



Audit Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2025

Education Centre, Board Room

4:30 p.m.

AGENDA

A - 1 **Opening** (J. Bradford)

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session **(4:30 pm)**
- (d) Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement
The Grand Erie District School Board recognizes Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as the longstanding peoples of this territory. We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples who reside within the Grand Erie District School Board. We are all stewards of these lands and waters where we now gather, learn and play, and commit to working together in the spirit of Reconciliation.
- (e) Call to Order
- (f) Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)
Recommended Motion: "That the Audit Committee agenda be approved."
- (g) In-Camera Report

B - 1 **Consent Agenda** (J. Bradford)

- Recommended Motion:** THAT the Audit Committee accepts the November 13, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein:
- * (a) Minutes of the Audit Committee dated September 11, 2025 be approved.
 - (b) Receive the Consolidated Due Diligence Report.

C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings - NIL**

D - 1 **External Audit**

- * (a) 2024-25 Consolidated Financial Statements (August 31, 2025) (MRR)
Recommended Motion: THAT the 2024-25 Consolidated Financial Statements be forwarded to the November 24, 2025 Regular Board Meeting for approval.

E - 1 **Other Business**

- * (a) Audit Committee Annual Report 2025 (R. Wyszynski)
Recommended Motion: THAT the Audit Committee Annual Report 2025 be forwarded to the November 24, 2025 Regular Board Meeting for approval.

F - 1 **Adjournment**

Recommended Motion: "THAT the Audit Committee meeting be adjourned."

G - 1 **Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. (In person)



Audit Committee

Thursday, September 11, 2025

4:30 PM

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

MINUTES

Present: Members: T. Waldschmidt (Trustee), J. Bradford (Trustee),
E. Hodgins (Volunteer), A. Thakker (Volunteer),
Management: J. Roberto (Director), R. Wyszynski (Superintendent of Business),
A. Van Doorn (Senior Manager of Business Services)
KPMG (Internal Auditors): B. Sisson

Regrets: L. Whiton (Trustee), S. Bedi (KPMG), M. McNally (Millards)

Guests: R. Collver (Trustee), S. Gibson (Trustee), C.A. Sloat (Trustee), E. Thomas (Trustee),
J. Tozer (Superintendent of Human Resources)

Recording Secretary: L. Howells, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Business

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Wyszynski at 4:34 p.m. Roll Call was completed.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nil

(c) Land Acknowledgement Statement

Superintendent Wyszynski read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

(d) Approval of Agenda

Presented as printed

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Audit Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

B - 1 Selection of Audit Committee Chair

Superintendent Wyszynski explained the statutory cycle of the committee and reminded the committee that all Trustees and voluntary members are eligible for the role of the Chair. Superintendent Wyszynski opened the floor to accept nominations.

Trustee Bradford self-nominated. Trustee Waldschmidt self-nominated.

No further nominations were received for Audit Committee Chair, and the nominations were closed.

Electronic ballots were distributed, collected and tabulated.

Trustee Bradford declared elected as the Audit Committee Chair for the 2025-26 statutory committee cycle.



Audit Committee

Thursday, September 11, 2025

4:30 PM

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

MINUTES

C - 1 **Consent Agenda**

Presented as printed

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: A. Thakker

THAT the Audit Committee accepts the September 11, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein:

(a) Minutes of the Audit Committee dated June 12, 2025 be approved.

(b) Receive the Consolidated Due Diligence Report.

(c) Receive the Q3 Financials Forecast.

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings - Nil**

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Review Audit Committee Terms of Reference**

Superintendent Wyszynski reviewed the current Audit Committee Terms of Reference noting these continue to align with *Ontario Regulation 361/10* (the Regulation) and the *Education Act*, no changes required.

F - 1 **Internal Audit**

(a) **Attendance Support Program Needs Assessment**

B. Sisson, from KPMG, presented the final Attendance Support Program Needs Assessment report providing a high-level overview of the scope and approach and the recommendations.

In response to question, Superintendent Wyszynski stated update on the recommendations will be included in the annual internal audit update report brought to the June Audit Committee meeting. Superintendent Tozer added we are pleased current process is strongly aligned with PPM 171 and next steps will be to further mature our program, review data collected to inform program decisions and build the knowledge and capacity of staff, including those on the Human Resources team, to support employees with accessing early intervention resources to maintain regular attendance at work.

G - 1 **External Audit - Nil**

H - 1 **Other Business - Nil**

I - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Audit Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Carried

J - 1 **Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (In person)



Audit Committee Consolidated Due Diligence Report

B-1-b

Item	2025-26 School Year											
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
All Statutory withholding (Income Tax, CPP, EI) have been submitted	LC	LC										
Employer Health Tax paid and submitted for the month	LC	LC										
Records of employment for any terminated or laid off employees completed and sent electronically to Service Canada.	LC	LC										
OMERS (pension deductions from staff, company portion of pension and amounts remitted and report of additions and deletions of staff to plan) remitted.	LC	LC										
Teacher's Pension Plan and Union Dues remitted.	LC	LC										
Employee changes uploaded to ELHT Benefit Plan Administration.	DD	DD										
H.S.T. return remitted.	JH	JH										
New employees have been trained as required under Health and Safety Legislation.	LL	LL										
Workplace inspections were completed during the period.	LL	LL										
Required JOHSC committee meetings were held during the period.	LL	LL										

Staff include: LC-Laurie Campbell, DD-Diane De Vos, JH-Julie Hardie, LL-Lena Latreille,

Grand Erie District School Board

Consolidated Financial Statements

August 31, 2025

Draft for discussion purposes only



Grand Erie District School Board
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August 31, 2025

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MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying consolidated financial statements for the Grand Erie District School Board (the Board) are the responsibility of the Board's management and have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Administration Act, supplemented by Ontario Ministry of Education memorandum 2004:B2 and Ontario Regulation 395/11 of the Financial Administration Act as described in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements.

The preparation of consolidated financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates based on management's judgment, particularly when transactions affecting the current accounting period cannot be finalized with certainty until future periods.

Board management maintains a system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are properly authorized and recorded in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements, and Board policies and reliable financial information is available on a timely basis for preparation of the consolidated financial statements. These systems are monitored and evaluated by management.

The Audit Committee of the Board meets with the external auditors to review the consolidated financial statements and discuss any significant financial reporting or internal control matters prior to the Board's approval of the consolidated financial statements.

The consolidated financial statements have been audited by Millard, Rouse and Rosebrugh LLP, independent external auditors appointed by the Board. The accompanying Independent Auditors' Report outlines their responsibilities, the scope of their examination, and their opinion on the Board's consolidated financial statements.

JoAnna Roberto, Director of Education

Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of
Business & Treasurer

Brantford, Ontario
November 24, 2025



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of Grand Erie District School Board

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Grand Erie District School Board (the Board), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at August 31, 2025, and the consolidated statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net debt, and cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (hereinafter referred to as the financial statements).

In our opinion, the accompanying statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Board as at August 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Board in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting used in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements and the significant differences between such basis of accounting and Canadian public sector accounting standards. As a result, the consolidated financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Board's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Board or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Board's financial reporting process.

