Six Nations of the Grand River Students

Education Services Agreement



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.

**Grand Erie Land Acknowledgement** 

We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all **First Nations**, **Métis** and **Inuit Peoples** who reside within 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.

### **Executive Summary**



ulti-Year Strategic

A Bold New Vision for Grand Erie

The Education Services Agreement for Six Nations Students is an agreement between the Grand Erie District School Board and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), on behalf of Six Nations of the Grand River, that outlines the services, programs and supports that were provided to students from Six Nations that attend Grand Erie schools. This report highlights the work of the 2023-24 school year, specifically related to the progress of these students and the team whose work emerges from this Education Services Agreement: the Six Nations Advisory Committee, the Six Nations Trustee, the Six Nations Advisor, and the Six Nations Counselling staff.

### **Grand Erie's Multi-Year Strategic Plan**

Grand Erie's Multi-Year Strategic Plan includes the following priorities around **Learning**, **Well-Being** and **Belonging**:

- We build a culture of **learning** to nurture curiosity and opportunity for each learner;
- We build a culture of well-being to support the cognitive, social, emotional and physical needs of each learner;
- We build a culture of **belonging** to support an equitable, inclusive and responsive environment for each learner.

This provides Six Nations Students with an additional layer of support for their success. The 2023-24 Board Action Plan for Indigenous Students provided initiatives that directly impacted Six Nations students including:

- Indigenous Student Leadership Initiative
- Transition to Secondary School Activities for Grade 8 students at all schools
- Professional development activities for educators
- Intermediate Graduation Coach and Elementary Indigenous Engagement and Support teacher

### **Executive Summary**



## **Moving Forward**

Throughout the 2023-24 school year Grand Erie worked to ensure supports have been put into place that align with the Strategic Plan of Learning, Well-Being and Belonging. To support this work, efforts have been made by the Indigenous Education Team, Native Counsellors and additional Cultural Mentors/Graduation Coaches who are working directly with students, to monitor progress from registration to graduation. Several new initiatives have also been put into place to support students across the district and within communities; these fall within four areas. Included are examples of what is being done within these areas:

#### Deliver Indigenous courses that allow students to see themselves in their learning

- 1. Technology to reorganize digital platforms for language development and curriculum support
- 2. Updating the portal to provide a more prevalent Indigenous presence within Grand Erie
- 3. Review and unpack new curriculum
- 4. Extend Indigenous languages course registration across the board through online learning platform

#### Authentic learning with Indigenous peoples, communities, and perspectives

- 1. Teacher requests for community support
- 2. Learning Commons development
- 3. Creation of a dedicated space to support Indigenous students
- 4. Learning from the land/land-based learning
- 5. Indigenous Professional Learning Environment (PLE) in BrightSpace

#### Professional development to actively engage in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action

- 1. Professional Development
- 2. Cultural Kits Resource Implementation, Professional Development

## Promote and participate in reconciliation community engagement opportunities

- 1. Student leadership/engagement (secondary and elementary)
- 2. Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC)
- 3. Community Guest Speakers
- 4. Information sessions, transition planning for example EPIC jobs events
- 5. Haudenosaune Astronomy presentation by Sam Doxtator



### **Executive Summary**



### Six Nations Advisory Committee (SNAC)

The purpose of Grand Erie's Six Nations Advisory Committee (SNAC) is to represent the interests of students from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory in maintaining quality educational services purchased through the Education Services Agreement and to ensure that Board members are appropriately advised in matters related to the education of these students.

#### **Committee Composition**

Claudine VanEvery-Albert Six Nations Trustee to the Board

**Elaine Thomas** Trustee of the Board

Kevin Graham Superintendent responsible for Indigenous Education

Jessa Laight Six Nations Advisor to the Board

Danielle VanEvery Indigenous Education Counsellor Hagersville Secondary School

Carey Vyse Indigenous Education Counsellor Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School

#### **Rae Anne Beauchamp-Hill**

Indigenous Education Counsellors McKinnon Park Secondary School

Delby Powless Community Liaison Worker

Jean Paul Gauthier Secondary Teacher Consultant Indigenous Education

**Robin Staats and Deneen Montour** Principal Leader of Indigenous Education

Sandra Graham Six Nations Federal Schools Representative

Vacant Six Nations Community Representative

#### Liaisons:

**JoAnna Roberto** Director of Education and Secretary of the Board

#### **Audrey Powless-Bomberry**

Representative appointed by Six Nations Elected Council

#### Vacant

Representative appointed by Haudenosaunee Confederacy Council, Education Director

Principals from the Six Grand Erie Secondary Schools:

Mike DeGroote Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School

Amber Mitchell Cayuga Secondary School

#### **Jeff Benner and Jeff Allison**

Hagersville Secondary School

**Rob Malcolm** McKinnon Park Secondary School

**Griffin Cobb** Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School

### Yvan Brochu

Tollgate Technological Skills Centre

# A Message from the Six Nations Trustee



## Shekoh – Sgeno – Shekholi – Cwen -KweKwe -Shekoh sewakwekoh – Hello Everyone

I am very pleased to share all this information about my activities as your Trustee and Six Nations students and staff in Grand Erie Schools during the 2023-24 school year.

