



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 22, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

A - 1 Opening

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session **(6:30 pm)**
 - (i) Personnel
 - (ii) Legal
 - (iii) Property
- (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) Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Agenda be approved."
- * (g) Memorials
 - (i) Dallas Grandpre (T. Waldschmidt)
- (h) In-Camera Report
- (i) Student Showcase (J. Roberto, R. Vankerrebroeck)
 - (i) James Hiller Public School
 - (ii) Punjabi Language Elementary and Secondary Students (GELA)
- (j) Delegations

B - 1 Approval of Minutes

- * (a) March 25, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated March 25, 2024, be approved."

C - 1 Committee Recommendations and Reports

- * (a) [Finance Committee Meeting](#) Report dated April 8, 2024 (B. Doyle)

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

E - 1 Report of the Director (J. Roberto) (I)

F - 1 Student Trustees' Report

G - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

- (a) [Annual Learning and Operating Plan Mid Term](#) Update (J. Roberto) (I)
- * (b) Trustee Expenses (R. Wyszynski) (I)
- * (c) Finance Committee, Policy and Program Committee and Regular Board Meeting Schedule 2024-25 (J. Roberto)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Finance Committee, Policy and Program Committee and Regular Board Meeting Schedule 2024-25 be approved."



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 22, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

H - 1 Other Business

- * (a) Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated December 14, 2023 (I)
- * (b) Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes dated January 25, 2024 (I)
- * (c) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 7, 2024(I)

I - 1 OPSBA Report (C. VanEvery-Albert) (I)

J - 1 Correspondence

- * (a) The Children's Safety Village of Brant dated February 19, 2024 (I)
- * (b) Grand Erie District School Board dated March 22, 2024 (I)
- * (c) Ottawa-Carleton District School Board dated April 4, 2024 (I)
- * (d) Ottawa-Carleton District School Board dated April 4, 2024 (I)

K - 1 Adjournment

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned."



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 22, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

MAY

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		01	02 Special Education Advisory Committee 6:00 p.m.	03
06	07	08	09	10
13 Policy and Program 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee 3:30 p.m. Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee 6:30 p.m.	24
27 Regular Board 7:15 p.m.	28	29	30	31

In Memoriam

Dallas Grandpre,
a member of the grounds team in Maintenance

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Dallas Grandpre, a member of the grounds team in Maintenance.

Dallas was a dedicated member of Facility Services. He began his career in Grand Erie in 2010 as a casual caretaker. He worked as an afternoon caretaker at a number of locations before becoming a Custodian in 2013, serving a number of schools over the years including Agnes Hodge, Princess Elizabeth, Oakland-Scotland, Bloomsburg and others. Most recently, Dallas had joined Maintenance as a grounds staff member.

Dallas was a kind-hearted individual who had a passion for hockey and his family. He leaves behind his wife, Pam and two children.

Our deepest condolences go out to Dallas' family, friends, colleagues and everyone connected to this loss. Supports are available for anyone impacted by this news.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Mesicek
Manager of Facility Services

Presented at the Grand Erie District School Board's Regular Board Meeting
on April 22, 2024, by Trustee Waldschmidt.



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Present: Chair: S. Gibson, Vice-Chair: B. Doyle (MS Teams), Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Sault (MS Teams), C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton, Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, D. Smouter, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

Guest: Manager P. Kuckyt

A - 1 **Opening (6:30 pm)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:31 pm)**

Moved by: G. Anderson
Seconded by: J. Bradford
THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:22 p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: G. Anderson
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert
THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorials** - Nil

(h) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: J. Bradford
Seconded by: E. Thomas
THAT the Board ratify the Collective Agreement settlement on local terms between the Grand Erie District School Board and the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario, Grand Erie Early Childhood Educators Local for the period of September 1, 2022 up to and including August 31, 2026.

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: L. Whiton
THAT Item C-1-a be approved.

Carried

Moved by: G. Anderson
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert
THAT the Board approve the draft Delhi Gym letter of support to MPP Bobbi Ann Brady.

Carried

(i) **Learn Lead Inspire Award**

Director Roberto presented Emmerson Craig with a Learn Lead Inspire Award for sharing her baby brother's cancer story and motivating the school community to learn, lead and inspire on Childhood Cancer Day.