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Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Board's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Board to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Board to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision, and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

November 24, 2025
Simcoe, Ontario

Millard, Rouse & Rosebrugh LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

Grand Erie District School Board
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
As at August 31, 2025

	2025	2024
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,634,762	\$ 2,887,165
Accounts receivable (Note 2)	32,566,705	30,182,519
Accounts receivable - Government of Ontario (Note 3)	92,138,490	81,661,704
	\$128,339,957	\$114,731,388
Liabilities		
Temporary borrowing (Note 4)	43,630,000	13,290,000
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	29,978,263	30,049,608
Deferred revenue (Note 6)	1,955,842	2,971,729
Deferred capital contributions (Note 7)	279,355,850	240,989,956
Asset retirement obligation (Note 8)	21,889,352	22,055,973
Employee benefits payable (Note 9)	13,478,561	14,642,397
Net debenture debt and capital loans (Note 10)	51,712,801	56,622,283
	442,000,669	380,621,946
Net debt	(313,660,712)	(265,890,558)
Non-financial assets		
Prepaid expenses (Note 11)	5,454,643	2,767,740
Prepaid capital assets	3,082,061	-
Inventories of supplies	194,000	194,000
Tangible capital assets (Note 12)	313,070,027	271,624,511
	321,800,731	274,586,251
Accumulated surplus (Note 13)	\$ 8,140,019	\$ 8,695,693

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Chair of the Board

Vice-Chair of the Board

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement



Grand Erie District School Board
Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus
Year ended August 31, 2025

	Budget 2025	2025	2024
Revenues			
Core education funding (Note 14)	\$ 349,955,240	\$ 383,170,189	\$ 369,321,065
Provincial grants - other	18,910,048	10,048,627	43,905,842
School generated funds	8,083,298	9,063,398	9,126,146
Federal grants and fees	6,762,175	7,522,744	7,313,564
Other revenue from school boards	302,532	391,860	497,776
Other fees and revenue	2,641,968	5,212,811	4,269,827
Amortization of deferred capital contributions (Note 7)	18,601,397	21,457,778	19,298,799
	405,256,658	436,867,407	453,733,019
Expenses (Note 15)			
Instruction	305,729,321	336,752,606	347,458,466
Administration	9,809,659	11,980,993	11,892,101
Transportation	18,712,522	18,049,783	17,356,512
Pupil accommodation	53,323,829	58,054,947	56,912,718
School generated funds	8,083,298	8,648,647	8,963,314
Other	9,724,512	3,936,105	4,833,059
	405,383,141	437,423,081	447,416,170
Annual surplus (deficit)	(126,483)	(555,674)	6,316,849
Accumulated surplus - beginning of year	11,207,690	8,695,693	2,378,844
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS - END OF YEAR	\$ 11,081,207	\$ 8,140,019	\$ 8,695,693

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement



Grand Erie District School Board

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flow

Year ended August 31, 2025

	2025	2024
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Annual surplus (deficit) for the year	\$ (555,674)	\$ 6,316,849
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets (TCA)	22,188,463	19,945,495
Amortization of TCA - asset retirement obligations	625,527	608,081
Increase of asset retirement obligations excluding abatement	575,667	798,618
Increase in estimate of TCA - asset retirement obligation	(560,781)	(798,618)
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(21,457,777)	(19,298,799)
Disposals and transfer of deferred capital contributions	(54,610)	(50,009)
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	(848,030)	(383,494)
	(87,215)	7,138,123
Sources (uses):		
Accounts receivable	(2,384,186)	(343,757)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(71,347)	2,358,846
Deferred revenue - operating	(1,286,666)	(293,549)
Employee benefits payable	(1,163,836)	(997,264)
Prepaid expenses	(2,686,903)	(277,791)
Prepaid capital assets	(3,082,061)	-
Inventories of supplies	-	124,916
Settlement of asset retirement liability through abatement	(742,288)	(562,748)
	(11,417,287)	8,653
Cash flow from (used by) operating activities	(11,504,502)	7,146,776
CAPITAL ACTIVITIES		
Cash used to acquire tangible capital assets	(63,753,335)	(40,548,606)
Proceeds on sale of tangible capital assets	902,642	458,073
Cash flow used by capital activities	(62,850,693)	(40,090,533)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Accounts receivable - Government of Ontario	(10,476,786)	(3,658,229)
Increase in temporary borrowing	30,340,000	10,370,000
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue - capital	270,779	(1,493,761)
Additions to deferred capital contributions	59,878,281	32,730,976
Debt and capital loan repayments	(4,909,482)	(4,893,642)
Cash flow from financing activities	75,102,792	33,055,344
Net change in cash and cash equivalents during the year	747,597	111,587
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year	2,887,165	2,775,578
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	\$ 3,634,762	\$ 2,887,165

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement

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Grand Erie District School Board
Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Debt
Year ended August 31, 2025

	Budget 2025	2025	2024
Annual surplus (deficit) for the year	\$ (126,483)	\$ (555,674)	\$ 6,316,849
Tangible capital asset activity			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(50,377,183)	(63,753,335)	(40,548,606)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	19,195,205	22,813,990	20,559,253
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	902,642	458,073
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	(848,030)	(383,494)
Increase in estimate of TCA - asset retirement obligation	-	(560,781)	(798,618)
	(31,181,978)	(41,445,514)	(20,713,392)
Other non-financial asset activity			
Consumption of supplies inventories (net)	-	-	124,916
Purchase of prepaid expenses(net)	-	(2,686,905)	(277,791)
Purchase of prepaid capital assets	-	(3,082,061)	-
	-	(5,768,966)	(152,875)
Increase in net debt	(31,308,461)	(47,770,154)	(14,549,418)
Net debt - beginning of year	(265,890,558)	(265,890,558)	(251,341,140)
NET DEBT - END OF YEAR	\$ (297,199,019)	\$ (313,660,712)	\$ (265,890,558)

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The consolidated financial statements are prepared by management in accordance with the basis of accounting described below.

Basis of accounting

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Administration Act supplemented by Ontario Ministry of Education memorandum 2004:B2 and Ontario Regulation 395/11 of the Financial Administration Act.

The Financial Administration Act requires that the consolidated financial statements be prepared in accordance with the accounting principles determined by the relevant Ministry of the Province of Ontario. A directive was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Education within memorandum 2004:B2 requiring school boards to adopt Canadian public sector accounting standards commencing with their year ended August 31, 2004, and that changes may be required to the application of these standards as a result of regulation.

In 2011, the government passed Ontario Regulation 395/11 of the Financial Administration Act. The Regulation requires that contributions received or receivable for the acquisition or development of depreciable tangible capital assets and contributions of depreciable tangible capital assets for use in providing services, be recorded as deferred capital contributions and be recognized as revenue in the statement of operations over the periods during which the asset is used to provide service at the same rate that amortization is recognized in respect of the related asset. The regulation further requires that if the net book value of the depreciable tangible capital asset is reduced for any reason other than depreciation, a proportionate reduction of the deferred capital contribution along with a proportionate increase in the revenue be recognized. For Ontario school boards, these contributions include government transfers, externally restricted contributions and, historically, property tax revenue.

