

UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

February 22, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of Upper Grand District School Board was held on Tuesday, February 22, 2005, in the Board Room 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 Fairbairn delivered an inspirational reading.

CONDOLENCE REPORT

The Director reported that condolences were sent on behalf of the Board to Bruce Eccles, a Teacher at Guelph C.V.I., on the loss of his father; Lu Eccles, an Early Literacy Teacher at Priory Park and Sir Isaac Brock Public Schools, on the loss of her father-in-law; Tom Evans, a Teacher at Guelph C.V.I., on the loss of his mother; Lynda Godwin, an Educational Assistant at Taylor Evans Public School, on the loss of her mother; Denise, Vice-Principal at Centennial Hylands Elementary School, and Gary Heaslip, on the loss of their son, Patrick, a student at Centre Dufferin D.H.S.; Wendy Houston, a Teacher at Centre Wellington D.H.S., on the loss of her father; John Lovell, a Teacher at Centre Wellington D.H.S., on the loss of his mother; Katy Lloyd, a Teacher at Centre Wellington D.H.S., on the loss of her father; Lynne McInnis, Executive Assistant - Plant Operations, Board Office, on the loss of her father; Elli Pederson, a Teacher at King George Public School, on the loss of her father; Louise Rowsom, Telecommunications Administrator, Silvercreek Education Centre, on the loss of her mother; Anne Scott, Administrative Assistant - Records Management/Policy, Board Office, on the loss of her father; Jenna Scott, a Teacher at Mitchell Woods and Willow Road Public Schools, on the loss of her grandfather; Ann Tyndall, an Educational Assistant at Orangeville D.S.S., on the loss of her mother-in-law; and to Marg Wilson, a Special Program Assistant at Guelph C.V.I., on the loss of her father.

GOOD NEWS

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

Rosemarie Armstrong, Artist, and Principal of Primrose Elementary School, has generously donated to the Board Office a framed, limited edition of her lithographic reproduction of "The School on the Hill". The lithograph is of the former Shelburne

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Junior Public School. In 1995, Shelburne Junior Public School was lost to fire. Originally painted to celebrate the retirement of two special educators, "The School on the Hill" is a tribute to the many individuals who graced its halls. We are proud and privileged to hang this beautiful lithograph in our reception area for everyone to enjoy. Thank you, Rosemarie!

Grand Valley and District Public School

On January 13, 2005, Grand Valley and District Public School had the privilege of having Chris Hadfield visit their school. Chris was the first Canadian to walk in space. He made two presentations, the first to Grades K-4 and the second to Grades 5-8.

Montgomery Village Public School

In a recent "teachers versus students" hockey game, the student body collected more than 1300 items for the Orangeville Food Bank, totalling 1025 pounds, a staggering number considering the goal was to raise about 500 - a pound for every student.

2004 Guelph Art Council Youth Awards

For over twenty years, Guelph Arts Council has acknowledged the excellence, creativity and talent of local youth in the performing and/or visual arts through the Youth Awards Program. This past year, four Upper Grand District students from Guelph's high schools were presented with a cash award in recognition of their efforts:

Alexander Buchanan, former John F. Ross student

Alexander has taken every art course offered at John F. Ross. In this year's juried show he won both first and second in the acrylic painting divisions as well as third in the digital category. He works in a wide variety of media and has done commissions for people in the community. Alexander is continuing to study Art and Design in post secondary school.

Vera Watson, former Guelph C.V.I. student

Vera's responsibilities at G.C.V.I. ranged from managing school productions to organizing school assemblies. In 2002, she managed the student-written production, "A Little Obvious, Don't You Think?", which represented G.C.V.I. in the Sears Drama Festival. Vera earned the Award of Excellence for Stage Management in the 2003 Upper Grand District competition. For the 2004 Sears Festival, she managed a production of Mavor Moore's "The Pile", which was named Outstanding Production and went on to the Northwestern Regional competition in Burlington. Vera is continuing to study theatre at a post secondary level.

Board MinutesFebruary 22, 2005Nathan Blythe, College Heights Secondary School

Nathan was an active participant in many of the arts programs at College Heights, becoming involved in both music and drama. With his acoustic guitar class, he performed in the Christmas Ceremony, and later demonstrated his dramatic skills in the school play, "Nancy, the Spider", a drama about racial awareness. Nathan hopes to continue his studies in music.

