



# The Leader

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Regular Meeting of the Board

April 24, 2023

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/41TdmkX>

### Learn Lead Inspire Award Recognitions

This month, Grand Erie is pleased to recognize two individuals for their commitments to learning, leading and inspiring, and presented those awards during Monday's meeting.



**Above:** Charley Lauchlan (left) and Melissa Mummary were joined by Lakewood Elementary School administrative staff including David Van Laecke, principal, and Tatum Shantz, vice-principal, along with family members who shared in their honours. Director of Education JoAnna Roberto and Chair Susan Gibson presented the awards.



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### Learn Lead Inspire Award Recognitions Contd.

**Charley Lauchlan**, a Grade 6 student at Lakewood Elementary School, is a young artist with a clear vision and a bright future ahead. Inspired by the works of Picasso, Van Gogh and Maud Lewis, she used the downtime of the pandemic to teach herself to work in a variety of visual art media and rather, she aims to create works of beauty that can be a point of inspiration for others. Her works and talent have been recognized at the Norfolk County Fair, and displayed at various library branches in the region, as well as in Grand Erie's Education Centre. She looks forward to entering new works at the fair this fall, as she pursues her studies in art and further develops her artistic practice. Her hope is to reach as wide an audience as possible through her work, and to continue experimenting with new styles. Charley's unique vision, artistic discipline and dedication are already inspiring the Grand Erie community, and it is an honour to present her with a Learn Lead Inspire recognition.



For more than 10 years, **Melissa Mummery** has served as Chair of Lakewood Elementary School's Parent Council, a leadership role that sees her collaborating with staff, parents/caregivers, the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) and members of the community. She does so with positivity, kindness, and inspiring motivation. Her ability to see what's possible, and identify the steps needed to get there, have led to many achievements. Her fundraising efforts have directly benefited the learning community at Lakewood, and extend to the broader community it calls home. Among those endeavours are support for the school's extensive snack program, the purchase of outdoor play equipment, the renovation of the school's learning commons, the construction of an outdoor classroom in partnership with Grand Erie, covering costs of field trips to remove barriers to participation, and enhancing classroom libraries. Three years ago, she began working directly with principal David Van Laecke to realize a large goal: the resurfacing of the Todd Eaton Memorial Track, an asset that will benefit students and community members for a long time to come. Melissa's ongoing, active involvement has made Lakewood Elementary and Port Dover a better place, and she is a shining example of what it means to Learn, Lead and Inspire.



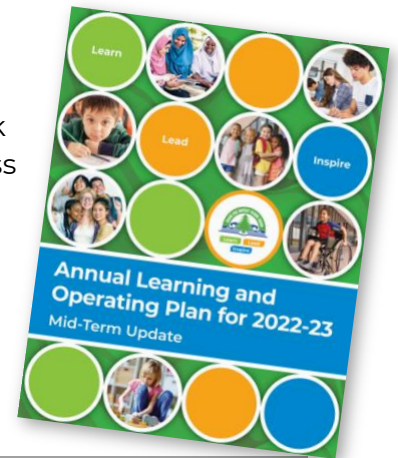


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### Mid-Term Update

The Annual Learning and Operating Plan keeps Grand Erie on track to reaching its goals. The mid-term update shows inspiring progress and unlimited potential as we continue working towards realizing our strategic priorities. Through a collaborative, responsive approach, we are seeing many examples of success and points of pride along the way that demonstrate our commitment to students' growth as they strive to reach their own goals. The full mid-term update is available [here](#).



### Upcoming Upgrades: Elgin Public School

The Board approved a motion passed at the Finance Committee on April 17 outlining a proposed scope of upgrades to Elgin Public School. This represents another step forward towards investment and improvements at Elgin Public School through a proposal that modernizes our existing facility with newly constructed spaces. This moves the process towards subsequent meetings with the Ministry for further funding and approval. At this point, work is anticipated to begin July 2024. The full report is available here: <https://bit.ly/3NbRixZ>.

