



## Regular Board Meeting

Monday, June 24 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chair: S. Gibson, Vice-Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Sault, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton (MS Teams), Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, L. Thompson (MS Teams), J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

**Guests:** Manager C. Smith, Manager A. Van Doorn

A - 1 **Opening (5:30 p.m.)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest - Nil**

(c) **In-Camera Session (5:32 p.m.)**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

**Carried**

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Student Trustee M. Baker read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the agenda be approved.

**Carried**

(g) **Memorials**

(i) **Josh Carrier**

The memorial of Josh Carrier was read by Trustee Collver.

(ii) **Sophia Love Solis Caro (nee Milbin)**

The memorial of Sophia Love Solis Caro was read by Chair Gibson.

(h) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Bradford



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On June 10, 2024, the Board met in-camera to consider the findings of an independent third-party investigator. Under the *Education Act*, this is permitted.

The Board remained in-camera and determined earlier this evening that its Code of Conduct was breached after written submissions from Trustee Sloat's lawyer were considered.

The Investigator found that:

1. In-camera records were distributed to persons in attendance at the Special Meeting of the Board on February 12, 2024;
2. Trustee Sloat was asked to return the in-camera documents before she left the room;
3. Trustee Sloat refused to return the in-camera documents;
4. In refusing to return the in-camera documents, Trustee Sloat shouted something to the effect of "call the police!";
5. Trustee Sloat left the boardroom with the in-camera documents;
6. Trustee Sloat was agitated when she left."

Trustees voted on June 24, 2024 and confirmed the following breaches of its Code of Conduct for Trustee Sloat's conduct on February 12, 2024:

That Trustee Sloat breached section 1.1 c) of the Code of Conduct which provides that a Trustee has no individual authority other than delegated by the Board;

That Trustee Sloat breached section 1.2 b) of the Code of Conduct which provides that Trustees shall treat other Trustees with respect and in a cordial and professional manner;

That Trustee Sloat breached section 1.3 a) of the Code of Conduct which provides that Trustees maintain the confidentiality of privileged information discussed in closed sessions;

That Trustee Sloat breached section 1.4 b) of the Code of Conduct which requires her to comply with Section 218.1 of the *Education Act*;

That Trustee Sloat breached section 1.4 e) of the Code of Conduct which requires Trustee Sloat to base her actions on unimpeachable conduct with a view to the best interests of the Board; and

That Trustee Sloat breached section 1.5 e) of the Code of Conduct which provides that Trustees work with other Trustees in the spirit of respect, openness, courtesy, cooperation and proper decorum.

As a result, the following sanctions were identified as appropriate after Trustees voted:

Moved by: B. Doyle



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Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Board confirms the Code of Conduct breaches by Trustee Sloat.

and

THAT the Board bar Trustee Sloat from attending all meetings of the Board including In-Camera, Special Board meetings and Caucus meetings effective June 11, and the rest of June and September, October, November, December 2024 and January 31, 2025, inclusive of July and August of 2024 and as well bar Trustee Sloat from attending and sitting in all committees effective June 1, 2025 to the end of January 2026, inclusive of July and August 2025. And that she receives a public censure at a date to be determined. Trustee Sloat is only to receive public materials. For further clarity, attending means Trustee Sloat not attend in person, virtually, or by any other means.

Recorded Vote:

Vice-Chair Doyle – yes

Trustee VanEvery-Albert – yes

Trustee Sault – yes

Trustee Waldschmidt – yes

Trustee Thomas –yes

Trustee Whiton – yes

Trustee Collver – no

Trustee Anderson – no

Trustee Passmore – yes

Trustee Bradford – yes

Chair Gibson – yes

**Carried**

In an additional and separate Code of Conduct complaint, the Board confirmed the following breaches which were identified on June 10, 2024 and after Trustee Sloat's written submissions were considered in-camera.

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

Trustee Sloat breached 1.3a) of the Code of Conduct for her conduct.

Trustee Sloat breached Section 1.4b) of the Code of Conduct for her conduct.

Trustee Sloat breached Section 1.4 e) of the code of conduct for her conduct.

