



# The Leader

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Regular Meeting of the Board

January 30, 2023

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3XPED66>

#### Learn Lead Inspire Award Presentation Imam Abu Noman Tarek

Grand Erie's relationship with Imam Abu Noman Tarek began during a very difficult time. It was the aftermath of the Quebec City mosque shooting in 2017, and Imam Tarek reached out to express concern for the safety and well-being of local Muslim youth and their families. He provided invaluable guidance to Grand Erie staff to help bridge knowledge and understanding as our communities united to support learners, and worked together to take a stand against Islamophobia. In the ensuing years, Imam Tarek has become a great friend and partner to Grand Erie, providing leadership, advocacy and

opportunities, and through sharing his wisdom and experience to advance safe and inclusive environments. Among his many achievements are the founding of the *Better Together* program and co-founding of the *Muslim-Indigenous Connections* program to build cohesion and understanding among the many different communities that make up our region. He sponsors inclusion awards in each Brantford elementary and secondary school. He is also a recipient of the YMCA Peace Medal, recognizing outstanding efforts for social justice. Grand Erie is pleased to present Imam Tarek with a *Learn Lead Inspire* recognition. His tireless work striving to make this community better for everyone, and continued collaboration with our students and staff members is a true testament to the spirit of this award.



**Above:** Imam Tarek was joined by his family to accept a Learn Lead Inspire award, presented by Director Roberto and Chair Gibson Monday.



# The Leader

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Construction Updates

Status updates for four major projects were provided Monday evening, including progress on the South-West Brantford elementary school, joint use elementary school in Caledonia, a child care additions at Banbury Heights School and Cobblestone Elementary School. The full report can be found on pages 16 – 17 here:

<https://bit.ly/3XPED66>

### Director's Report Highlights

#### Secondary Transitions: You Belong Here

*You Belong Here* is Grand Erie's secondary campaign, focused on the unique and innovative learning and extracurricular programs available to support individual learners. This campaign is intended to further support Grand Erie's transition work and aligns with our multi-year strategic plan. Each secondary school has a dedicated webpage with registration information.



### Kickstart to Kindergarten

Last year, Grand Erie hosted Kickstart to Kindergarten events at four schools, inviting families and future learners to take part in fun activities while receiving any supports needed with the registration process. The events, planned with the support of our community partners in those communities, were a huge success. This year, the program is expanding to additional schools including King George, Woodman, Greenbrier, Port Rowan, West Lynn, Thompson Creek, Oneida and Mt. Pleasant, with Bellview, Cobblestone, Jarvis and Delhi returning for a second year.



# The Leader

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Recognizing Community Learning Opportunities

Community partnerships are essential to adding meaningful learning and professional development opportunities to enhance the experiences of our students, families and staff members, and impact on achievement and success. On Monday, the following organizations and community events were recognized for the value they add to our region:

- Triple P Parenting
- Haldimand Children's Water Festival
- Dr. Kristen McLeod's Trauma-Informed Care workshops

### Additional Items

#### 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 Plan.

#### Learning

Investing in Educational Technology to Optimize Learning:

<https://bit.ly/3HgCyKC>

#### Well-Being

Student-Driven Project Offers a Fresh Perspective on Mental Health:

<https://bit.ly/3JuK4Df>

#### Belonging

École Dufferin Learners Leave Their Mark on the TH&B Crossing Bridge:

<https://bit.ly/40gKlzk>

West Lynn Public School Reads its Way to the Fair:

<https://bit.ly/3RnVBCp>