The accounting policy requirements under Ontario Regulation 395/11 are significantly different from the requirements of Canadian public sector accounting standards, which require that;

- government transfers, which do not contain a stipulation that creates a liability, be recognized as revenue by the recipient when approved by the transferor and the eligibility criteria have been met in accordance with public sector accounting standard PS3410;
- externally restricted contributions be recognized as revenue in the period in which the resources are used for the purpose or purposes specified in accordance with public sector accounting standard PS3100; and
- property taxation revenue be reported as revenue when received or receivable in accordance with public sector accounting standard PS3510.

As a result, revenue recognized in the statement of operations and certain related deferred revenues and deferred capital contributions may be recorded differently under Canadian public sector accounting standards.

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Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (*continued*)

Reporting entity

The consolidated financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses of the reporting entity. The reporting entity is comprised of all organizations accountable for the administration of their financial affairs and resources to the Board, which are controlled by the Board.

School generated funds, which include the assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses of various organizations that exist at the school level, which are controlled by the Board, are reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

Transportation consortium, which include the Board's pro-rata share of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses of the consortium, which are controlled unilaterally by the participating boards, are reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

Trust funds

Trust funds and their related operations administered by the Board are not included in the consolidated financial statements as they are not controlled by the Board.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are comprised of cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments. Short-term investments are highly liquid, subject to insignificant risk of changes in value, and have a short maturity term of less than 90 days.

Deferred revenue

Certain amounts are received pursuant to legislation, regulation, or agreement and may only be used in the conduct of certain programs or in the delivery of specific services, performance obligations and transactions. These amounts are recognized as revenue in the fiscal year the related expenditures are incurred or services performed.

Deferred capital contributions

Contributions received or receivable for the purpose of acquiring or developing a depreciable tangible capital asset for use in providing services, or any contributions in the form of depreciable tangible assets received or receivable for use in providing services, shall be recognized as deferred capital contributions as defined in Ontario Regulation 395/11 of the Financial Administration Act. These amounts are recognized as revenue at the same rate as the related tangible capital asset is amortized. The following items fall under this category:

- Government transfers received or receivable for depreciable tangible capital asset purpose
- Other restricted contributions received or receivable for depreciable capital asset purpose
- Property taxation revenues that were historically used to fund depreciable capital assets

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Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (*continued*)

Retirement and other employee future benefits

The Board provides defined retirement and other future benefits to specified employee groups. These benefits include pension, life insurance, and health care benefits, dental benefits, retirement gratuity, worker's compensation, and long-term disability benefits (long-term disability is available; however, premiums are paid by employees).

As part of ratified labour collective agreements for unionized employees that bargain centrally and ratified central discussions with the principals and vice principals associations, the following Employee Life and Health Trusts (ELHTs) were established in 2016-17: ETFO and OSSTF. The following were established in 2017-18: CUPE and ONE-T for non-unionized employees, including principals and vice-principals.

The ELHTs provide health, life, and dental benefits to teachers (excluding daily occasional teachers), education workers (excluding casual and temporary staff), other school board staff and retired individuals. These benefits are provided through a joint governance structure between the bargaining/employee groups, school board trustees associations, and the Government of Ontario. The Board is no longer responsible to provide certain benefits to ETFO, OSSTF, CUPE, and non-unionized employees including principals and vice-principals, effective June 1, 2018.

Upon transition of the employee groups' health, dental, and life benefit plans to the ELHTs, school boards are required to remit a negotiated amount per full-time equivalency (FTE) on a monthly basis. Funding for the ELHTs is based on the existing benefits funding embedded within the Core Education Funding, additional ministry funding in the form of a Crown Contribution, as well as Stabilization Adjustment.

Depending on prior arrangements and employee groups, the Board continues to provide health, dental, and life insurance benefits for retired individuals that were previously represented by the following unions/federations: ETFO, OSSTF and CUPE.

The Board has adopted the following policies with respect to accounting for these employee benefits:

- (a) The costs of self-insured retirement and other employee future benefit plans are actuarially determined using management's best estimate of salary escalation, accumulated sick days at retirement, insurance and health care cost trends, disability recovery rates, long-term inflation rates, and discount rates.

The cost of retirement gratuities is actuarially determined using the employee's salary, banked sick days, and years of service as at August 31, 2012, and management's best estimate of discount rates. Any actuarial gains and losses arising from changes to the discount rate are amortized over the expected average remaining service life of the employee group.

For self-insured retirement and other employee future benefits that vest or accumulate over the periods of service provided by employees, such as life insurance and health care benefits for retirees, the cost is actuarially determined using the projected benefits method pro-rated on service. Under this method, the benefit costs are recognized over the expected average service life of the employee group.

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Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (*continued*)

For those self-insured benefit obligations that arise from specific events that occur from time to time, such as obligations for worker's compensation, long-term disability and life insurance, and health care benefits for those on disability leave, the cost is recognized immediately in the period the events occur. Any actuarial gains and losses that are related to these benefits are recognized immediately in the period they arise.

- (b) The costs of multi-employer defined pension plan benefits, such as the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System pensions, are the employer's contributions due to the plan in the period.
- (c) The costs of insured benefits are the employer's portion of insurance premiums owed for coverage of employees during the period.

Government transfers

Government transfers, which include legislative grants, are recognized in the consolidated financial statements in the period in which the events giving rise to the transfer occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criterion have been met, and reasonable estimates of the amount can be made. If government transfers contain stipulations, which give rise to a liability, they are deferred and recognized in revenue when the stipulations are met.

Government transfers for depreciable tangible capital assets are deferred as required by Ontario Regulation 395/11, and recorded as deferred capital contributions (DCC), and recognized as revenue in the consolidated statement of operations at the same rate and over the same periods as the asset is amortized.

Government transfers for non-depreciable tangible capital assets, such as land, are recognized as revenue in the consolidated statement of operations in the period in which the events giving rise to the transfer occur.

Other fees and revenues

Other fees and revenues from transactions with performance obligations, for example, fees or royalties from the sale of goods or rendering of services, are recognized as the Board satisfies a performance obligation by providing the promised goods or services to the payor. Other fees and revenue from transactions with no performance obligations, for example, fines and penalties, are recognized when the Board has the authority to claim or retain an inflow of economic resources and when a past transaction or event is an asset. Amounts received prior to the end of the year that will be recognized in subsequent fiscal year are deferred and reported as a liability.

Investment income

Investment income is reported as revenue in the period earned.

When required by the funding government or related act, investment income earned on externally restricted funds (such as pupil accommodation, education development charges and special education) forms part of the respective deferred revenue balances.

(continues)



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (*continued*)

Education property tax revenue

Under public sector accounting standards, the entity that determines and sets the tax levy records the revenue in the consolidated financial statements, which in the case of the Board, is the Province of Ontario. As a result, education property tax revenue received from the municipalities is recorded as part of core education funding, under education property tax.

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at historical, cost less accumulated amortization. Historical cost includes amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development, or betterment of the asset, as well as interest related to financing during construction and legally or contractually required retirement activities. When historical cost records were not available, other methods were used to estimate the costs and accumulated amortization.

Leases, which transfer substantially all of the benefits and risks incidental to ownership of property are accounted for as leased tangible capital assets. All other leases are accounted for as operating leases and the related payments are charged to expenses on a straight-line basis over the Board's expected benefit from the lease.