Kendra McGuffin, Centennial Collegiate Vocational Institute

Kendra was involved in the Symphonic Winds Concert Band for four years, playing flute, trumpet and piccolo. She served on Centennial Forum, organizing cultural and social events in the school. After applying her performing and choreographic skills to the school dance group, Dance Inc., she performed as a dancer and chorus member in Royal City Musical Production's "Meet Me in St. Louis" in 2000, and as a choreographer in Guelph Little Theatre's "Charlotte's Web".

AGENDA

Trustee Fauteux moved, seconded by Trustee Moziar, that the agenda be confirmed as printed, with (a) the motion to approve the Minutes amended to read that the Board meeting was held on January **25**, 2005, and (b) the addition of a new Item 9 - Good Places to Learn: Renewing Ontario's Schools, to be presented by Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, and all subsequent Items to be renumbered.

The motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Waterston moved, seconded by Trustee Topping, that the Minutes of the Board meeting held January 25, 2004 and the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting, and the Minutes of the Special Board meeting held February 8, 2005, be approved as printed.

The motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS

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.

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The motion carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

The motion carried.

GOOD PLACES TO LEARN: RENEWING ONTARIO'S SCHOOLS

On Trustees' desks this evening was a copy of a report entitled, "Good Places to Learn: Renewing Ontario's Schools", a summary of the context of a recently-announced Provincial Government initiative. Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, reviewed that document in detail. Under C) School Closures, attention was focused on the first "bullet" which read "Ministry will no longer recognize closed schools as creating eligibility for new school grants". In response to Trustee questions, Director Rogers provided additional information and/or clarification.

Trustee Fauteux moved that the report entitled, "Good Places to Learn: Renewing Ontario's Schools", as presented by Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, be received as information.

The motion carried.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Moziar moved that the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated February 1, 2005, be received and considered.

The motion carried.

Trustee Moziar moved adoption of recommendations 1 to 5 inclusive, as contained in the Minutes of the Program Committee, dated February 1, 2005.

The motion carried.

The recommendations adopted are as follows:

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Autism Spectrum Disorder - School Support Program

That the presentation entitled, "Autism Spectrum Disorder - School Support Program" be received.

Grades 3, 6 and 9 EQAO Assessment

That the presentation regarding the Grades 3, 6 and 9 EQAO Assessment be received.

Grade 8 Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test Results - October 2004

That the report entitled, "Grade 8 Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test Results - October 2004" dated February 1, 2005 be received.

That the verbal report, as presented by the Student Trustees, be received.

That the verbal report regarding the Chairs' Committee Mandate and Minutes be received.

HUMAN RESOURCES/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Minutes of the Human Resources/Finance Committee, dated February 15, 2005, be received and considered.

The motion carried.

It was requested that Item 3 (a), (b) and (c) be considered separately.

Trustee Fairbairn moved adoption of recommendations 1 and 2, and 4 to 9 inclusive, as contained in the Minutes of the Human Resources/Finance Committee, dated February 15, 2005.

The motion carried.

The recommendations adopted are as follows.

Resignations and Retirements

That:

- (a) the report entitled "Resignations and Retirements" dated February 15, 2005 be received,
- (b) the Board approve the Superintendent of Human Resources' decisions, as outlined in the

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report entitled, "Resignations and Retirements" dated February 15, 2005 (Appendix A and B), and

- (c) the Resignations by Mutual Consent of Shawna Geer and Judy Weltz be accepted.

2005-2006 School Year Calendar

That:

- (a) the report entitled, "2005-2006 School Year Calendar" dated February 15, 2005 be received, and
- (b) the proposed School Calendars for the 2005-2006 school year for the Upper Grand District School Board Elementary and Secondary schools, as outlined in Appendix "B" and "C" respectively, be approved and submitted by the Board to the Ministry of Education for approval in accordance with Regulation 304.

That the verbal report on Health and Safety, as presented by Superintendent Bonnie Evans, be received as information.

