monday, March 1, 2010	-	Dufferin District School Council, 7:00 p.m. Princess Elizabeth School
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| Monday, March 1, 2010 | - | Parent Involvement Committee, 7:00 p.m.
Room 9 |
| Tuesday, March 2, 2010 | - | Policy Management Committee (PMC),
3:00 p.m., - CANCELLED |
| Wednesday, March 3, 2010 | - | Central Guelph Accommodation Review
Committee, 7:00 p.m., Victory P.S. |
| Monday, March 8, 2010 | - | Supervised Alternative Learning for
Excused Pupils (SALEP), 1:00 p.m.,
Orangeville |
| Tuesday, March 9, 2010 | - | Chair's Committee, 5:00 p.m., Trustees'
Lounge |
| Wednesday, March 10, 2010 | - | Supervised Alternative Learning for
Excused Pupils (SALEP), 9:30 a.m.,
Room 8 |
| Wednesday, March 10, 2010 | - | Special Education Advisory Committee
(SEAC), 7:00 p.m., Boardroom |
| Wednesday, March 10, 2010 | - | Central Guelph Accommodation Review
Meeting, 7:00 p.m., (if required), location
to be confirmed |
| Monday, March 22, 2010 | - | Central Guelph Accommodation Review
Meeting, 7:00 p.m., location to be
confirmed |
| Wednesday, March 24, 2010 | - | Central Guelph Accommodation Review
Public Meeting #4, 7:00 p.m., Centennial
H.S. |
| Thursday, March 25, 2010 | - | Supervised Alternative Learning for
Excused Pupils (SALEP), W.H.S.S., 9:30
a.m. |
| Monday, March 29, 2010 | - | Parent Involvement Committee, 7:00 p.m.
Room 9 |

**OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources
Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto
March 25-27, 2010**

**OSPBA Central West Regional Meeting
Saturday, March 27, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Location to be confirmed**

Trustee Schieck moved that the March schedule for Board and Board Committee Meetings be approved as follows:

- i. Program Committee be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
- ii. Business Operations be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
- iii. Regular Board Meeting be held on Tuesday, March 23, 2010

The motion carried.

Trustee Topping moved the Dates of Future Meetings dated February 23, 2010 be received.

The motion carried.

MOTION TO RISE AND REPORT TO THE BOARD

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

The motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS

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

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Edwards moved, seconded by Trustee Waterston, that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close at 8:30 p.m.

The motion carried.