Tangible capital assets, except land, are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Land improvements with finite lives	15 years
Buildings	40 years
Portable structures	20 years
Furniture and equipment	5-15 years
Computer hardware	3 years
Computer software	5 years
Capital leased assets	10 years
Vehicles	5 years

Construction in progress assets and assets that relate to pre-acquisition and pre-construction costs are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use. Prepaid capital assets represent assets that have been purchased but are not yet in use by the Board. When the assets are available for productive use, they will be transferred to tangible capital assets.

Land permanently removed from service and held for resale is recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost includes amounts for improvements to prepare the land for sale or servicing. Buildings permanently removed from service and held for resale cease to be amortized and are recorded at the lower of carrying value and estimated net realizable value. Tangible capital assets which meet the criteria for financial assets, are reclassified as "assets held for sale" on the consolidated statement of financial position.

Works of art and cultural and historic assets are not recorded as assets in these consolidated financial statements.

(continues)



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (*continued*)

Asset retirement obligations

Asset retirement obligations (ARO) are provisions for legal obligations for the retirement of tangible capital assets that are either in productive use or no longer in productive use.

An ARO liability is recognized when, as at the financial reporting date:

- there is a statutory, contractual or legal obligation to incur retirement costs in relation to a tangible capital asset;
- the past transaction or event giving rise to the liability has occurred;
- it is expected that future economic benefits will be given up;
- a reasonable estimate of the amount can be made

A corresponding amount is added to the carrying value of the related tangible capital asset and is then amortized over its remaining useful life.

Due to significant uncertainty surrounding the timing of cash flows for the removal and disposal of designated substances that exist in the Board's assets, the Board is choosing not to discount the cash flows. Discounting the cash flows introduces additional estimation uncertainty over and above the uncertainty surrounding the timing of the cash flows and would result in an asset and liability recognized that is estimated to be less representative of the cash flows that will be expended in the future period to retire the asset.

The estimated amounts of future costs to retire the asset is reviewed annually and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate of the liability. Adjustments may result from changes in the assumption used to estimate the amount required to settle the obligation. These amounts are recognized as an increase or decrease in the carrying amount of the asset retirement obligation liability, with a corresponding adjustment to the carrying amount of the related asset. If the related asset is no longer in productive use, all subsequent changes in the estimate of the liability for the ARO are recognized as an expense in the period incurred.

Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

Budget figures

Budget figures have been provided for comparison purposes and have been derived from the budget approved by the Trustees. The budget approved by the Trustees is developed in accordance with the provincially mandated funding model for school boards and is used to manage program spending within the guidelines of the funding model. The budget figures presented have been adjusted to reflect the same accounting policies that were used to prepare the consolidated financial statements. The budget figures are unaudited.

(continues)



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with the basis of accounting described earlier in this note requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates. The most significant estimates in these consolidated financial statements include the useful life of tangible capital assets, the determination of retirement and other employee future benefits and the determination of the asset retirement obligation.

Future changes in significant accounting policies

The following accounting standards have been issued by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) but are not yet effective for the Board. The Board is in the process of assessing the impact of the upcoming new standards and the extent of the impact of their adoption on its consolidated financial statements. While the timing of standard adoption can vary, certain standards must be adopted concurrently.

Applicable for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026 (in effect for the Board for as of September 1, 2026 for the year ending August 31, 2027). Standards must be implemented at the same time:

New Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) Conceptual Framework:

This new model is a comprehensive set of concepts that underlie and support financial reporting. It is the foundation that assists:

- preparers to account for items, transactions and other events not covered by standards;
- auditors to form opinions regarding compliance with accounting standards;
- users in interpreting information in financial statements; and
- Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) to develop standards grounded in the public sector environment.

The main changes are:

- Additional guidance to improve understanding and clarity
- Non-substantive changes to terminology/definitions
- Financial statement objectives foreshadow changes in the Reporting Model
- Relocation of recognition exclusions to the Reporting Model
- Consequential amendments throughout the Public Sector Accounting Handbook

The framework is expected to be implemented prospectively.

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Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Reporting Model- PS 1202- Financial Statement Presentation:

This reporting model provides guidance on how information should be presented in the financial statements and will replace PS 1201- Financial Statement Presentation. The model is expected to be implemented retroactively with restatement of prior year amounts.

The main changes are:

- Restructured Statement of Financial Position
- Introduction of financial and non-financial liabilities
- Amended non-financial asset definition
- New components of net assets- accumulated other and issued share capital
- Increased clarity regarding presentation of budget comparatives on the statement of operations
- Relocated net debt to its own statement
- Renamed the net debt indicator
- Revised the net debt calculation
- Removed the Statement of Change in Net Debt
- New Statement of Net Financial Assets/Liabilities
- Financing transactions presented separately from operating, capital and investing transactions on the statement of cash flows

2. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	2025	2024
Municipalities	\$ 13,751,420	\$ 10,082,373
Province of Ontario	4,821,762	12,472,459
Government of Canada	10,775,946	5,351,967
Other school boards	329,071	386,104
Other	2,888,506	1,889,616
	\$ 32,566,705	\$ 30,182,519



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

The Province of Ontario replaced variable capital funding with a one-time debt support grant in 2009-2010. The Board received a one-time grant that recognizes capital debt as of August 31, 2010 that is supported by the existing capital programs. The Board receives this grant in cash over the remaining term of the existing capital debt instruments. The Board may also receive yearly capital grants to support capital programs, which would be reflected in this account receivable.

The Board has an account receivable from the Province of Ontario of \$92,138,490 as at year end (2024 - \$81,661,704) with respect to capital grants.

The Ministry of Education introduced a cash management strategy effective September 1, 2018. As part of the strategy, the ministry delays part of the grant payment to school boards where the adjusted accumulated surplus and deferred revenue balances are in excess of certain criteria set out by the Ministry. The balance of delayed grant payments included in the receivable balance from the Government of Ontario at August 31, 2025 is \$1,042,433 (2024 - \$716,807).

4. TEMPORARY BORROWING

Temporary borrowing is comprised of short-term bank loans as follows:

	2025	2024
Demand loan	\$ 23,680,000	\$ 13,290,000
Term loan - maturing May 31, 2027	14,150,000	-
Term loan - maturing May 31, 2027	5,800,000	-
	\$ 43,630,000	\$ 13,290,000

The Board has credit facility agreement consisting of a revolving demand facility with a limit of \$35,000,000 to finance general operating requirements and capital asset purchases. The facility bears interest at prime minus 0.75% and is unsecured.

The Board has revolving demand facilities by way of letters of credit to finance general operating requirements. These facilities have a limit of \$6,000,000 available, however the aggregate shall not exceed \$4,000,000 at any time. The Board had \$1,573,335 in letters of credit outstanding with the bank as at August 31, 2025 (2024 - \$1,568,335), which were required for security on some of the construction projects.

The Board also has non-revolving term facilities available of \$129,635,000 at year end for the purpose of financing capital expenditures. All of these non-revolving term loans bear interest at the Canadian Overnight Repo Rate Average (CORRA) rate plus 1.05%. All term loans are unsecured and are repayable in full at the end of their respective terms, at which point the Board intends to convert them to net debenture debt and capital loans.