2004-2005 Budget: Comparison of Actual vs. Budget for the Five-Month Period Ending January 31, 2005

That the report entitled, "2004-2005 Budget: Comparison of Actual vs. Budget for the Five-Month Period Ending January 31, 2005" dated February 15, 2005 be received.

That the verbal report on the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, as presented by Trustee Waterston, be received as information.

That the verbal report on "Other Business", as presented by Trustee Borden, be received as information.

That the verbal update on Negotiations, as presented by Ms. J.L. Rose, Executive Officer, be received as information.

That the verbal report on Personnel Matters, as presented by Superintendent of Finance Wright, be received as information.

Long Term Accommodation Plan

In light of the "Good Places to Learn: Renewing Ontario's Schools" initiative reported on earlier this evening, Trustee Edwards proposed an amendment to clause (b).

Trustee Fairbairn moved adoption of the recommendation that:

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- (a) the report entitled, "Long Term Accommodation Plan" dated February 15, 2005, CP:05-03, be received,
- (b) the Staff Accommodation Strategy Action Planning Committee be instructed to proceed in selecting a Consulting Firm to assist in the development of the Long Term Accommodation Plan, and
- (c) the Board appoint one Trustee to the Committee for the selection process.

Trustee Edwards moved an amendment (b) deleting the phrase "instructed to proceed in selecting" and replacing it with "permitted to select", and substituting the words "development of the Long Term Accommodation Plan" with the words "implementation of the "Good Places to Learn: Renewing Ontario's Schools" initiative".

The amendment was put first, and carried.
The motion, as amended, carried.

In response to Chair Borden's call for one (1) Trustee to sit on the above-noted Committee for the Consulting Firm selection process, Trustee Moziar volunteered.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Topping noted the discussions which were held with regard to the Board's Special Education Plan.

Trustee Topping moved that the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee, dated February 9, 2005, be received.

The motion carried.

CHAIRS' COMMITTEE REPORT - TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

Director of Education, Dr. M.C. Rogers, presented, as information, her report (MCR: 05-019) on Trustee Remuneration. The excerpt from the Education Act related to Honoraria (Section 191, Part VI - Boards) and identified as Appendix "A" was highlighted.

Trustee Schieck moved that the report entitled Trustee Remuneration dated 2005 02 14 be received.

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The motion carried.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Borden presented a written report of correspondence received during the past month.

Trustee Waterston moved that the Board Correspondence Report dated February 22, 2005 be received.

The motion carried.

TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AND REPORTS

In answer to Trustee Schieck's query regarding the "Good Places to Learn: Renewing Ontario's Schools" initiative, Director Rogers advised that a "fact sheet" of frequently asked questions and answers could be developed and shared with Trustees to assist them in responding to questions from their communities.

Trustee Moziar moved that the verbal response on the "Good Places to Learn: Renewing Ontario's Schools" initiative, as presented by Dr. M.C. Rogers, Director of Education, be received as information.

The motion carried.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- Tuesday, March 1 - Budget Liaison Committee (BLC), 5:00 p.m. - Room 3
- Thursday, March 3 - New Support Staff Orientation, 3:00 p.m.- Boardroom
- Wednesday, March 9 - Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), 7:00 p.m. - Boardroom
- Thursday, March 10 - Wellington-Dufferin Learning Foundation, 5:00 p.m. - Trustee Lounge
- Tuesday, March 22 - Chairs' Committee, 5:00 p.m. - Trustee Lounge
- Wednesday, March 23 - Dufferin Parents' Council, 7:00 p.m. - Mono-Amaranth Public School
- Wednesday, March 30 - Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP), 9:00 a.m. - Room 4

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Trustee Fauteux moved that, due to March having five Tuesdays and March Break, the March Meeting Schedule for Board and Standing Committees shall be as follows:

- Program Committee - Tuesday, March 1
- Operations Committee - Tuesday, March 8
- Human Resources/Finance Committee - Tuesday, March 22
- Regular Board Meeting - Tuesday, March 29

The motion carried.

Trustee Fairbairn moved that the Dates of Future Meetings dated February 22, 2005 be received.

The motion carried.

REPORT TO BOARD

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

The motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS

Trustee Edwards 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 Fauteux moved, seconded by Trustee Edwards, that the Board adjourn and this meeting now close, at 8:00 p.m.

The motion carried.