During this school year, over 400 Six Nations students registered with Grand Erie. While most attended McKinnon Park, Hagersville Secondary, Brantford Collegiate, and Pauline Johnson, a few attended Cayuga Secondary and Tollgate. We are pleased to inform you that we have had numerous graduates. Congratulations to these students and their families!

In this document, we share with you a summary of the education program and statistics for this school year. Together, we build a culture of learning, well-being, and belonging that inspires each learner.

#### Leadership

In June 2024, a number of our Six Nations ESA staff either retired or moved on to other positions in education. We wish them well and give them a "Niawehkowah" for their work with our Six Nations Grand Erie students over the years. In September 2024, a number of new Education Services Agreement staff will be welcomed.

#### At the Board Table

The Board Leadership, both in Governance and Operations, has been very supportive and proactive in working with Six Nations students under the Education Services Agreement. Throughout this document, you will see the work that has been carried out to ensure that Six Nations students are learning and feel a sense of wellbeing and belonging.

The following is the Land Acknowledgement that is read aloud at every Board and Committee meeting within Grand Erie:

"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 and 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."

This Land Acknowledgement is not just words, but every effort is made to ensure that Six Nations (and the Mississaugas of the Credit) are honoured, recognized and respected at the board table, among the Senior Staff and the school staff.

### **Beyond Grand Erie**



Claudine VanEvery-Albert Represents Six Nations Students Under The ESA

The Grand Erie Board of Trustees has elected me as their representative on the Ontario Public School Boards Association Board of Directors. In the last few years, OPSBA, working with the Onkwehonwe (Indigenous) trustees, has created the Indigenous Trustees Council (ITC), which has developed a significant voice in First Nations education in Ontario. ITC members have elected me as Vice-Chair again this year.

ITC has a voice and participation in a wide range of OPSBA areas such as education programming and policy, agenda development for the province-wide Public Education Symposium in January, the Labour Relations Symposium in the Spring and the Annual General Meeting in June.

In the Spring and Fall of 2024, Grand Erie secondary schools will hold graduation ceremonies. I congratulate all Six Nations students who will walk across the various stages to receive their diplomas—well done!

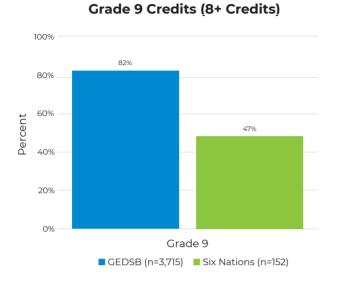
As your Trustee, as a parent, grandparent and former teacher of Six Nations students, I also wish to say NIAWEH to the parents and families of 2023-24 graduates.

Niawenkowah.

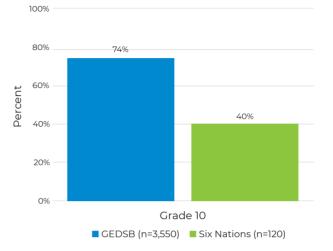
Claudine-Yakowennatoken Grand Erie 2023-24



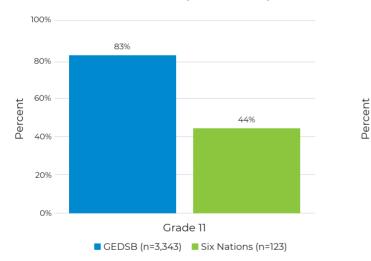
### **Credit Accumulation - Two Year Average of Year End Progress**



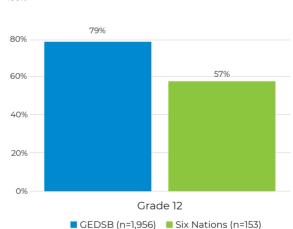
#### Grade 10 Credits (16+ Credits)



#### Grade 11 Credits (22+ Credits)



#### Grade 12 Credits (30+ Credits)



**Note:** This data represents the proportion of students on track to graduate among students taking a full course load (at least 6 courses).

100%

Credit Accumulation by year and grade cannot be reported because here were fewer than 10 students in each grade who achieved each credit accumulation benchmark.