(j) **Student Showcase – Project Search**

Director Roberto introduced the students at Delhi District Secondary School Drama who performed "The AI Play".

(k) **Delegations – Nil**

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **February 26, 2024 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, dated February 26, 2024, be approved.

Carried

(b) **February 26, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: R. Collver
Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated February 26, 2024, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Policy and Program Committee Meeting Report dated March 4, 2024**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: J. Bradford
Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Board approve the French Immersion Review with next steps and that the French Immersion Special Ad Hoc Committee be disbanded.

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

- (b) **Audit Committee Meeting Report dated March 7, 2024**
Presented as printed.
Moved by: L. Passmore
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt
THAT the Board approve the appointment of Millards Chartered Professional Accountants as external auditors for the 2023-24 financial year.
Carried
- (c) **Governance Committee Meeting Report dated March 21, 2024**
Presented as printed.
Moved by: J. Bradford
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert
THAT the Board approve the amendments to the General Governance Policy.
Carried
- D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings – Nil**
- E - 1 **Report of the Director**
Director Roberto highlighted the following:
- Kick-start to Kindergarten at Grand Erie
 - Learn Lead Inspire
 - Arts Festivals
 - Delhi Co-op Program Success
 - Learning at Grand Erie
 - The Right Fit
 - GEMAAP – the Coaching Cycle
 - Project Search Events
 - An upcoming GEPIC Presentation
 - Elgin Avenue Rendering
 - Days of Significance
 - Community Involvement
 - Student Trustee Scholarship
 - Virtual Learning 2024
 - Approval of the School Year Calendar
- F - 1 **Student Trustees' Report**
(a) **Student Senate Report**
Presented as printed.
- G - 1 **New Business - Action / Information Items**
(a) **Major Construction Project Report**
Presented as printed.
- (b) **Board Approved Transportation Review**
Presented as printed.
Moved by: T. Waldschmidt



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the transportation route exceptions listed in the Board Approved Transportation Review report for the 2024-25 School Year.

Carried

H - 1 Other Business

(a) **Audit Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 2, 2023**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated February 1, 2024**

Presented as printed.

I - 1 OPSBA Report

Trustee VanEvery-Albert provided the following reminders:

- Central West Regional meeting – April 6, 2024
- Labour Relations Symposium – April 25-26, 2024
- 2024 Canadian School Board Association Congress – July 3-5, 2024

J - 1 Correspondence – presented as printed.

(a) Waterloo Region District School Board dated February 23, 2024

(b) Waterloo Region District School Board dated February 23, 2024

(c) Brant Waterways Foundation dated February 29, 2024

(d) Waterloo Region District School Board dated March 1, 2024

K - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, April 8, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

REPORT

Present: Committee Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: G. Anderson, S. Gibson, L. Passmore, T. Sault, E. Thomas, T. Waldschmidt

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, J. Tozer, R. Wyszynski, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken, Executive Assistant: C. Dero

Regrets: Trustee J. Bradford

Guests: Manager C. Smith, Manager A. Van Doorn

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair B. Doyle at 6:30 p.m. and roll call was confirmed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **Welcome/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Committee Chair B. Doyle read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Finance Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **February 12, 2024**

Moved by: L. Passmore

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the Minutes of the Finance Committee dated February 12, 2024, be approved.

Carried

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

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Quarterly Budget Report**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Budget Process Update**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, enrolment projections for Paris, Southwest Brantford and Caledonia are planned accordingly through boundary reviews and new builds.

F - 1 **Other Business** – Nil



C-1-a

Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, April 8, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

REPORT

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** June 10, 2024



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer
RE: **Trustee Expenses**
DATE: April 22, 2024

Background

Trustees are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses in accordance with General Governance Policy s. 4.0. The Policy requires that the expenses are reported to the Board of Trustees in April and November each year.