The Board also has a revolving lease line of credit with a limit of \$1,400,000 for the acquisition of tangible capital assets. Leases will be governed by separate agreements between the Board and the bank.



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2025	2024
Trade	\$ 28,802,471	\$ 29,372,047
Teachers wage deferral plan payable	722,770	465,773
Province of Ontario	453,022	211,788
	\$ 29,978,263	\$ 30,049,608

6. DEFERRED REVENUE

Revenues received and that have been set aside for specific purposes by legislation, regulation, or agreement are included in deferred revenue. Deferred revenue for specific purposes by legislation, regulation, or agreement as at August 31, 2025, is comprised of:

	Balance as at August 31, 2024	Revenue received and interest earned	Revenue recognized in the period	Transfer to deferred capital contributions	Balances as at August 31, 2025
Provincial - operating	\$ 1,281,240	\$ 59,457,508	\$ (60,738,748)	\$ -	\$ -
Third party - operating	21,233	32,665	(38,091)	-	15,807
Provincial - capital	626,823	20,173,139	(15,758,933)	(5,041,029)	-
Third party - capital	1,042,433	1,437,790	-	(540,188)	1,940,035
	\$ 2,971,729	\$ 81,101,102	\$ (76,535,772)	\$ (5,581,217)	\$ 1,955,842

7. DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred capital contributions include grants and contributions received that are used for the acquisition of tangible capital assets in accordance with Ontario Regulation 395/11 that have been expended by year end. The contributions are amortized into revenue over the life of the asset acquired and are reported separately on the consolidated statement of operations.

	2025	2024
Balance - beginning of year	\$240,989,956	\$227,607,788
Additions	59,878,281	32,730,976
Revenue recognized - Provincial legislative grants	(20,829,608)	(18,700,023)
Revenue recognized - Third parties	(628,169)	(598,776)
Disposal and transfers	(54,610)	(50,009)
Balance - end of year	\$279,355,850	\$240,989,956



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

8. ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS

As at August 31, 2025, all liabilities for asset retirement obligations are reported at current costs without discounting due to significant uncertainty surrounding the timing of the cash flows.

The Board made an inflation adjustment increase in estimates of 2.61% (2024 - 3.66%) as at March 31, 2025 (2024 - March 31, 2024), to reflect cost escalations as at that date in line with provincial government fiscal year end. This rate was based on information from the Building Construction Price Index (BCPI). Further evaluation was done on the Board's ARO balances as at August 31, 2025, and it was deemed no further inflation adjustment was warranted as at August 31, 2025.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending aggregate carrying amount of the ARO liability is below:

	2025	2024
ARO at beginning of year	\$ 22,055,973	\$ 21,820,103
Increase in ARO reflecting changes in the estimate	575,667	798,618
ARO settled during the year through abatement	(742,288)	(562,748)
ARO at year end	\$ 21,889,352	\$ 22,055,973



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

9. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PAYABLE

Retirement and other employee future benefit liabilities:

	2025	2024
Accrued employee future benefit obligations		
Retirement gratuity plan	\$ 8,118,771	\$ 9,436,859
Retirement life insurance and health care benefits	211,616	236,874
Workplace Safety and Insurance Board obligations	4,894,682	4,672,010
Sick leave top-up benefits	253,492	296,654
Total employee future benefit liability at August 31	13,478,561	14,642,397

Retirement and other employee future benefit expenses:

Current year benefit cost		
Sick leave top-up benefits	253,492	296,654
Workplace Safety and Insurance Board obligations	840,446	1,436,803
	1,093,938	1,733,457
Interest on accrued benefit obligation		
Retirement gratuity plan	303,285	396,094
Retirement life insurance and health care benefits	8,404	11,665
Workplace Safety and Insurance Board obligations	162,707	154,069
	474,396	561,828
Recognition of unamortized actuarial (gain) loss		
Retirement gratuity plan	(128,474)	(208,142)
Retirement life insurance and health care benefits	(2,219)	(20,851)
Sick leave top-up benefits	(70,673)	(103,968)
	(201,366)	(332,961)
Total employee future benefit expenses	\$ 1,366,968	\$ 1,962,324

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Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

9. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PAYABLE (continued)

Actuarial assumptions

The accrued benefit obligations for employee future benefit plans as at August 31, 2025 are based on actuarial assumptions of future events determined for accounting purposes as at August 31, 2025, and based on updated average daily salary and banked sick days as at August 31, 2025. These valuations take into account any plan changes and the economic assumptions used in these valuations are the Board's best estimates of expected rates of:

	2025	2024
	%	%
Inflation		
Retirement gratuity plan	2	2
Retirement life insurance and health care benefits	5	5
Workplace Safety and Insurance Board obligations	2	2
Insurance and health care cost escalation		
Health costs	4	4
Dental costs	4	4
Workplace Safety and Insurance Board obligations	4	4
Discount on accrued benefit obligations		
Retirement gratuity plan	3.8	3.8
Retirement life insurance and health care benefits	3.8	3.8
Workplace Safety and Insurance Board obligations	3.8	3.8

Retirement benefits

Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan

Teachers are eligible to be members of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. Employer contributions for these employees are provided directly by the Province of Ontario. The pension costs and obligations related to this plan are a direct responsibility of the Province. Accordingly, no costs or liabilities related to this plan are included in the Board's consolidated financial statements.

Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System

Qualifying non-teaching employees of the Board are eligible to be members of the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS), a multi-employer pension plan. The plan provides defined pension benefits to employees based on their length of service and rates of pay. The Board contributions equal the employee contributions to the plan. During the year ended August 31, 2025, the Board contributed \$5,406,404 (2024 - \$5,386,787) to the plan. These contributions are the Board's pension benefit expenses. No pension liability for this type of plan is included in the Board's consolidated financial statements.

The OMERS pension plan as at December 31, 2024 had a funding deficit of \$2.9 billion (December 31, 2023 - deficit of \$4.2 billion) which will be addressed through temporary contribution rate increases, benefit reductions and investment returns.

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Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

9. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PAYABLE (continued)

Retirement gratuities

The Board provides retirement gratuities to certain groups of employees hired prior to specified dates. The Board provides these benefits through an unfunded defined benefit plan. The benefit costs and liabilities related to this plan are included in the Board's consolidated financial statements. The amount of the gratuities payable to eligible employees at retirement is based on their salary, accumulated sick days, and years of service at August 31, 2012.

Life insurance benefits

The Board sponsors a separate plan for retirees to provide life insurance benefits. The Board is responsible for the payment of life insurance premiums under this plan, however all or a portion of the cost are recovered from the employees as specified in their collective agreement. The premiums are based on the Board's experience and retirees' premiums may be subsidized by the Board. The benefit costs and liabilities related to the plan are provided through an unfunded defined benefit plan and are included in the Board's consolidated financial statements. Effective September 1, 2013, employees retiring on or after this date, will no longer qualify for Board subsidized premiums or contributions.

Health care and dental benefits

The Board sponsors a separate plan for retirees to provide group health care and dental benefits. The Board is responsible for the payment of health care premiums under this plan, however all or a portion of the cost is recovered from the employees as specified in their collective agreement once a certain time period has been reached. Benefits provided by the Board are provided through an unfunded defined benefit plan. The benefit costs and liabilities related to this plan are included in the Board's consolidated financial statements.