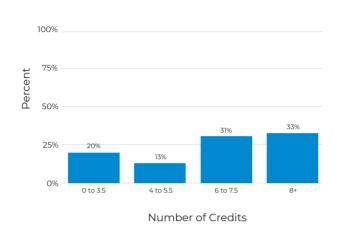


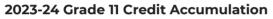
### 2023-24 Credit Accumulation by Grade

### 2023-24 Grade 9 Credit Accumulation

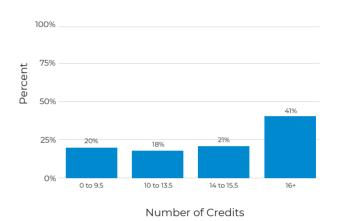


(n=98)



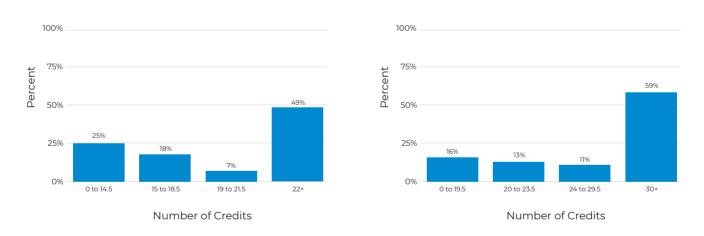


(n=67)



#### 2023-24 Grade 12 Credit Accumulation

(n=61)



**Note:** This data repsresents the proportion of students on track to graduate among students taking a full course.

- A total of **64%** of Grade 9 students achieved 6 or more credits in 2023-24 and are on track to graduate in 3 or 4 years
- A total of **62%** of Grade 10 students achieved 14 or more credits by the end of June 2024 and are on track to graduate in 2 or 3 years
- A total of **56%** of Grade 11 students achieved 19 or more credits by the end of June 2024 and are on track to graduate in 1 or 2 years
- A total of **70%** of Grade 12 students achieved 24 or more credits by the end of June 2024 and have graduated or are on track to graduate in 1 year

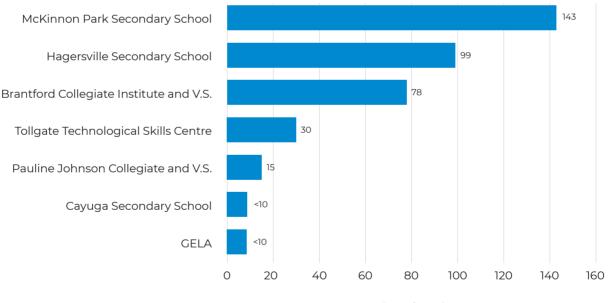
### The Data



#### 50% 45% 39% 40% 35% 30% Percent 25% 25% 20% 17% 15% 19% 10% 5% 0 Grade 9 Grade 10 Grade 12 Grade 11

### **Student Enrolment by Grade**

### **Enrolment by School**

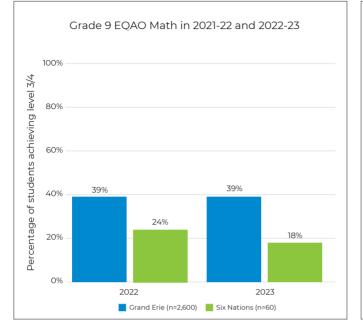


Number of Students

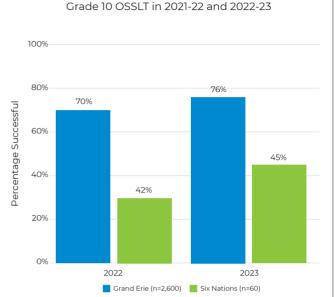
### The Data



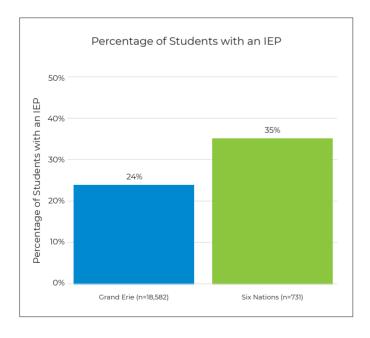
### Grade 9 EQAO Math



### Grade 10 OSSLT



### **Individual Education Plan (IEP)**





### **Six Nations Advisor**

Grand Erie employs a Six Nations Advisor of Haudenosaunee ancestry to provide consulting and advisory services to Grand Erie with respect to issues affecting Six Nations students, and to:

