

**UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

March 31, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, March 31, 2009, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, starting at 7:15 p.m.

The Chair, Trustee Borden, presided, and all members were present.

**OPENING PRAYER OR READING**

Trustee Gohn delivered an inspirational reading.

**CONDOLENCE REPORT**

The Director reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to Cathy Bruder, a Special Program Assistant at Centre Wellington D.H.S, on the loss of her mother; Bruce Davies, Principal at John Black Public School, on the loss of his father; Lori Denning, a Teacher at Credit Meadows Elementary School, on the loss of her partner; Susan Knabenschuh, Administrative Assistant to the Vice-Principal, College Heights S.S., on the loss of her mother-in-law; Tara Lichty, a Teacher at Centre Peel Public School, on the loss of her father; Darlene McLaren, an Accounting Analyst, Finance Department, Board Office, on the loss of her mother; Tracy Mlotschek, Administrative Officer - Pensions, Human Resources Department, Board Office, on the loss of her father; Shirley Moore, Vice-Principal at Victoria Cross Public School, on the loss of her mother; Krista Pederson, a Teacher at Victoria Terrace Public School, on the loss of her father; Lenore Ralph, the Primary Success Teacher at Willow Road Public School, on the loss of her father; Diane Tyszka, Office Coordinator at Sir Isaac Brock Public School, on the loss of her father; Holly Tyszka, Teacher at Rickson Ridge Public School, on the loss of her grandfather; Sherri Woodland, the Teacher-Librarian at Alma Public School, on the loss of her father-in-law; and to Rosanne Woods, a Kindergarten Teacher at Gateway Drive Public School, on the loss of her mother.

**GOOD NEWS**

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

**Centre Dufferin D.H.S.**

Hometown Debating Heroes -This was Centre Dufferin's first appearance at the Provincial championship. Students Owen P. and Brian S. placed Seventh this past weekend at the OSDU Provincial Debating Championships in Kitchener. Brian S. also placed Fifth in the Individual Speaker rankings.

Board Minutes .....March 31, 2009College Heights S.S.

Earlier this month at an OFSAA wrestling tournament in Brampton, teacher Doug Wilson of College Heights S.S. was presented with their Leadership and Coaching Excellence award. Doug is a credit not only to himself, but to all of us in the Board, students, staff and parents.

John F. Ross C.V.I.

CBC personality Rick Mercer and his camera crew filmed an episode of The Rick Mercer Report. The visit was the school's prize for winning the Spread the Net challenge. The Spread the Net campaign raises money for insecticide-treated bed nets for African nations battling the spread of malaria by mosquitoes. John F. Ross C.V.I. raised an amazing \$57,036. This was the first year that secondary schools were offered the challenge. In the past the challenge was restricted to post secondary schools. The organizers felt there was little chance that a high school would be able to raise more money than a university or college who have much larger student bodies and active alumni associations. John F. Ross students sold raffle tickets for iPods and Hillside Festival tickets, organized a 19+ dance on the University of Guelph campus, sold popcorn during a Guelph Gryphons basketball game, and T-shirts and buttons in the school. The last fundraiser saw students lining up to pay \$1 to beat on a 1993 Toyota Camry donated to the cause by teacher James Ball. The students raised enough money to buy nearly 6,000 of the \$10 mosquito-nets. Normally two or three children will sleep under each net, so the students have potentially saved 12,000 to 15,000 lives. The episode was aired on Tuesday March 17, 2009. The segment may be viewed on Rick Mercer's website at <http://www.cbc.ca/mercerreport/video.html>. Congratulations to the students of John F. Ross, we couldn't be prouder!

Wellington Heights S.S.

The Royal Canadian Legion annually holds a Remembrance Day contest for students to submit essays, posters, and other work that commemorate Remembrance Day and the veterans. Each year Wellington Heights students participate in this contest under the coordination and enthusiastic encouragement of Ian Turner. At the Branch level, Captain Fred Campbell Branch 134 Mount Forest, there were 29 student winners from Wellington Heights S.S. At the Zone level consisting of 13 legions, there were seven winners from Wellington Heights S.S. At the District level, consisting of 51 legions, three of our students won in four categories. In the competition from across the Province, Sarah N. won First Place for her Black and White Poster in the Intermediate Category. Sarah's work is now in a competition for the Legion's contest across Canada.