Other employee future benefits

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board obligations

The Board is a Schedule 2 employer under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act and, as such, assumes responsibility for the payment of all claims to its injured workers under the Act. The Board does not fund these obligations in advance of payments made under the Act. The benefit costs and liabilities related to this plan are included in the Board's consolidated financial statements. Plan changes in 2012 require school boards to provide salary top-up to a maximum of 4.5 years for employees receiving payments from the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, where the previously negotiated collective agreement included such provision.

Long-term disability life insurance and dental and health care benefits

The costs of salary compensation paid to employees on long-term disability leave are fully insured and are not included in the defined benefit plan.

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Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

9. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PAYABLE (continued)

Sick leave top-up benefits

A maximum of eleven unused sick leave days from the current year may be carried forward into the following year only, to be used to top-up salary for illnesses paid through the short-term leave and disability plan in that year. The benefit costs expensed in the consolidated financial statements are \$253,492 (2024 – \$296,654).

For accounting purposes, the valuation of the accrued benefit obligation for the sick leave top-up is based on actuarial assumptions about future events determined as at August 31, 2025 and was based on the most recent three full years of Board carry-over sick leave experience (September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2025).

10. NET DEBENTURE DEBT AND CAPITAL LOANS

	2025	2024
Royal Bank of Canada - Demand loan payable, bearing interest at 3.31%, matured during the year.	\$ -	\$ 90,693
Royal Bank of Canada - Demand loan payable, bearing interest at 3.18%, matured during the year.	-	238,795
Royal Bank of Canada - Demand loan payable, bearing interest at 3.39%, repayable in blended monthly principal and interest payment of \$22,390, due December 23, 2025.	89,261	350,075
Ontario Financing Authority - unsecured loan, bearing interest at 4.76%, repayable in blended semi-annual principal and interest payments of \$529,236, due November 15, 2029.	4,242,254	5,069,065
Ontario Financing Authority - unsecured loan, bearing interest at 4.56%, repayable in blended semi-annual principal and interest payments of \$399,470, due November 15, 2031.	4,450,786	5,026,990
Ontario Financing Authority - unsecured loan, bearing interest at 4.90%, repayable in blended semi-annual principal and interest payments of \$331,482, due March 3, 2033.	4,253,174	4,691,557
Ontario Financing Authority - unsecured loan, bearing interest at 5.23%, repayable in blended semi-annual principal and interest payments of \$659,390, due April 13, 2035.	10,096,113	10,856,686
Ontario Financing Authority - unsecured loan, bearing interest at 4.83%, repayable in blended semi-annual principal and interest payments of \$129,343, due March 11, 2036.	2,159,942	2,308,821
		(continues)



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

10. NET DEBENTURE DEBT AND CAPITAL LOANS (*continued*)

	2025	2024
Ontario Financing Authority - unsecured loan, bearing interest at 3.79%, repayable in blended semi-annual principal and interest payments of \$1,290,173, due March 19, 2038.	26,027,436	27,574,779
Ontario Financing Authority - unsecured loan, bearing interest at 4.00% repayable in blended semi-annual principal and interest payments of \$18,692, due March 11, 2039.	393,835	414,822
	\$ 51,712,801	\$ 56,622,283

Principal repayment terms are approximately:

2026	\$ 4,604,000
2027	4,720,000
2028	4,935,000
2029	5,159,000
2030	4,864,000
Thereafter	27,430,801
	\$ 51,712,801

11. PREPAID EXPENSES

	2025	2024
Prepaid expenses	\$ 3,355,532	\$ 2,767,740
Prepaid lease expense	2,099,111	-
	\$ 5,454,643	\$ 2,767,740

The Board entered into an operating lease agreement which provided certain lighting and energy system control equipment as well as measurement and verification services relating to certain school facilities. Under the operating lease, the Board is making structured bi-annual payments which are recorded as a prepaid lease expense and amortized into the Board's consolidated statement of operations over the period that the Board is expected benefit from the related equipment and services of the lease.

The balance above represents the unamortized balance of prepaid lease expense related to this lease as at August 31, 2025.



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

12. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost					
	Balance at September 1, 2024	Additions	Disposals and Transfers out (in)	Revaluation of ARO	Disposal of ARO	Balance at August 31, 2025
Land	\$ 10,413,412	\$ 2,353,786	\$ (817)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,768,015
Land improvements	28,009,280	1,141,599	-	-	-	29,150,879
Buildings	468,167,513	26,368,759	808,568	554,376	77,660	494,204,420
Portable structures	7,625,949	773,377	-	21,291	-	8,420,617
Furniture and equipment	3,980,085	699,405	218,571	-	-	4,460,919
Computer hardware	2,425,820	280,172	898,139	-	-	1,807,853
Computer software	224,970	-	-	-	-	224,970
Pre-acquisition costs	2,273,304	341,258	2,273,304	-	-	341,258
Construction in progress	3,332,026	31,500,101	(2,272,487)	-	-	37,104,614
Capital leased assets	367,694	-	-	-	-	367,694
Vehicles	1,241,765	294,878	-	-	-	1,536,643
	\$ 528,061,818	\$ 63,753,335	\$ 1,925,278	\$ 575,667	\$ 77,660	\$ 590,387,882



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

12. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (continued)

	Accumulated Amortization					
	Balance at September 1, 2024	Amortization	Disposals and Transfers	Amortization of ARO	Disposal of ARO	Balance at August 31, 2025
Land improvements	\$ 13,704,945	\$ 2,454,669	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,159,614
Buildings	235,775,242	18,069,550	753,958	584,282	62,774	253,612,342
Portable structures	2,352,247	359,845	-	41,245	-	2,753,337
Furniture and equipment	2,013,083	415,223	218,571	-	-	2,209,735
Computer hardware	1,333,266	705,612	898,139	-	-	1,140,739
Computer software	22,497	44,994	-	-	-	67,491
Capital leased assets	367,694	-	-	-	-	367,694
Vehicles	868,333	138,570	-	-	-	1,006,903
	\$ 256,437,307	\$ 22,188,463	\$ 1,870,668	\$ 625,527	\$ 62,774	\$ 277,317,855



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

12. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (continued)

	2025	2024
<u>Net Book Value</u>		
Land	\$ 12,768,015	\$ 10,413,412
Land improvements with finite lives	12,991,265	14,304,335
Buildings	240,592,078	232,392,271
Portable structures	5,667,280	5,273,702
Furniture and equipment	2,251,184	1,967,002
Computer hardware	667,114	1,092,554
Computer software	157,479	202,473
Pre-acquisition costs	341,258	2,273,304
Construction in progress	37,104,614	3,332,026
Vehicles	529,740	373,432
	\$313,070,027	\$271,624,511

13. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

	2025	2024
<u>Surplus (deficit):</u>		
Invested in non-depreciable tangible capital assets	\$ 13,045,559	\$ 10,414,229
Employee future benefits	(3,101,179)	(3,101,179)
Asset retirement obligations to be covered in the future	(13,657,110)	(13,758,983)
School generated funds	4,445,204	4,030,453
Accumulated surplus	7,407,545	11,111,173
	\$ 8,140,019	\$ 8,695,693

14. CORE EDUCATION FUNDING

School boards in Ontario receive the majority of their funding from the provincial government. This funding comes in two forms: provincial legislative grants and local taxation in the form of education property tax. The provincial government sets the education property tax rate. Municipalities in which the Board operates collect and remit education property taxes on behalf of the Province of Ontario. The Province of Ontario provides additional funding up to the level set by the education funding formulas.