- Participate in the development, review, and implementation of curricula, programs, and services affecting Six Nations students
- Advise Grand Erie and personnel on the significance and inclusion of Haudenosaunee values and traditions throughout initiatives of Grand Erie
- Participate, by invitation, on committees which deliberate on any issues affecting Six Nations students
- Coordinate and administer the activities of the Native Advisory Committee
- Assist in monitoring services outlined in the Special Services Agreement of the Education Services Agreement
- Facilitate all other aspects of the implementation of the Education Services Agreement

### Nations New Start Students Recognized With Awards



**From left to right:** Marcus Henry, Aidyn Hill and Ryatt Brown-Miller were recognized for their involvement in UISC.

### Six Nations Education Counsellors

Grand Erie employs three (3) Six Nations Education Counsellors of Haudenosaunee ancestry to provide supplementary counselling and liaison services to Six Nations students enrolled at McKinnon Park Secondary School, Hagersville Secondary School, Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School and Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School, and to:

- Participate in all Individual Placement and Review Committee meetings conducted for Six Nations students
- Be a resource to and assist with initiatives of the Six Nations Advisory Committee
- Establish positive relations with school personnel and parents of Six Nations students attending Grand Erie secondary schools for the purpose of enhancing student success rates
- Establish and maintain up-to-date information regarding entrance, retention, and success rates of Six Nations students
- Be responsible for increasing the awareness and sensitivity of school personnel with respect to Six

### **Community Liaison Worker**

Grand Erie employs a Community Liaison Worker of Haudenosaunee ancestry to provide supplementary community liaison services to Six Nations students enrolled at McKinnon Park Secondary School, Hagersville Secondary School, Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School and Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School, and to:

- Establish positive relations with parents and agencies of the Six Nations community as they relate to Six Nations students' education
- Advocate on behalf of Six Nations students and the community
- Establish and maintain up to date information regarding Six Nations students' entrance, retention and success rates in secondary education
- Provide counselling to Six Nations students who have been referred by the secondary schools for issues regarding additional opportunities for growth



### **High Cost Special Education**

Grand Erie provides High Cost Special Education services and equipment to meet the identified high cost special education needs of Six Nations students within the existing processes of Grand Erie. Additional staff supports are provided to ensure the health and safety of students who have extraordinarily high needs related to their special education needs. In 2023-24, Grand Erie employed nine (9) Educational Assistants to provide additional support to Six Nations students with high cost special education needs allocated as follows:

Name of School	# EAs
Cayuga Secondary School	2
Hagersville Secondary School	2
McKinnon Park Secondary School	1
Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School	1
Tollgate Technological Skills Centre	2
Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School	1

### **Summer Programs**

The Grand Erie Summer School program is open to all Six Nations students in Grade 7 and above to get ahead in their credit count or to recover a credit.







### **Partnership with Six Nations Federal Schools**

Grand Erie works with Six Nations' school principals and staff for an ongoing and strengthened partnership focused on respect and reciprocity leading to:

- smoother transitions of Six Nations students from Grade 8 to secondary school and improved student attendance and achievement
- opportunities for co-planning/co-teaching
- Inclusion of Six Nations federal school staff in Grand Erie professional development for teachers
- increased involvement of Six Nations parents/caregivers in the education of their children

### **Native Languages**

To encourage and support the ongoing commitment to the restoration of Indigenous languages as documented in the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final report 2015, Grand Erie has implemented Native Language courses in the Haudenosaunee languages Mohawk and Cayuga in its schools utilizing the same criteria contained in the current Ministry of Education Native Languages curriculum guidelines. These courses are available to all students of Grand Erie where numbers warrant delivery.

Grand Erie employs two (2) teachers of Haudenosaunee ancestry for the delivery of these Native Language courses. This year, Grand Erie continued on a new language initiative where Grand Erie was able to offer Mohawk and Cayuga languages courses through an online platform. We were able to offer these courses to any Grand Erie students in grades 7 and up. Students in the Nations and New Start programs were also supported with in person teacher support to assist with their online language course.

### Enrolment in Native Language and Native Studies Courses in the 2023-24 School Year

Course Code and Title	Enrolment
LNAAO - Native Languages - Cayuga	62
LNABO - Native Languages - Cayuga	9
LNMAO - Native Languages - Mohawk	34
LNMBO - Native Languages - Mohawk	7
LNOAO - Native Languages - Ojibwe	43
LNOBO - Native Languages - Ojibwe	5
NAA4TY - Aboriginal and Western Perspectives	6
NAC1O - Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures	156
NAC2O - First Nations, Métis, and Inuit in Canada	87
NBE3C - English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voices	700
NBE3E - English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voices	228
NBE3U - English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voices	861
NBV3E - World Views and Aspirations of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Communities in Canada	37
Total	2,233

### **Transitioning to Secondary Schools**



Six Nations students may choose from six (6) Grand Erie secondary schools, listed below, for which bussing is provided by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC). Students may register at any other Grand Erie secondary school, however transportation is not provided by ISC.