The attached report details total expenses reimbursed for the current year to date expenses for 2023-24 from September 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

Trustee Expense Report					
For the Period September 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024					
Trustee	Professional Development	Travel/ Mileage**	Internet	Cell Phone	Total
Anderson, Greg	\$ -	\$ 298.18	\$ 480.00	\$ 544.66	\$ 1,322.84
Baker, Maggie	\$ -	\$ 343.12	\$ 80.00	\$ 136.22	\$ 559.34
Bradford, John	\$ 918.42	\$ 2,515.68	\$ 404.74	\$ 136.44	\$ 3,975.28
Collver, Rita	\$ 1,015.87	\$ 1,304.85	\$ 533.85	\$ -	\$ 2,854.57
Doyle, Brian	\$ 918.42	\$ 2,205.35	\$ 608.12	\$ 483.64	\$ 4,215.53
Gayowsky, Keira	\$ 715.12	\$ 1,402.02	\$ 480.01	\$ 136.22	\$ 2,733.37
Gibson, Susan	\$ 918.42	\$ 1,351.74	\$ 560.00	\$ 672.35	\$ 3,502.51
Passmore, Lisa*	\$ 957.73	\$ 2,786.22	\$ -	\$ 141.71	\$ 3,885.66
Sault, Tammy	\$ -	\$ 376.98	\$ 414.22	\$ 136.23	\$ 927.43
Skye, Aleena	\$ 715.12	\$ 1,329.61	\$ -	\$ 136.22	\$ 2,180.95
Sloat, Carol Ann	\$ 1,015.87	\$ 882.16	\$ 53.99	\$ -	\$ 1,952.02
Thomas, Elaine	\$ 918.42	\$ 1,973.33	\$ 304.92	\$ 136.43	\$ 3,333.10
VanEvery-Albert, Claudine	\$ 1,521.67	\$ 1,458.44	\$ 590.70	\$ -	\$ 3,570.81
Waldschmidt, Tom*	\$ 918.42	\$ 1,958.44	\$ 1,023.45	\$ -	\$ 3,900.31
Whiton, Elizabeth	\$ -	\$ 103.60	\$ 160.01	\$ 136.22	\$ 399.83
Total Trustees	\$ 10,533.48	\$20,289.72	\$5,694.01	\$2,796.34	\$ 39,313.55

* contains 2022-23 expenses paid in 2023-24

** travel/mileage includes accommodation and transportation costs



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: Trustees of the Grand Erie District School Board

FROM: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board

RE: **Finance Committee, Policy and Program Committee and Regular Board Meeting Schedule 2024-25**

DATE: April 22, 2024

Recommended Motion: Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
 THAT the Board approve the Finance Committee, Policy and Program Committee and Regular Board Meeting Schedule 2024-25.

Background

Each year the Board receives a schedule for Board meetings for the coming year. This report also includes a schedule for Finance Committee and Policy and Program Committee meetings.

Additional Information

As outlined in the General Working By-law:

- Section 3.1 - Board meetings shall be held on the fourth Monday of each month with some exceptions resulting in alternate dates.

As per the General Governance Policy

- Section 9.2 c) and d) - Finance and Policy and Program Committee meetings will alternate on the second Monday of every month, when possible.

Next Steps

Once received, the schedule will be posted on the school board's website.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports our mission of building a culture of learning, well-being, and belonging to inspire each learner.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D.
 Director of Education & Secretary of the Board

2024-25 Meeting Schedule

Meetings are located at 349 Erie Ave.

In-Camera Board meeting sessions commence at 6:30 p.m.

Public Board meeting sessions commence at 7:15 p.m.

Finance Committee and Policy and Program Committee meetings commence at 6:30 p.m.

2024-25	
September 9	Finance Committee
September 23	Regular Meeting of the Board
October 21	Policy and Program Committee
October 28	Regular Meeting of the Board
November 11	Finance Committee
November 25	Regular Meeting of the Board
December 2	Finance Committee
December 9	Annual Meeting of the Board Regular Meeting of the Board
January 13	Policy and Program Committee
January 27	Regular Meeting of the Board
February 10	Finance Committee
February 24	Regular Meeting of the Board
March 3	Policy and Program Committee
March 24	Regular Meeting of the Board
April 14	Policy and Program Committee
April 28	Regular Meeting of the Board
May 12	Finance Committee
May 26	Regular Meeting of the Board
June 9	Finance Committee
June 23	Regular Meeting of the Board



Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 2023

3:30 p.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School (South Seminar Room)/MS Office Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- Chair:** J.P. Gauthier, Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant
- Community Representative(s):** N. Shawana, Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- Trustees:** Nil.
- Grand Erie Staff:** K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
S. Miller, Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant
R. Mullings, Elementary Principal
Nil.
- Organizations/Agencies:** Nil.
- Parent/Family Designates:** Nil.
- Regrets:** P. Barber, Director of Lifelong Learning of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
J. Burnham, Local Association Representative
S. George, Parent/Family Designate
J. Roberto, Director of Education
T. Simon, Parent/Family Designate
R. Skye, Indigenous Education Advocate
H. Watts, Education Manager – Six Nations Lifelong Learning Taskforce
- Absent:** C. General, Local Association Representative
L. Harris, Local Association Representative
V. King-Jamieson, Mississaugas of the Credit Education Pillar Lead
K. Sandy, Local Association Representative
B. Sandy, Local Association Representative
D. Sowers, Local Association Representative
A. Skye, Student Trustee
- Guests:** Elijah Longboat, Student
- Recording Secretary:** D. Fletcher, Executive Assistant

- A - 1 **Opening**
- (a) **Opening Address**
Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation N. Shawana provided opening greetings.
- (b) **Land Acknowledgement Statement**
Superintendent Graham read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
- (c) **Introduction & Roll Call**
Chair Gauthier welcomed members to the meeting. Roll Call was complete.
- (d) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approvals**
The agenda was approved.
- B - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous meeting** - Nil
- C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**





Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 2023

3:30 p.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School (South Seminar Room)/MS Office Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

(a) **October 19, 2023**

Elementary Principal R. Mullings moved THAT the minutes of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee held on October 19, 2023 be approved. The minutes were approved.

D - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Meeting Dates**

The following are remaining meeting dates scheduled for 2023-24, to be held in a hybrid model.

- March 28, 2024
- May 23, 2024

(b) **Student Showcase**

▪ Student Senate Update
Chair Gauthier discussed the progress and structure for the United Indigenous Student Council meetings this year. The events provide student voice for student leadership and shaping Indigenous Education. A video presentation shared included work of students/teachers in the classrooms.

(c) **Update - Community**

Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant S. Miller shared events happening for students at the elementary level. Artwork has been shared at the Art Gallery and teachings have been shared regarding the land through a holistic education approach.

Chair Gauthier shared information about a potential Languages Conference in the spring.

(d) **Board Action Plan - Summary of Recommendations**

Superintendent Graham shared a Summary of Recommendations that were provided by the IEAC Committee Members and the Indigenous Education Services Team (Central staff and school-based staff). Each recommendation showed a status of current/future option in the Board Action Plan. These recommendations will be brought back to the Indigenous Education Services Team for review and consideration.

(e) **Terms of Reference**

Superintendent Graham referred to the Terms of Reference. The Committee Composition effective January 8, 2024 will include the addition of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Trustee to the Board and one Trustee of the board.

Chair Gauthier is currently reaching out to potential representatives for vacant representatives. A letter will be shared out to schools regarding Parent/Family Designates.

E - 1 **Information Items - Nil**

F - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday, March 28, 2024 - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 2023

3:30 p.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School (South Seminar Room)/MS Office Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Chair J.P. Gauthier adjourned the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

H - 1 **Closing Address**

Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation N. Shawana gave the closing address.



H-1-b

Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, January 25, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Committee Chair S. Darling, Trustee T. Sault, Trustee N. Waldschmidt, Superintendent P. Ashe, D. Dean, G. Stead, Superintendent J. White, B. DeMille, B. Arthur, E. Huxley, R. Jakaitis, C. Maunder, J. Smith.

Regrets: Superintendent R. Van Kerrebroeck

Recorder: E. Roberts

A - 1 **Opening**

Roll Call / Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement

Superintendent White opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and confirmed Roll Call had been completed. Superintendent White welcomed the members in attendance and read The Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Minutes**

(a) **Approval of the Minutes – October 26, 2023**

Moved by: J. Smith

Seconded by: E. Huxley

THAT the October 26, 2023, Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes be approved.