	2025	2024
Provincial legislative grants	\$310,999,720	\$298,610,555
Education property tax	72,170,469	70,710,510
	\$383,170,189	\$369,321,065



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

15. EXPENSES BY OBJECT

The following is a summary of the expenses reported on the consolidated statement of operations by object:

	2025 Budget	2025	2024
Salary and wages	\$270,940,775	\$294,519,006	\$307,866,676
Employee benefits	46,302,603	48,139,199	49,466,931
Staff development	1,879,062	2,213,529	2,290,082
Supplies and services	34,918,732	49,272,287	34,886,889
Interest charges on capital	2,941,192	2,658,670	2,370,226
Rental expenses	169,000	136,131	120,664
Fees and contract services	27,951,994	16,682,244	29,156,037
Amortization and loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	19,195,205	22,188,463	20,020,695
Other	494,936	988,025	504,973
Provision for contingencies	-	-	124,916
Amortization of tangible capital assets - ARO	589,642	625,527	608,081
	\$405,383,141	\$437,423,081	\$447,416,170

16. DEBT CHARGES AND CAPITAL LOAN INTEREST

The debt charges and capital loan interest charges includes principal and interest payments as follows:

	2025	2024
Principal payments on debenture debt and capital loans	\$ 4,909,482	\$ 4,893,645
Interest payments on debenture debt and capital loans	2,408,736	2,619,999
	\$ 7,318,218	\$ 7,513,644

17. TRUST FUNDS

Trust funds administered by the Board amounting to \$1,423,071 (2024 - \$1,344,945) have not been included in the consolidated statement of financial position nor have their operations been included in the consolidated statement of operations.



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

18. ONTARIO SCHOOL BOARD INSURANCE EXCHANGE (OSBIE)

The Board is a member of the Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange (OSBIE), a reciprocal insurance company licensed under the Insurance Act of Ontario. OSBIE insures general liability, property damage and certain other risks. Liability insurance is available to a maximum of \$27,000,000 per occurrence. Premiums paid to OSBIE for the policy year ending December 31, 2024 were \$967,573 (December 31, 2023 - \$752,802).

Any school board wishing to join OSBIE must execute a reciprocal insurance exchange agreement whereby every member commits to a five-year subscription period, the current one of which will end on December 31, 2026.

OSBIE exercises stewardship over the assets of the reciprocal, including the guarantee fund. While no individual school board enjoys any entitlement to access the assets of the reciprocal, the agreement provides for two circumstances when a school board, that is a member of a particular underwriting group, may receive a portion of the accumulated funds of the reciprocal.

1. In the event that the Board of directors determines, in its absolute discretion, that the exchange has accumulated funds in excess of those required to meet the obligations of the exchange, in respect of claims arising in prior years in respect of the underwriting group, the Board of directors may reduce the actuarially determined rate for policies of insurance or may grant premium credits or policyholder dividends for that underwriting group in any subsequent underwriting year.
2. Upon termination of the exchange of reciprocal contracts of insurance within an underwriting group, the assets related to the underwriting group, after payment of all obligations, and after setting aside an adequate reserve for further liabilities, shall be returned to each subscriber in the underwriting group according to its subscriber participation ratio and after termination the reserve for future liabilities will be reassessed from time to time and when all liabilities have been discharged, any remaining assets returned as the same basis upon termination.

In the event that a board or other board organization ceases to participate in the exchange of contracts of insurance within an underwriting group or within the exchange, it shall continue to be liable for any assessment(s) arising during or after such ceased participation in respect of claims arising prior to the effective date of its termination of membership in the underwriting group or in the exchange, unless satisfactory arrangements are made with in the Board of directors to buy out such liability.

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Board is related through common ownership to all Province of Ontario ministries, agencies, school districts, health authorities, colleges, universities, and crown corporations. Transactions with these entities are considered to be in the normal course of operations and are recorded at the exchange amount.

The Ontario Financing Authority provides financing to the Board for capital projects. There were no new loans provided during the year. Repayments totaling \$6,715,573 representing interest of \$2,396,394 and principal of \$4,319,179 are funded by the Ministry of Finance.



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

20. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TRANSFERS

The Board has education services agreements with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations (MCFN). The agreements provide accommodation, instruction, and special services for Indigenous pupils. Revenues earned by the Board during the year are included in federal grants and fees in the consolidated statement of operations and accumulated surplus and are as follows:

	2025	2024
Indigenous Services Canada (Six Nations)		
Educational services - secondary	\$ 4,756,834	\$ 4,280,464
Educational services - reciprocal education agreement	247,500	267,195
Special services agreement - educational counsellor/native advisor	520,803	595,080
Special services agreement - high cost special secondary	700,000	735,000
Other	196,654	322,996
	6,421,791	6,200,735
The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations		
Educational services - secondary	659,331	624,108
Special services agreements	117,563	102,330
Other	2,061	-
	778,955	726,438
Total	\$ 7,200,746	\$ 6,927,173

21. REPAYMENT OF "THE 55 SCHOOL BOARD TRUST" FUNDING

On June 1, 2003, the Board received \$3,520,453 from The 55 School Board Trust for its capital related debt eligible for provincial funding support pursuant to a 30-year agreement it entered into with the trust. The 55 School Board Trust was created to refinance the outstanding not permanently financed (NPF) debt of participating boards who are beneficiaries of the trust. Under the terms of the agreement, The 55 School Board Trust repaid the Board's debt in consideration for the assignment by the Board to the trust of future provincial grants payable to the Board in respect of the NPF debt.

As a result of the above agreement, the liability in respect of the NPF debt is no longer reflected in the Board's financial position. The flow-through of \$262,276 (2024 - \$262,276) in grants in respect of the above agreement for the year ended August 31, 2025, is recorded in these consolidated financial statements.



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

22. PARTNERSHIP IN TRANSPORTATION CONSORTIUM

	2025		2024	
	Total	Board portion	Total	Board portion
Financial position:				
Financial assets	\$ 19,363	\$ 19,363	\$ 66,013	\$ 66,013
Liabilities	(19,363)	(19,363)	(66,013)	(66,013)
Accumulated surplus	-	-	-	-
Operations:				
Revenues	26,380,370	17,562,003	25,226,064	16,995,880
Expenses	(26,380,370)	(17,562,003)	(25,226,064)	(16,995,880)
Annual surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Transportation consortium

On October 14, 2010, Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk was incorporated under the Corporations Act of Ontario. On September 1, 2011, the Board entered into an agreement with Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board and CSC MonAvenir in order to provide common administration of student transportation in the region. This agreement was executed in an effort to increase delivery efficiency and cost effectiveness of student transportation for each of the boards. Under the agreement, decisions related to the financial and operating activities of Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand Norfolk are shared. No partner is in a position to exercise unilateral control. Each board participates in the shared costs associated with this service for the transportation of their respective student.