Westwood Public School - Family & Schools Together

Families and School Together (F&ST) is a nine week program that targets

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students in grades five and six (F&ST Youth) who are at risk due to academic, social, emotional, socio-economic or family issues. The goal is for the school and families to develop a positive connection and a supportive relationship which will promote family cohesion and student success at school. A team of the F&ST Facilitator, school staff partners, parent partner, Youth Leader, and grade seven and eight Youth Mentors participate in a two day training session about the program and learn coaching skills. The F&ST Youth meet with the Youth Leader three times prior to the family meetings. The families and F&ST Team meet for nine weeks at the school, from 5:30 - 8:00, sharing a meal and playing family games. They then split into a parent group, the F&ST Youth Club, high school volunteers who do clean-up, and a siblings group who do supervised activities. Before rejoining as a large group for closing ceremonies, the F&ST Youth meet with one of their parents for a special one on one time. The program at Westwood Public School was a tremendous success. They graduated nine families and welcomed guests and Trustee Susan Moziar to their graduation. All of the nine families are keen to continue meeting monthly under the leadership of the Parent Partner, to share a meal and family activity. The program is very effective in building closer community and home/school connections, and has a very positive effect on the F&ST Youth and their siblings. It is a demanding program in terms of time commitments for any staff involved, but is fully funded by Family Services Canada, and is tremendously rewarding.

AGENDA

Trustee Moziar moved, seconded by Trustee Bailey, that the agenda be confirmed as printed with the additional of a new Item 13 - Joint Liaison Committee Report and a new Item 15, an Update on the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) for 2009-10 (Ministry of Education B2 Memorandum).

The motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Best, that the Minutes of the Board meeting held February 24, 2009 and the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

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RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS

Trustee Topping 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.

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**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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

The motion carried.

Chair Borden welcomed the Delegation presenters. The procedures related to a Delegation presentation were outlined.

DELEGATIONS

Mr. Tim A. Mau, President, Guelph Youth Basketball Association (GYBA), presented an overview of his volunteer-driven organization and, highlighted the history of its partnership with Upper Grand District School Board which he wanted to acknowledge and celebrate. Chair Borden was presented with a plaque from the Association which read "The Kids of GYBA Say "Thanks" To The Upper Grand District School Board For Its Support of The Hustle And Phoenix Programs" March 2009", and in appreciation, members of the Novice Girls Team presented each Trustee with a T-shirt with the Guelph Phoenix logo on it.

Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review

At this evening's meeting, a copies of a document entitled, "Central Guelph (FI) Elementary Accommodation Review - Consideration of Accommodation Review Guidelines And Guiding Principles (South Guelph)" were distributed. Ms. Trina Seguin and Ms. Tonja Clark reviewed that document under such headings as ARC Communication, Board Communication, ARC Minutes, Accommodation Review Policy & Guiding Principles, Guiding Principles & Accommodation Review, and Conclusion.

On behalf of over 70 families who would be impacted by Scenario B, and with reference to her document entitled, "Presentation to UGDSB - March 31, 2009", Ms. Susan Delafield commented on Just say no to Scenario B!, Scenario B will make Priory Park School..., Quality Learning Experience, ARC Guiding Principles, How best to

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deliver a quality FI program?, What does a great FI program need?, Priory Park FI Catchment Area, Delivery challenges for a FI program with low numbers, Split-Grade Classes Unavoidable, Re-integration of grades 7/8 into John McCrae, Great programs → enrolment, Think outside the box, and Just say no to Scenario B!

Ms. Jennifer Bistolas spoke as a parent who lives in Guelph and shares concerns with other Guelph parents, from schools such as Priory Park, Victory and Paisley Road about the ARC process, and who believes that the current Accommodation Review has done very little to involve parents in the actual decision-making process. It was proposed that (a) parents at each school should determine which guiding principles are particularly important to their school community?, (b) some transparency on the ARC decision-making process was needed, and (c) a more collaborative approach was required. Trustees received a copy of the presentation.

This evening, copies of a document entitled, "KEIP (Keep Enriched Intermediate Programs) Report on Survey Regarding 7/8 at King George P.S. - March 31, 2009" were circulated. Ms. Michaela Milde summarized the results of that survey (Respondents 25, parent 23, student 2, teacher 3). KEIP asked for an Accommodation Review process that, as its starting point, addressed the educational needs of intermediate students, adopted, as a priority Guideline for evaluating scenarios, the optimizing of programming, dispensed with the Guideline of maximum of 35% or 3-5 classes of 7/8 in a JK-8 school, and created new scenarios with a view to determining the best accommodation for FI7/8.