Carried

(b) **Business Arising from the Minutes – Nil**

C - 1 **PRO Funding Update**

Superintendent White reviewed the PRO Funding process and timelines for 2023-24. In addition to the \$500 allocation schools have received, an additional \$30,000 in funding (\$300 - \$1000 per school), is available for schools to apply for to promote parent/caregiver engagement. Each school will receive a package that includes an application form and due dates. Approved amounts will depend on the number of applications received.

D - 1 **School Highlights**

(a) School Council Chairs shared highlights of school activities including successful fundraising campaigns at Graham-Bell Victoria PS and notable turnout at family engagement activities, including a movie night at J.L. Mitchener PS.

Administrator D. Dean shared highlights of school initiatives for elementary students including Math enrichment activities; use of the Knowledgehook application tool to support Math strategy implementation, and restorative practice activities with Consultant, Garth Bell

In secondary schools, Administrator Geoff Stead highlighted Tech. projects that develop life skills for students, a student Member of Parliament project with collaboration from students throughout the province, and an agricultural Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program promoting outside academic building engagement.



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, January 25, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

E - 1 System Updates

Superintendent White highlighted the following activities and initiatives:

- The You Belong Here Campaign signage.
- Future Grade 9 Information Nights have commenced.
- Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-25 school year is now open.
- Communication Boards – a new tool to help students with difficulty communicating is being used across the system. The boards feature easy to use icons and symbols where learners can point to pictures to indicate a need or to share a thought.
- Best Start Network partner visits to Six Nations of the Grand River have been undertaken to better understand supports available to families and children in the Early Years.
- The Director’s Annual Report 2022-23 has been published and is posted on the Grand Erie website.
- Invitation – An Evening with Michael Jacques, February 7, 2024, at Pauline Johnson CVS from 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- Days of Significance recognized in schools and on Grand Erie media.

F - 1 Updates from the Board

At the December Board Meeting, Chair Gibson and Vice-Chair Doyle received recognition for their service for 2023 and are continuing as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively for 2024.

Student Senators (secondary student leaders) had an opportunity to hear from guest speaker, Johnny Henderson from the group Live Different, who shared his experiences on how he overcame various personal challenges and an inspirational message about persistence during difficult times.

G - 1 Learning Session

(a) New Language Curriculum

Superintendent White shared that the 2019 Right to Read Inquiry report contained recommendations to the Ministry of Education, school boards and faculties of education to address systemic issues affecting the right to learn to read. Updated curriculum has been written in part to respond to these recommendations. Implementation of the new curriculum commenced at the start of the current school year.

(b) Anti-Racism Videos

Superintendent Peter Ashe gave an overview of Grand Erie’s Anti-Racism Project and anti-racism initiatives. The Anti-Racism project was undertaken to develop materials for educators and education workers to provide increased knowledge and understanding related to diverse groups. A number of Anti-Racism videos have been produced. A sample video was presented.



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, January 25, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

H - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Speaker Series**

The following GEPIC speaker engagements are being planned. Further details will be announced.

- Indigenous Education – March 28, 2024
- Student Anxiety and Well-Being-April 25, 2024
- Equity and Diversity – May 23, 2024

(b) **School Year Calendar**

The 2024-25 School Year calendars (elementary and secondary) have been drafted and is awaiting approval by the Ontario Ministry of Education. The calendar will be posted on the Grand Erie website when finalized.

(c) **Spring Event**

The April 25, 2024, speaker event on Student Anxiety and Well-Being will be open, and promoted, for all families and caregivers.

I - 1 **Future Meetings**

GEPIC

- March 28, 2024
- April 25, 2024 (Annual Event)
- May 23, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday March 7, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair L. DeJong, Vice-Chair K. Jones, Trustees: T. Waldschmidt, L. Whiton, Community Representatives: B. Bruce, K. Kelly, L. Nydam, Organizations: T. Buchanan, L. Boswell, P. Found, C. Gilman, C. Stefanelli, R. Vriends
- Guests:** A. Detmar, Woodview Mental Health & Autism Services, J. Kingma, Reading Resource Intervention Teacher in Grand Erie
- Administration:** Superintendent L. Munro, Principal Leader Specialized Services: J. Senior, Specialized Services Supervisor: P. Bagchee, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar
- Absent with regrets:** Superintendent L. Thompson, Community Representative W. Rose

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair DeJong called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) **Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder**

Recording Secretary J. Valstar confirmed roll call.

(c) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Moved by: K. Jones

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the March 7, 2024 agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B - 1 **Timed Items**

(a) **Early Reading Strategy – A Day in the Life of the Reading Resource Intervention Teacher**

Reading Resource Intervention Teacher J. Kingma presented the role of the Reading Resource Intervention Teacher to SEAC members.

(b) **Presentation from Woodview Mental Health & Autism Support**

A. Detmar, Woodview Mental Health & Autism Services, presented Woodview's new Choice and Partnership Approach (CAPA), a system flow management tool designed to improve waitlist times for families. She also gave an overview of the Targeted Prevention Services being offered by Woodview.

(c) **Grand Erie's Specialized Services Program Report**

Superintendent L. Munro gave an overview of Grand Erie's Specialized Services Program Report to SEAC members.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday March 7, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

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

(a) Approval of Minutes

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes dated February 1, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried

(b) Review – Letter in Support of Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) letter, dated November 22, 2023

The letter from Grand Erie’s SEAC written in support of the TVDSB letter dated November 22, 2023 was shared with SEAC members and will be sent, along with a copy of the original TVDSB letter, to the Ministries of Education, Health, and Children, Community & Social Services, as well as to the Chairs of all Special Education Advisory Committees in Ontario.

(c) Destreaming in Grand Erie – Update

Superintendent L. Munro responded to questions brought forth by SEAC members from the September 2023 presentation on destreaming in Grand Erie.

(d) Grand Erie’s funding for transportation for students with special education needs - Update

Superintendent L. Munro responded to questions brought forth by SEAC members from the February 2024 meeting on funding for transportation for students with special education needs.

D - 1 New Business

(a) Grand Erie’s Special Education Plan 2023-24 – Standard 12 – Specialized Services Staff

Principal Leader of Specialized Services J. Senior reviewed Standard 12 of Grand Erie’s Special Education Plan 2023-24 and solicited input from SEAC members.

E - 1 Other Business - Nil

F - 1 Standing Items Policies Out for Comment - Nil

(a) Trustee Updates

Trustee Waldschmidt gave an update, including the results of the Student Trustee elections that took place on February 15, 2024 for the 2024-25 school year.

(b) Chair/Vice Chair Update

Vice Chair Jones reminded SEAC members to get outside and enjoy weather now that the weather is getting nicer.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday March 7, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

G - 1 Information Items

- (a) A flyer was shared with SEAC members for the upcoming Grand Erie presentation, Indigenous Astronomy: As told by the Haudenosaunee with guest speaker Samantha Doxtator. Executive Assistant J. Valstar to find out if the presentation will be recorded for those unable to view the presentation live.
- (b) Program Coordinator L. Sheppard shared information with SEAC members on the upcoming information nights for Project SEARCH in Brantford and Norfolk.
- (c) Superintendent L. Munro shared the timeline for the upcoming School Climate Survey with SEAC members.

H - 1 Community Updates

- (a) Trustee Waldschmidt reminded SEAC members to change the batteries in their smoke detectors with the time change this weekend.
- (b) Chair DeJong informed SEAC members of the Entry to School Program for children with autism that is starting at Lansdowne.

I - 1 Correspondence - Nil

J - 1 Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning

- (a) A Day in the Life of a Math Coach
- (b) Video Spotlight – Inclusion by Design in Grand Erie
- (c) School Culture and Well-Being
 - Restorative Practices in Grand Erie
 - Update on Social Justice Series
- (d) Grand Erie's SEAC – Terms of Reference review and updating
- (e) Ministry of Education Website – Review
- (f) Supporting students with special education needs during lockdowns

K - 1 Next Meeting

Thursday April 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. MS Teams

L - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: L. Whiton
Seconded by: K. Jones
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:32p.m.

