

**TRANSITION COMMITTEE
RECORD OF ACTION
WALLACEBURG FAMILY OF SCHOOLS**

Date: April 30, 2014

Location: W.D.S.S.

Present: Committee Members:

Facilitator Gayle Stucke

Director of Education Jim Costello, Regrets

Superintendent of Education Joy Badder Regrets

Superintendent OF Education Mike Gilfoyle

Psychoeducational Clinician Stephanie McMath-Williams

CUPE President, Jody McGill

ETFO Vice-President, John Neville

OSSTF Vice-President Scott Stitch

A.A. Wright Public School Representatives

Principal Chris Coyle

Teachers Jean Van Damme, Crystal Babbitt Regrets

School Council Co-chairs David Gough

Clerical/Custodian

Parent/Community Lisa Findlater

First Nation/Parent Shawna Smith

Educational Assistant Michelle Freeburn

Students Lillian Herreweyers, Gabriel Therrien Regrets

D.A. Gordon Public School Representatives

Principal Ben Hazzard

School Council Chair Merissa Fox

Teachers Kathy Myers, Candi Richards

Educational Assistant Fred McPherson

Clerical/ Custodial Deb Aarssen

Early Years Kim Unsworth

Community Member Ben Moyes regrets

Students Allan Hadlock, Krislyn Howell

H.W. Burgess Public School Representatives

Principal Todd Tiffin

School Council Chair Hillary Murphy

Teachers
 Educational Assistant
 Clerical/ Custodial
 Students

Laura Comiskey, Kristan Blair
 Rachel Martin
 Lynda Nicholson
 Carter Benedict, Zoe Broadbent

Wallaceburg District Secondary School Representatives

Principal
 School Council Chair
 Teachers
 First Nation
 Educational Assistant
 Clerical/Custodial
 Students

Rob Lee
 Sylkie Kilbride
 Scott Lalonde, Janine Day
 Suzette Sands
 Lisa Cornish
 Russell Hebert -Regrets
 Nathan Outridge, regrets, Cassidy Turner

Note: This document is not a verbatim transcript. Questions and answers have been paraphrased for the sake of clarity and brevity.

Item	Discussion	Action/Responsibility
Welcome And Introductions	Committee members and the public were welcomed to this 5 th Transition Committee Meeting. Trustees Ian Cryer and Anika Altman were introduced. The attendance of Superintendent Mike Gilfoyle and CUPE President Jody McGill was recognized. WDSS Vice Principals joined the Committee table to share their experience in orientation activities for students going into the 7 and 8 program.	
Review of March 26 2014 Record of Action	No concerns were raised.	
Business Arising	The follow up to the last meeting will be discussed under Sub Committee Reports. WDSS Principal, students and staff were recognized for being honoured with a Business of Excellence Award in the area of Ecco Friendly, Environmental Initiatives.	
School orientation/transition Committee Kathy Myers	-The DA Gordon Homecoming was a big success attracting 1,000 visitors. -DA Gordon is hosting Author visits during the month of May with presentations for students from all 3 elementary schools in the afternoon	

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	<p>and again in the evening for families and community members.</p> <p>-The Sue Tallach Book Fund will be used to sponsor this activity. It has been decided that this endowment fund will be transferred to AA Wright Public School.</p>	
<p>Transition to Grade 7/8 Janine Day, Fred McPherson</p>	<p>In the past two days Grade 5 and 6 students visited WDSS with their teachers. Leadership students from the high school led a Scavenger Hunt and tour of the wing for the Grade 7 and 8 program. Vice Principal McDonald introduced the administrative team to the students, followed by an active Question and Answer period.</p> <p>Students and staff on the Committee shared their perceptions of the visits. The cafeteria, lockers and air conditioning were highlights. The Tartan sling bags really brought home the feeling that they would be Tartans. All agreed that any preconceived worries about the move next September have been allayed.</p>	
<p>Memorabilia Sylke Kilbride</p>	<p>DA Gordon memorabilia has been boxed by decade. The museum will take pictures but a storage location is still being sought for plaques. Photos have been taken of all memorabilia for a permanent record.</p> <p>The Homecoming provided an opportunity for current and former students to recognize the long history of the school and the impact it has had on thousands of people in Wallaceburg. A Silent Auction successfully found new homes for Sports Banners and Jerseys.</p>	
<p>Resource and Equipment Kim Unsworth</p>	<p>Packing and purging is well underway. Google Drive is allowing schools to work together. DA Gordon staff have started this project early and staff from the other two schools should request boxes to sort resources that will remain, be moved or discarded.</p>	
<p>Special Events David Gough</p>	<p>Recommendations from this committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Support of DA Gordon's efforts to respect the history and culture that school -Receiving schools to hold Open House events to welcome new students and their families 	

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	<p>-Grade 6 and 7 students should receive recognition as they move to WDSS but a graduation ceremony is not recommended</p> <p>-Individual schools should plan their own Grade 8 graduations.</p> <p>-Grade 8 Graduation will be held in future and planned by WDSS staff, students and parents.</p>	
<p>Extra-Curricular Activities Kristan Blair</p>	<p>Since staff transfers have been completed teachers have begun to plan Athletic and Extra Curricular activities. There will be a full offering of sports for Grade 7 and 8 students with the league for competition still to be determined. Students wish to be known as Tartans.</p> <p>The two remaining elementary schools plan to offer Junior Soccer for boys and girls.</p> <p>Decisions are still to be finalized by staff about extra curricular Student Council, Music and Drama opportunities.</p> <p>Principals shared names of staff members. Assignment of CUPE staff, secretaries, custodians and education assistants will be made within the next month.</p>	
<p>Transition Tasks and Timelines Isabella Beattie</p>	<p>A second set of boxes has been delivered to D.A. Gordon and A.A.Wright Public Schools. Each receiving school's Wish List is progressing.</p> <p>A question was asked about the moving of musical instruments from Wright to WDSS and Isabella Beattie will follow up. Honey Electric will move Smart Boards and computers.</p>	
<p>Questions Suggestions from Members</p>	<p>Q. Is there a list of Intermediate resources that should be moved to the high school?</p> <p>A. Teachers should purge and pack things they want moved with them. It is important for teachers moving to WDSS to meet and discuss needs.</p> <p>Lisa McDonald has set up a meeting for next week with a lengthy agenda of topics requiring decisions.</p>	
<p>Questions from</p>	<p>Q. A parent asked about Grade 7 and 8 student use of the cafeteria.</p>	

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Public	<p>A. The second lunch break for Grade 7 and 8 students occurs at a time when secondary school students are in class. It is the tentative plan that the younger students will have access to the cafeteria at that time.</p> <p>Comment from parent: The work done in planning and hosting the D.A. Gordon Public School Homecoming was very impressive. Staff and students should be thanked and congratulated.</p>	
Next Steps	<p>May -Author Days at D.A. Gordon Public School with evening sessions for families Teacher planning ongoing May – A.A. Wright Public School hosting picnic and activity for other two elementary schools June – A.A. Wright Public School holding an Open House for students and families June 13 – D.A. Gordon Public School hosting a Fun Day focused on students and providing another opportunity for community members to visit the school before its closure.</p>	
Future Meetings?	<p>It was agreed that this would be the last official meeting of this Transition Committee with all initiatives completed or underway. Members will meet on October 22 at WDSS to reflect on the transition process after the students have had an opportunity to settle into their new locations. Appreciation was expressed for the participation at five Transition Meetings and all of the work that has occurred between meetings.</p>	