Representing a group of concerned John McCrae parents, Mr. Igor Falak spoke briefly about the dependence of the quality of FI programs on the "exposure to the conducive language learning environment", and addressed the concerns of the proposed housing of South Guelph's French Immersion 7/8 students at John McCrae, the FI students who would be disadvantaged by the move to Priory Park Public School, and the displacement of students in the JK - Grade 6 age group. In conclusion, Mr. Falak noted that the current proposal was a "lose-lose" scenario and encouraged the Board to consider other options.

Chair Borden thanked the presenters.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Moziar moved that the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated March 3, 2009, be received and considered.

The motion carried.

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Trustee Moziar moved adoption of recommendations 1 to 4 inclusive, as contained in the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated March 3, 2009.

The motion carried.

The recommendations adopted are as follows.

AD VOX Wellington

That the presentation entitled, "AD VOX Wellington" be received.

New Initiatives to Support Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

That the report entitled, "New Initiatives to Support Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders" be received.

That the verbal OPSBA report be received.

That the verbal Student Trustee report be received.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Waterston moved that the Minutes of the Business Operations Committee, dated March 10, 2009, be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Item 5 was considered previously in camera.

It was requested that Item 4 be considered separately.

Trustee Waterston moved adoption of recommendations 1 to 3 inclusive, as contained in the Minutes of the Business Operations Committee, dated March 10, 2009.

The motion carried.

The recommendations adopted are as follows.

Resignations and Retirements

That:

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- (a) the report entitled, "Resignations and Retirements" dated March 10, 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 March 10, 2009 (Appendix A and B).

That the verbal report on Health and Safety, as presented by Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, be received as information.

Education Development Charge Policy Review

That the report on the Education Development Charge Policy Review dated March 10, 2009, as presented by Mr. Jack Ammendolia, The Ammendolia Group Ltd., be received as information.

In answer to Trustee Schieck's query, Chair Borden advised that, although he had not received a written response, in a question and answer period at OPSBA's Labour Relations Conference, Minister of Education Wynne advised him that she would not allow a 192 day school year calendar for 2009/2010.

Trustee Waterston moved adoption of the recommendation that the Chair write to the Minister of Education and request her to allow a 192 day school year calendar for 2009/2010.

The motion carried.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Busuttil moved that the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, dated March 11, 2009, be received.

The motion carried.

JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORT

In response to Trustee Schieck, Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, advised that it was the intent of the Wellington Catholic District School Board to submit its proposed school year calendar, as approved, to the Ministry of Education for its approval.

Trustee Waterston moved that the Minutes of the Joint Liaison Committee, dated

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March 24, 2009, be received.

The motion carried.

2008-2009 BUDGET: COMPARISON OF ACTUAL VS. BUDGET FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2009

Superintendent of Finance, Ms. J.D. Wright highlighted her report (FINANCE #2009-09) regarding the year to date spending for Classroom Instruction, Non-Classroom and Accommodation Expenditures. Appendix A, a document entitled, "Expenditures: September 1 to February 28, 2009 (6 months)" was highlighted. Attention was focused on Appendix B (Other Provincial Grants). In response to Trustee questions, Ms. E.K. Kelly, Superintendent of Education, provided additional information and/or clarification, as required.

Trustee Bailey moved that the report, 2008-2009 Budget: Comparison of Actual vs. Budget for the six-month period ending February 28, 2009, dated March 31, 2009 (FINANCE #2009-09) be received.

The motion carried.

EDUCATION FUNDING FOR 2009-10

On Trustees' desk was a copy of a Ministry of Education B2 Memorandum with regard to Education Funding for 2009-10. Superintendent Wright highlighted that document under the headings of B. Enhancements for Peace and Progress in Education, C. Enhancements to Keep up With Costs, D. Special Education, E. Efficiency and Savings Measures, 2009-10 and 2010-11, F. Parent Engagement - Transfer Into GSN, G. Community Use of Schools Outreach Coordinator - Transfer Out of GSN, H. New Teacher Induction Program, and I. Investments Outside the GSN. Superintendent Wright noted the information specific to the Upper Grand District School Board (Grants for Student Needs (GSN)) and Enrolment (Average Daily Enrolment of Pupils of the Board)). Questions of clarification followed.

Trustee Best moved that the report on Education Funding for 2009-10, as presented by Ms. J.D. Wright, Superintendent of Finance, be received.

The motion carried.

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### OPSBA POLICY RESOLUTIONS/CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Chair Borden noted that the deadline for OPSBA member boards to submit policy resolutions for consideration at the 2009 Annual General Meeting was April 3, 2009. It was noted that the annual "empowerment" motion for the voting delegate would be presented as a recommendation of the Chairs' Committee.

### RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Trustee Schieck moved that:

- (a) the report "Resignation and Retirements" dated March 31, 2009 be received, and
- (b) the Board approve the decisions of the Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations as outlined in the report "Resignation and Retirements" dated March 31, 2009 (Appendix A).

The motion carried.

### 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Included in Trustee packages was a copy of a document entitled, "2009-2010 School Year Calendar" dated March 31, 2009. In accordance with Ontario Regulation 304, the proposed 2009-2010 Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars were prepared for Board approval and subsequent submission to the Ministry of Education. Using overheads, Ms. R.A. Fyfe, Superintendent of Education, reviewed Appendices A, the Ministry of Education School Year Calendar 2009-20 template, and B, the proposed Elementary Calendar. Superintendent of Education, Mr. D.M. Euale, summarized the proposed Secondary Calendar identified in Appendix C. Information related to the proposed calendars of other Boards was provided. Comments followed.

Trustee Moziar moved that:

- (a) the report entitled, "2009-2010 School Year Calendar" dated March 31, 2009 be received, and
- (b) the proposed School Calendars for the 2009-2010 school year for the Upper Grand District School Board Elementary and Secondary schools, as outlined in Appendix B and C respectively, be approved by the Board for submission to the Ministry of Education for final approval in accordance with Regulation 304.

The motion carried.

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A recorded vote was requested by Trustee Schieck on the above motion, in accordance with Clause 66 of the Board's By-law No. 1, and this was as follows:

**Yea:** Trustees Waterston, Bailey, Moziar, Gohn, Best, Topping, Busuttil and Borden.  
**Nay:** Trustees Schieck and Edwards.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Borden presented a written report of correspondence received during the past month. This evening, copies of a letter dated March 10, 2009 to Mr. R.J. (Bob) Borden from Lucy Kristan, Executive Director, Greater Dufferin Area Chamber of Commerce, and a letter dated March 23, 2009 to Mr. Bob Borden, Chairperson from Daphne Wainman-Wood, Vice-President, Old University Neighbourhood Residents' Association were provided.

Trustee Edwards moved that the Board Correspondence Report dated March 31, 2009 be received.

The motion carried.

TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AND REPORTSCentral Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review

Trustee Waterston spoke to her proposed recommendation with regard to the that the Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review process.

Trustee Waterston moved that the Board suspend the current timelines, as outlined in Policy 305, with regard to the Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review, to allow the Trustees, the Staff Steering Committee and the current ARC an opportunity to review the process as it relates to public input and the development of alternative scenarios.

The motion carried.

A recorded vote was requested by Trustee Moziar on the above motion, in accordance with Clause 66 of the Board's By-law No. 1, and this was as follows:

**Yea:** Trustees Gohn, Moziar, Bailey, Waterston, Borden, Edwards, Busuttil, Topping, Schieck and Best.  
**Nay:** None.

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Accessibility Committee

During her presentation of the Health and Safety Report, Director of Education, Dr. M.C. Rogers, noted that Trustees Busuttil and Gohn were currently members of the Accessibility Committee and suggested that, because of his involvement in Dufferin County, Trustee Best could possibly serve as a resource to the related task force. In this regard, Trustee Best agreed to serve on the Accessibility Committee.

In response to Trustee Busuttil, Ms. J.D. Wright, Superintendent of Finance, Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, and Mr. P. Scinocca, Manager of Capital and Renewal Projects, provided additional information and clarification with regard to "external assistance for school enhancements". It was agreed that this would be an issue that the Board would, at some point, need to discuss.

2009-2010 School Year Calendar

In response to Trustee Busuttil's questions regarding the 2009-2010 school year calendar, it was agreed that it would be possible to document the number of students who attend the first three days of the new school year.