## Director's Report Highlights

### Deepening Understanding through Indigenous Cultural Competency Training

Indigenous Cultural Competency Training (ICCT) is underway at Grand Erie for the second year. Last year focused on professional development opportunities for administrators, facilitated by local speakers. Currently, 211 elementary/secondary and system support staff have participated in the training with a Haudenosaunee facilitator. The professional learning includes an in-depth examination of legal terms and cultural understandings of identity, legislative history, residential schools and intergenerational impacts.





Learn

Lead

Inspire

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**Above:** Students take part in a Wellness Out Loud workshop at the April 18 event at Joseph Brant Learning Centre.

### Wellness Out Loud

To kick-start Mental Health Week, and support student leaders in bringing wellness strategies to their schools, the first annual Wellness Out Loud event rolled out last week. This energizing event was organized by a committee made up of secondary students, administrators and mental health and well-being staff, including child and youth workers, social workers, psychology staff, and led by Grand Erie's manager and principal leader for Mental Health Education. Students on the committee were involved in all aspects, from branding it, to selecting workshops, to planning the Wellness Marketplace. Each secondary school sent a team of five to seven students and accompanying staff. The Wellness Marketplace consisted of community mental health agencies, public health organizations, rock painting and cookie decorating stations, bracelet making and Kindness Tree button making. The morning program focused on education, while the afternoon allowed time for students to plan the activities they will bring to their schools during Mental Health Week next month. Over the day, students learned about mental health promotion and well-being, were inspired by the activities and workshops, and then were given the tools to lead activities with their schools.



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### Team Math Challenge Hagersville Secondary School

On April 20, approximately 75 students from grades 9 to 12, along with 15 educators, were involved in the inaugural Grand Erie Team Math competition. Learners competed through team and individual questions, and the day was capped off with a relay question round. There was amazing math talk happening throughout the day as student completed curricular, as well as outside-the-box problem solving.

Thank you to Hagersville Secondary for hosting the competition, and to all the students that performed so well throughout the day. The overall team winner of the day was North Park Collegiate and Vocational School.



**Above:** Students from North Park Collegiate and Vocational School celebrate an overall win at the inaugural Grand Erie Math Team competition.

### SNAC Open House

The Six Nations Advisory Committee hosted an open house at Six Nations Polytechnic on April 20. During two open house times, Grand Erie staff welcomed and connected many students and parents/caregivers with information on secondary education and supports available at Grand Erie schools. Information included many topics such as diploma and certificate requirements, Grant days, co-op education and dual credit programs, various other education supports available. Indigenous Education staff took questions and provided knowledgeable guidance during this highly successful event.



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### Additional Items

The following Policies were approved:

- Capital Related Fundraising Policy (BU-03)
- Major Construction Policy (FA-01)
- New Construction Policy (FA-02)
- Naming/Renaming of Schools and Facilities Policy (FA-03)
- Community Use of Schools Policy (FA-04)
- Transition Committee Policy (FA-09)
- Green Construction Policy (FA-10)
- Community Planning and Facility Partnership Policy (FA-11)
- Inclement Weather Policy (TR-01)
- Student Transportation Policy (TR-02)
- Fundraising Policy (SO-01)

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### Multi-Year Plan Stories

In 2021, Grand Erie approved a new strategic direction to guide the work that the school board is doing. At the centre of this multi-year plan is the vision to Learn, Lead and Inspire, and a mission to build a culture Learning, Well-Being and Belonging for each learner.

The following stories showcase some of the most recent stories related to the Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

#### Learning

- [Student Senate Event Brings School Leaders Together](#)
- [PSW Program's Living Classroom Launches Health Care Careers](#)

#### Belonging

- [Student Journalism Spotlight: Celebrating the New Multi-Faith Prayer Room at North Park](#)
- [Educational Assistant Appreciation Day](#)