Special Board Minutes
Thursday, August 13, 2026
Committee Room 7 and Virtually

The Upper Grand District School Board met in special session on Thursday, August 13, 2026, in Committee Room 7 at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, and virtually via Microsoft Teams, starting at 5:07 p.m.

Trustees Present:
- Ralf Mesenbrink (Chair)
- Alethia O'Hara-Stephenson (Vice Chair)
- Jen Edwards
- Irene Hanenberg
- Martha MacNeil
- Kyle Reaburn
- Robin Ross
- Lynn Topping
- Laurie Whyte

Absent: - None

Administration: - Peter Sovran, Chief Executive Officer

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Mesenbrink presided and called the meeting to order.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Trustee MacNeil recognized that the Board is meeting on the ancestral, treaty and title lands of two Anishinaabek Ojibwe Nations: The Michi Saagig of the Credit and the Saugeen Ojibway Nation.

Equity and Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression Commitment Statement

Trustee Topping highlighted the importance of the Board's commitment to equity and anti-racism/anti-oppression.

3. Approval of the Agenda

RESOLUTION #26-161:

Moved by: Trustee O'Hara-Stephenson
Seconded by: Trustee MacNeil

That the Upper Grand District School Board agenda for the August 13, 2026 special meeting, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5. Resolve into Committee of Whole (Closed)

RESOLUTION #26-162:

Moved by: Trustee MacNeil
Seconded by: Trustee Topping

That the Board resolves into a Committee of the Whole closed session for consideration of matters as set out in Section 207(2) (a)-(e) of the *Education Act*.

CARRIED

6. Committee Reports

6.1 Report of Committee of the Whole – Closed Session

Pursuant to Section 207(2) of the *Education Act* a meeting of a committee of a board, including a committee of the whole, may be closed to the public when the subject-matter under consideration involves matters set out in 207(2)(a)-(e) of the *Education Act*.

Vice Chair O'Hara-Stephenson presented the Committee of the Whole (Closed Session) report for the session which met on August 13, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. and was held in closed session as per Section 207(2) of the *Education Act*. All board members were present and no declarations of pecuniary interest declared.

RESOLUTION #26-165:

Moved by: Trustee O'Hara-Stephenson
Seconded by: Trustee Weiler

That the Upper Grand District School Board approves the business of the special Committee of the Whole - Closed Session of August 13, 2026.

CARRIED

7. Adjournment

RESOLUTION #26-166:

Moved by: Trustee MacNeil
Seconded by: Trustee Weiler

That the August 13, 2026 Upper Grand District School Board special meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.