Recorded Vote:

Vice-Chair Doyle – yes

Trustee VanEvery-Albert – yes

Trustee Sault – yes

Trustee Waldschmidt – yes

Trustee Thomas –yes

Trustee Whiton – yes

Trustee Collver – no

Trustee Anderson – no

Trustee Passmore – yes

Trustee Bradford – yes

Chair Gibson – yes

**Carried**

Trustee Sloat left the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

(i) **Learn Lead Inspire Award**

Director Roberto presented Scott Parsons at J.L. Mitchener Public School for fostering safe, welcoming spaces for learners, staff and visitors and creating a place of belonging and well-being.



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Director Roberto presented Educator Geza Revai and the culinary students and staff at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School's Hospitality program who have competed in skills competitions, garnering awards, developed and executed many menus, catered large-scale events and high-profile meetings at their school and throughout the Grand Erie community.

(j) **Student Showcase**

(i) **Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair**

Director Roberto recognized Delhi District Secondary School students B. Ouwendyk and K. Mitchell and North Park Collegiate Institute students L. Song and C. Simmons for winning several awards and recognitions at the Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair.

(k) **Patti McCleister Award**

Director Roberto presented the Patti McCleister Award, honouring the memory of Grand Erie's Training and Development Officer who left a legacy of collaborative leadership, and the ability to inspire others, to Educator Julie Chaplin and Manager of Transportation Services Philip Kuckyt.

(l) **Delegations – Nil**

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **May 27, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated May 27, 2024, be approved.

**Carried**

(b) **June 10, 2024 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated June 10, 2024, be approved.

**Carried**

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Finance Committee Meeting Report dated June 10, 2024**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Board approve the 2024-25 Operating budget of \$397,299,843.

**Carried**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Board approve the 2024-25 Capital budget of \$23,525,000.

**Carried**



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(a) **Quarterly Budget Report**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report**

Presented as printed.

Trustee Collver left the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

(c) **Strategic Communication Plan Evaluation**

Presented as printed.

(d) **Finance, Policy and Program, and Regular Board Meeting Schedule of Reports 2024-25**

Presented as printed.

(e) **Annual Review of the Special Education Plan**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan 2023-24, and the submission of the Special Education Report Components Checklist to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education by July 31, 2024.

**Carried**

H - 1 **Other Business**

(a) Audit Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 7, 2024

(b) Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 28, 2024

(c) Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated April 18, 2024

(d) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated May 2, 2024

(e) Student Senate Minutes dated April 25, 2024

I - 1 **OPSBA Report**

Trustee Van Every-Albert reminded Trustees regarding the upcoming Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education OPSBA meeting on July 3-5, 2024.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board relay to OPSBA that Trustee Claudine VanEvery-Albert continues to be the voting delegate on OPBSA and continues to vote on behalf of the Grand Erie District School Board in the upcoming elections.

**Carried**

J - 1 **Correspondence – Nil**

K - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Sault

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert



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Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the Board approve the commencement of a Boundary Review process to establish an attendance area boundary for the New Caledonia Elementary school involving Caledonia Centennial Public School, River Heights School, Seneca Central Public School, and J.L. Mitchener Public School.

**Carried**

(b) **Audit Committee Meeting Report dated June 13, 2024**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the 2024-25 Internal Audit Plan.

**Carried**

(c) **Policy and Program Committee Meeting Report dated June 17, 2024**

Presented as printed.

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings – Nil**

E - 1 **Report of the Director**

Director Roberto highlighted the following:

- West Brant Ground-breaking
- Pride in the Park
- Summer Learning Institute
- ECO Schools
- Health and Safety Week
- iPad Learning Projects
- Transitions at Valley Heights Secondary School
- Jill of all Trades
- Retirement of Manager of Communication Dave Smouter
- Special thank you to Student Trustee Keira Gayowsky (who represented students in the Brantford and Brant County), Maggie Baker (who represented students in Haldimand and Norfolk counties) and Aleena Skye (who represented Indigenous students across Grand Erie) for their hard work and dedication in being the voice of their fellow students.

F - 1 **Student Trustees' Report**

(a) **Student Senate Report**

Presented as printed.

(b) **OSTA-AECO Report**

Presented as printed.

G - 1 **New Business - Action / Information Items**



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THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

**Carried**

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto

