



Learn

Lead

Inspire

The Leader

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Regular Meeting of the Board

May 29, 2023

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



Above: Grand Erie administrative staff and trustees admire a 1967 Volkswagen Beetle restored by Simcoe Composite School's talented transportation technology students on Monday evening.

Student Showcase: Engines Revved for Learning

A road trip from Simcoe Composite School to Brantford showcased an incredible hands-on learning experience this year, as a fully restored 1967 Volkswagen Beetle rolled into the Education Centre parking lot to kick off Monday's board meeting. The restoration project brought lots of positive buzz for Simcoe Composite School as part of MOTORAMA 2023 at the Toronto International Centre in March, where the school was the only one in Ontario to feature a restoration project of that scale, showing off the results of a lot of hard work and meticulous craftsmanship in class.



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Approval of Fundraising Viability Plan for Paris District High School Track

A fundraising viability plan to redevelop the track at Paris District High School was approved Monday, with a goal of establishing the school as a community hub for recreation, while offering a modern facility that reflects the true potential of academic and athletic use at the school. The current four-lane track is not an ideal surface, and requires special maintenance, and has a limited range of uses. The new concept envisions a redeveloped track and amenities, including widening the track to a six-lane synthetic surface that conforms to International Amateur Athletic Federation standards, conversion of the current athletic field into artificial turf, a new scoreboard, lighting and other athletic components. The project is set to cost an estimated \$3 million, and the fundraising viability plan would contribute \$2 million. Construction would begin in July 2024. To view the full report, see pages 35 – 39 here: <https://bit.ly/3MDzBpe>



Director's Report Highlights

Students and Staff Learning, Leading and Inspiring

Student Trustee **Tatyana Zebroski** is the recipient of a significant national scholarship to pursue post-secondary education. Tatyana will be attending Western University this fall for Medical Sciences and was awarded the Faculty of Science Entrance Award as part of Western's National Scholarship program, with a value of \$35,000 over four years.

Dunnville Secondary School student **Olivia Jones** took part in a live at the recent OPSOA annual conference, discussing early school experiences as a student with learning needs, the importance of supportive and caring educators to help students reach goals, and the need for high expectations, especially those who have an Individual Education Plan. Thanks to educator **Katerine Greenhalgh** for supporting Olivia in this leadership role.



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Students and Staff Learning, Leading and Inspiring Contd.

Jeff Allison, vice-principal at Grand Erie Learning Alternatives, recently received the Leadership in eLearning award at the Ontario eLearning Consortium in Ottawa. Each year, the Consortium seeks to acknowledge its members by recognizing excellence in advancing eLearning, leadership, technology and support.

Simcoe Composite School's concert band was invited to perform at a national show in Niagara Falls earlier this month, following the band's recognition at the Golden Horseshoe Festival in February. The invitation-only event was a significant achievement for music students, with guidance from proud music educator **Shawn Beal**.

Rainbow Ball Focuses on Belonging

More than 300 students and staff from across Grand Erie came together for a Las Vegas-themed night of music, dancing and card games. The annual Rainbow Ball is an empowering celebration and welcoming space for students and allies and is hosted by a different secondary school each year. Thank you to Simcoe Composite School, Waterford District High School and all the volunteers who made it an event to remember.



Grand Erie Well Represented at Skills Ontario Competition

The first two days in May saw thousands of learners from across Ontario gathering for the annual competition showcasing outstanding achievement in the skilled trades and technology fields. Grand Erie schools including Agnes G. Hodge Public School, Princess Elizabeth Public School, Walsh Public School, Mt. Pleasant Public School, Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School, Waterford District High School, and Tollgate Technological Skills Centre represented our region with impressive placements in categories including construction, video production, LEGO mechanical engineering and robotics, restaurant services, baking, and brick masonry.



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Lacrosse, Leadership and Climate Change

On May 18, Grand Erie presented *Lacrosse, Leadership and Climate Change*, part of its ongoing Indigenous Speakers Series meant to increase opportunities to learn from Indigenous peoples and perspectives. The two-part event featured Haudenosaunee leaders **Oren Lyons** and **Rick Hill** in forward-looking conversations on a number of important topics related to learners and leadership, with an afternoon event for a student audience and an evening event open to the general public. Both were well attended and received.

Additional Items

The following committee reports were recommended for approval:

- Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (SO-14)
- Reporting of Wrongdoing Policy (HR-23)

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

- [Experiential Learning Inspires Next Generation of Young Professionals](#)

Well-Being

- [Thompson Creek Prioritizes Mental Health in a Weekly Wellness Challenge](#)

Belonging

- [Grand Erie Shares Anti-Racism Video Series Created for Professional Development](#)
- [One-Stop Grad Shop Offers Glam without the Price Tags](#)