The Board's consolidated financial statements reflect proportionate consolidation, whereby they include the assets that it controls, the liabilities that it has incurred, and its pro-rata share of revenues and expenses. The Board's pro-rata share for 2025 is approximately 67% (2024 – 67%). The above provides condensed financial information, which is reported net of harmonized sales tax.

23. CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS & COMMITMENTS

The Board has ongoing operating leases and efficiency services agreements. Anticipated payments over the next four years are as follows:

2026	\$ 5,352,000
2027	5,008,000
2028	2,852,000
2029	2,320,000
	\$ 15,532,000

The Board has entered into agreements related to the construction of new elementary schools and significant school additions. The Board is planning to fund these purchases through a combination of government funding, temporary borrowing and net debenture debt and capital loans.



Grand Erie District School Board
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Year ended August 31, 2025

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Board is exposed to a variety of financial risks including credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk. The Board's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimize potential adverse effects on the Board's financial performance.

Credit risk

The Board's principal financial assets are cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable, which are subject to credit risk. The carrying amounts of financial assets on the consolidated statement of financial position represent the Board's maximum credit exposure as at year end.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Board will not be able to meet all cash flow obligations as they come due. The Board mitigates the risk by monitoring cash activities and expected outflows through extensive budgeting and maintaining sufficient cash on hand if unexpected cash outflows arise.

The Board is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its accounts payable and accrued liabilities, temporary borrowing, asset retirement obligation, employee benefits payable and net debenture debt and capital loans.

Market risk

The Board is exposed to interest rate risk and price risk with regard to its cash equivalents and interest rate risk on its net debenture debt and capital loans, all of which are regularly monitored.

It is the Board's opinion that the Board is not exposed to significant other price risks arising from these financial instruments.

25. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The Board has been named as the defendant in certain legal actions, in which damages have been sought. Not all legal actions may be covered by insurance and any losses arising from these actions are recorded in the year that the related litigation is settled or when any likely amounts are measurable. Where the outcomes of actions are not determinable as at August 31, 2025, no provision has been made in the consolidated financial statements.





Grand Erie District School Board Audit Committee Annual Report to the Board of Trustees

This report summarizes the audit committee's actions for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2025

Audit Committee Members

Following the recruitment and selection process indicated in *Ontario Regulation 361/10* (the Regulation), the following audit committee members were appointed to serve during the term:

Tom Waldschmidt	- Committee Chair (March 2023)
John Bradford	- Trustee representative (Dec 2022)
Rita Collver	- Trustee representative (Dec 2020)
Elizabeth Whiton	- Trustee representative (Dec 2024)
Ed Hodgins	- External member (March 2023)
Atit Thakker	- External member (September 2023)

In addition, regular attendees at the Committee meetings were:

Matt McNally	- Millard Rouse and Rosebrugh LLP (External Auditor)
Suk Bedi	- KPMG Internal Auditor (Internal Auditors)
JoAnna Roberto	- Director of Education
Rafal Wyszynski	- Superintendent of Business & Treasurer
Cindy Smith	- Senior Manager of Business Services

Administrative Tasks

At the beginning of the year and in accordance with recommended good practice, various administrative tasks were completed. These included:

- Developed working plans.
- Elected the chair of the committee for the fiscal year.
- Developing a meeting schedule and agenda for the year.

Meetings

Four meetings were scheduled throughout the year and meetings were held via in-person and virtually through Microsoft Teams.

The members in attendance at each meeting are as follows:

Member	Sept 12, 2024	Nov 7, 2024	Mar 6, 2025	June 11, 2025
R. Collver	✓	✓		
J. Bradford	✓	✓	✓	✓
T. Waldschmidt	✓	✓	✓	✓
E. Whiton			✓	✓
E. Hodgins	✓	✓	✓	✓
A. Thakker	✓	✓	✓	✓

Governance

The Audit Committee was established by Board Motion January 31, 2011. All of the members were independent in accordance with the provision 4.(1) and 4.(2) of the Regulation.

The Regulation also requires the Audit Committee Chair to provide a report to the Board of Trustees summarizing the matters discussed at each meeting and a written report of any recommendations for the Board of Trustees to approve. Information was provided to the Board of Trustees after each of the meetings.

External Auditors

The relationship with the external auditors has been excellent and in camera meetings have been held when appropriate. The Audit Committee recommended the reappointment of the external auditors, Millard, Rouse & Rosebrugh LLP (MRR) for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

MRR presented the 2024-25 audit plan and fees estimate to the committee at the June 12, 2025 Audit Committee meeting, which the committee reviewed and recommended for approval to the Board of Trustees. In addition, the external auditor confirmed their independence at the June 12, 2025 meeting.

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2025, were presented to the Audit Committee at the meeting held on November 13, 2025.

Internal Auditors

Effective 2022-23, the Regional Internal Audit contract has been managed by KPMG. The relationship with the internal auditors has been excellent and guidance and support was relied on many audit topics throughout the fiscal year.

Risk Assessments

The following highlights the latest risk assessments for school boards in Ontario conducted by the Internal Auditors:

- i. Cyber security
- ii. Privacy and privacy breaches
- iii. Change in funding levels
- iv. Lack of necessary skills/labour
- v. Student well-being
- vi. Media scrutiny
- vii. Managing the school environment
- viii. Unexpected costs or losses

2024-25 Completed Internal Audits

- Absenteeism Risk and Cost Mitigation
The focus of this internal audit work was to look at possible strategies for supporting attendance at work:
 - Analyzed attendance data to determine if risk mitigation strategies embodied in the attendance support programs.
 - Identified micro and macro level trends and patterns.
 - Review alignment to Ministry of Education's Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) 171

2025-26 Planned Internal Audit

- Information Technology (IT) Capacity Management
The focus of this internal audit will be to address the risk that legacy systems and aging IT infrastructure.
 - Review the processes to monitor and manage system capacity.
 - Review of process to ensure the board is monitoring IT capabilities and planning for future capacities on a regular cadence.
 - Review of device management plans alongside lifecycle optimization

Summary of Other Work Performed

In addition to the items noted above, the following outlines further work performed by the audit committee in the last 12 months:

- Revise Audit Committee Terms of Reference,
- Reviewed Quarterly Budget reports,
- Consolidated Due Diligence Report ensuring Board compliance with statutory obligations was presented at each meeting,
- Evaluated the Regional Internal Auditor.

By the signature noted below, we attest that we have discharged our duties and responsibilities respecting *Ontario Regulation 361/10*.

On behalf of the Audit Committee,

John Bradford, Audit Committee Chairperson

**Annual Report to the Board of Trustees and Forwarded
To the Ministry of Education
For the year ended August 31, 2025**

District School Board Name: Grand Erie District School Board

Fiscal Year: 2024-25

Re: Annual audit committee report to the Ministry of Education as per Ontario Regulation 361/10

The following audits were completed in the 2024-25 fiscal year:

1. Absenteeism Risk

Based on the internal audit plan, we are not expecting any enrolment audits to be performed.

Date

Signature

John Bradford
Audit Committee Chair