Carried



The Children's Safety Village of Brant
407 Elgin Street, Brantford ON N3S 7P5
www.brantsafetyvillage.ca
519-720-6950
Charitable #: 862146123 RR0001

GEDSB Trustees
349 Erie Ave
Brantford ON
N3T 5V3

February 19, 2024

Dear Trustees,

Activities at The Children's Safety Village of Brant are progressing well for our experiential injury-preventing and life-saving safety lessons. The Grade 6 KIDS and Fire programs have been well attended for the past few months with more still to complete. The remainder of the year has classes scheduled for all grades from K-8, which include Internet and Social Media, Bicycle, Fire and Community Helpers safety lessons.

One of the significant and important sources of income for our annual operating budget of approximately \$100,000 is the generous \$10,000 annual funding support from each school board. We also receive support from a variety of foundations, corporations, service clubs and individuals who recognize the great benefits that students derive from the hands-on learning available at the Children's Safety Village. Our Easter (March 30) and Halloween (Oct 26) public events are our major fundraisers this year. We also have a number of dedicated volunteers who provide hundreds of hours of service annually for property and building maintenance and tech support to reduce expenses.

Fortunately, due to a number of grants and generous donations we have been able to cover all costs related to replacing our HVAC systems, new bikes and Samsung tablets.

Having reliable sources of income for our regular operating expenses is of great benefit and reassurance as we continue to provide programming facility support. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I respectfully request your generous support of \$10,000 for the 2024 -25 school year so that we can continue to provide an effective and valuable learning experience for the elementary students of Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations of the Grand and Norfolk County.

Sincerely,

Leo Vos

Leo Vos, DDS
Board President
vos97@rogers.com
519 753 2077 (H); 519 732 2077 (C)



Grand Erie District School Board

Education Centre: 349 Erie Avenue, Brantford, Ontario N3T 5V3
 519-756-6301 | www.granderie.ca | info@granderie.ca

March 22, 2024

Hon. Stephen Lecce
 Minister of Education
 5th Floor, 438 University Ave.
 Toronto, Ontario M5G 2K8
 Via email: minister.educ@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Lecce,

I am writing on behalf of the members of Grand Erie District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) to endorse the concerns outlined in the attached Thames Valley District School Board's letter dated November 22, 2023.

The lack of timely community mental health resources for youth is an issue across this province. Waiting for mental health services has a significant impact on a youth's well-being, self-esteem & student success.

We feel that there is a need for expanded partnership among education, community, and health services in Ontario.

In support of the mental health needs outlined in the attached letter, we are also sending these letters to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Health to help inform all sectors regarding the community needs for youth mental health services beyond the school.

Sincerely,

Lorraine DeJong

Lorraine DeJong
 SEAC Chair
 Grand Erie District School Board

cc: Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
 Ministry of Education
 Ministry of Health
 Thames Valley District School Board Chair
 Ontario SEAC Chairs

Learn

Lead

Inspire



Chair of the Board:
Lori-Ann Pizzolato

Trustees:
Carol Antone
Dave Cripps
Leeanne Hopkins
Marianne Larsen
Beth Mai
Sherri Moore
Arlene Morell
Leroy Osbourne
Lori-Ann Pizzolato
Sheri Polhill
Meagan Ruddock
Christian Sachs
Bruce Smith

Student Trustees:
Jana Anan
Frederick Nicholas
Savrup Saran

Director of Education:
Mark Fisher

Education Centre
1250 Dundas Street
London, Ontario
N5W 5P2

519-452-2000 Ext:
20219

www.tvdsb.ca

November 22, 2023

Hon. Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
5th Flr, 438 University Ave.
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8
Via email: minister.edu@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Lecce,

I'm writing today on behalf of my fellow Trustees at Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB).

As representatives of the community, we wish to express our deep concern regarding the pressure on TVDSB to address student mental health challenges, while resources for community organizations have simultaneously decreased.

We appreciate that the Ministry of Education has identified mental health literacy as a key priority for students.

This priority aligns with what TVDSB heard from students as part of the district-wide School Climate Survey in 2022-23, which reflected over 28,000 student voices. Survey responses highlighted a need to strengthen healthy relationships between and among students, improve students' abilities to identify and manage emotions as well as cope with stress, and address the topics of vaping, alcohol, and drug-use.