In response to Trustee Busuttil, Chair Borden advised that it had been past practice that the annual "empowerment" recommendation was presented as a motion from the Chairs' Committee.

Trustee Bailey advised that on March 13, 2009, Trustees Busuttil, Moziar and he met with Mr. Jim Alder, Manager of Plant Operations, Ms. Wendy Perkins, the Board's Environmental Project Manager, and Mr. Mike Anderson, Curriculum Leader, with regard to waste pickup and harmonization between the City of Guelph and the Board's Guelph schools. Additional information on this meeting would be forthcoming.

Any Trustee interested in attending the Ontario Public School Boards' Association "In The Loop" Professional Development conference on Parliamentary Procedures for Successful Decision-Making on Friday, April 24, 2009, at the Metropolitan Hotel in Toronto, was asked to advise Chair Borden.

Trustee Information Pocket Guide

On Trustees' desks was a copy of the Trustee Information Pocket Guide. Trustees were asked to provide input. The Guide would be amended accordingly and the revision would be brought back to the Board.

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Trustee Gohn moved that the Board approve Trustee Bailey's attendance at the Parents and Communities as Partners, Engaging in School and Student Success Conference to be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at the Delta Guelph Hotel.

The motion carried.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- |                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Wednesday, April 1  | - | Elementary Principals Eligibility List - Interviews, 8:00 a.m. - Rooms 4 (Interviews) and 3 (Preparation)                                       |
| Friday, April 3     | - | Career Education Council's Fifth Annual Business & Education Partnership Breakfast, 7:00 a.m. - Holiday Inn, Guelph                             |
| Tuesday, April 7    | - | Central Guelph (FI) Accommodation Review Committee (Trustees/Staff Steering Committee), 3:00 p.m. - Boardroom                                   |
| Tuesday, April 7    | - | Student Discipline Committee, 6:30 p.m. - Boardroom   |
| Wednesday, April 8  | - | Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), 7:00 p.m. - Boardroom  |
| Tuesday, April 14   | - | Budget Liaison Committee (BLC), 4:00 p.m. - Room 8 (Old Room 4)   |
| Tuesday, April 14   | - | Chairs' Committee, 5:00 p.m. - Boardroom  |
| Thursday, April 16  | - | Upper Grand Learning Foundation - Annual General Meeting, 5:15 p.m. - Room 8 (Old Room 4)   |
| Monday, April 20    | - | Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP), 1:00 p.m. - Room 1, Orangeville Education Centre                                    |
| Tuesday, April 21   | - | Life After High School, 9:00 a.m. - University of Guelph  |
| Tuesday, April 21   | - | Regional Student Senate, 6:00 p.m. - Boardroom  |
| Tuesday, April 21   | - | Trustee Workshop - Conflict of Interest, 7:00 p.m. - Boardroom  |
| Monday, April 27    | - | Learning Foundation Fundraising Fair, 1:00-8:00 p.m. - Holiday Inn, Guelph  |
| Monday, April 27    | - | East Wellington and Dufferin French Immersion Working Group, 7:00 p.m. - Erin Public School, Erin/Princess Elizabeth Public School, Orangeville |
| Wednesday, April 29 | - | Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP), 9:30 a.m. - Room 8 (old Room 4)   |

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- Thursday, April 30 - Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP), 9:30 p.m. - Wellington Heights S.S., Mount Forest
- Tuesday, May 5 - Ontario Technical Skills Competition, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Rim Park, Waterloo

**OPSBA's Central West Regional Council Meeting**  
**April 18, 2009 - 8:30 a.m. - Noon**  
**H.J.A. Brown Education Centre**  
**Peel District School Board, Mississauga**

**OPSBA Executive Council**  
**April 23-24, 2009**  
**OPSBA Boardroom, Toronto**

**OPSBA Board of Directors**  
**April 24-25, 2009**  
**Metropolitan Hotel, Toronto**

Trustee Moziar moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated March 31, 2009 be received.

The motion carried.

**IN CAMERA RESUMING**

As directed at the Committee of the Whole meeting earlier in the evening, the in camera session resumed at 10:10 p.m. to complete the confidential items on the agenda.

**REPORT TO BOARD**

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

The motion carried.

**RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS**

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

The motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Bailey moved, seconded by Trustee Schieck, that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close, at 10:25 p.m.

The motion carried.