Using the survey results, Ministry curriculum and more, TVDSB continues to commit significant resources to supporting mental health among students and families. Over and above implementing the mental health literacy curriculum, we continue to increase supports in elementary and secondary schools, provide learning opportunities for students, staff, and families in a variety of formats, and partner with community organizations such as Western University, local health units, co-terminus boards and numerous service providers to deliver innovative, topical programs.

A theme that continues to arise out of these initiatives and partnerships is the need for more resources spread out across the community.

The Board of Trustees has been informed that school staff are often first-responders or the first points of contact for child and youth mental health concerns. They care deeply about students and work hard to support them. Unfortunately, many students require ongoing support above and beyond what their school can provide. As community resource case loads rise and delays occur, students continue to struggle in school.

TVDSB's Board of Trustees hopes this letter will spark a greater conversation about how all levels of government can work together to better balance and fund community-based mental health support services, so that all the organizations, including school boards, can work together for the benefit of children, youth and families.

Sincerely,



Lori-Ann Pizzolato
Chair of the Board
Thames Valley District School Board

cc: Mark Fisher, Director Fisher
Trustees
Student Trustees



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Office of the Chair of the Board

4 April 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

At our Board meeting on 26 March 2024, the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) directed me to write to you to advocate for a legislative ban on advertisements for gambling in Canada in all media.

Like other school boards across Canada, we place a high priority on protecting and improving the mental health of students. Board members have a number of concerns regarding the impact of gambling advertisements, including:

- The proliferation of gambling advertising, particularly during sports telecasts, has resulted in an alarming number of children and young adults becoming addicted to gambling;
- Gambling can lead to significant harm, including runaway debt, stress to families, low self-esteem, anxiety, depression, and even suicide; and
- Statistics Canada has estimated that 1.6% of adult gamblers, more than 300,000 Canadians, are at moderate to high risk of gambling disorders

The OCDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan has a focus on supporting student well-being. As such, the OCDSB supports a legislative ban on advertisements for gambling in Canada in all media, and respectfully requests that the federal government consider this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Lynn Scott
Chair, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

cc:

Trustees and Student Trustees, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

Senior Staff, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
Ontario Public School Boards' Association President and Member Board
Chairs
Local Members of Parliament
Local Members of Provincial Parliament
Corporate Records



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Office of the Chair of the Board

4 April 2024

The Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
438 University Ave, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1N3

Dear Minister Lecce:

At our Board meeting on 26 March 2024, the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board unanimously directed me to write to you to request that the Ministry of Education ensure menstrual products are procured, distributed and accessible for all Ontario schools on an ongoing basis, free of additional costs to individual school boards.

Board members noted that the existing partnership with Shoppers Drug Mart is due to expire this year, and that the Ministry has not yet indicated that this partnership will be renewed, or if a partnership with another provider will be established, or confirmed that supplementary funding will be allocated in the event that boards must procure the necessary menstrual products themselves.

Currently, the partnership with Shoppers Drug Mart has provided six million menstrual products annually to help address period poverty in schools. Students who lack access to menstrual products often skip classes as they are not equipped to engage throughout the day. Access to menstrual products is integral to the emotional and physical well-being of those who menstruate at school.

The Menstrual Equity program initiated by OCDSB student trustees in January 2021 has been well received within the District and there has been immense interest by students to continue this program. It has been noted that the Ministry has defined menstrual products as “a necessity, not a luxury”.

Many students face barriers in accessing menstrual products because of financial limitations and/or harmful social norms and attitudes surrounding menstruation. The lack of access to menstrual products is closely linked to poverty and disproportionately impacts youth, Indigenous peoples, Black and other racialized communities.

Ensuring that menstrual products are procured, distributed and accessible for all Ontario schools on an ongoing basis will support equitable treatment of students and their engagement in learning. Securing a continuing partnership with Shoppers Drug Mart (or another provider) or allocating supplemental funding will also reduce any potential burden on the strained budgets of Ontario school boards. We urge you, therefore, to secure the continued

funding, supply, and distribution of menstrual products for the well-being of Ontario students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Lynn Scott
Chair, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

cc:

- Trustees and Student Trustees, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
- Senior Staff, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
- Ontario Public School Boards' Association President and Member Board Chairs
- Corporate Records