#### McKinnon Park Secondary School

- Principal: Rob Malcolm
- Vice-Principal: Adriana Potichnyj
- Indigenous Education Counsellor: Rae Anne Beauchamp-Hill

#### **Hagersville Secondary School**

- **Principals:** Jeff Benner and Jeff Allison
- Vice-Principals: Launa Dennis and Andrea Jenkins
- Indigenous Education Counsellor: Danielle VanEvery

### Brantford Collegiate Institute & Vocational School

- Principal: Mike DeGroote
- **Vice Principal:** Deb Barbon
- Vice Principal: Heidi Schleifer
- Indigenous Education Counsellor: Carey Vyse

#### Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School

- Principal: Griffin Cobb
- Vice Principal: Jason Smith
- Vice Principal: Nicola Dean
- Indigenous Education Counsellor: Carey Vyse

#### Tollgate Technological Skills Centre

- Principal: Yvan Brochu
- **Vice Principal:** Tracy Hale
- Indigenous Education Contact: Marisa Soster (Head of Student Services)

#### **Cayuga Secondary School**

- **Principal:** Amber Mitchell
- Vice Principal: Colin Miller
- Indigenous Education Counsellor: Rae Anne Beauchamp-Hill

### **Transition Activities**

The Grand Erie Transitions team and Six Nations Advisor work collaboratively with Six Nations federal schools administrators and staff to create the annual transition plan for Six Nations Grade 8 students. The goal of the transition plan is to provide Grade 8 students and parents/caregivers fulsome information to enable them to make the best secondary school choice for the student's individual interests, goals and needs.

The plan provides for collaboration with all stakeholders including secondary school staff, Grade 8 school staff, parents/caregivers and students, on a variety of supports for Six Nations students entering Grand Erie Grade 9 programs including pathway planning, timetabling, professional supports, etc.





### Grand Erie – Six Nations Transition Plan 2023-24 for Regular Program Placements

#### **Grand Erie Secondary School Information**

Secondary School Information videos were provided to all Grade 8 classes at J.C. Hill Elementary, Oliver M. Smith Elementary, Emily C. General Elementary and I.L. Thomas Elementary to share with Grade 8 students and parents/ caregivers. The video was also posted to the Six Nations Education website.

### Secondary School information and Special Program information events

All secondary schools facilitated virtual information events for future Grade 9 students and their parents/caregivers.

Six Nations families were invited to attend information events at:

- Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School
- Cayuga Secondary School
- Hagersville Secondary School
- McKinnon Park Secondary School
- Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School
- Tollgate Technological Skills Centre

### **Grade 8 Transition Meetings**

Grand Erie Six Nations Education Services staff organized Grade 8 virtual transition meetings with each Grade 8 teacher to discuss the secondary school needs of each student.

### **Secondary School Registration**

A bundled registration package for Brantford Collegiate Institute, Cayuga Secondary, Hagersville Secondary, McKinnon Park, Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Tollgate Technological Skills Centre was created in digital format and delivered to all Six Nations schools. Completed registration packages were submitted digitally by Grade 8 teachers on behalf of

parents/caregivers. Grand Erie and Six Nations staff worked collaboratively to ensure Grade 8 students submitted secondary school registration packages in a timely manner to ensure their programming requests were in place for September.



#### **Grade 8 Parent Meetings**

Virtual meeting time was offered to each Grade 8 student and parent with staff from their chosen secondary school (Six Nations Education Counsellors and Student Success teachers) to discuss student strengths, needs, interests, etc.

#### My Blueprint Education and Career Planning Resource

Grand Erie transition teachers worked collaboratively with Six Nations intermediate teachers and students on orientation activities available on the MyBlueprint education and career planning website.

#### Grade 8 Day

Grand Erie secondary schools welcomed future Grade 9 students from Six Nations and their parents/caregivers to an orientation day that included school tours, staff and student meet and greets, program information and lunch.



### Grand Erie – Six Nations Transition Plan 2023-24 for Regular Program Placements Contd.

#### **Epic Jobs**

Grade 8 Students from both Grand Erie and the Federal Schools at Six Nations who would be attending the same secondary school were partnered together to connect online and learn from each other. The goal was to make connections to lower anxiety related to the transition. Prior to meeting in person, the Grand Erie Indigenous Education Team planned online activities for both classes to complete and share together to start to build a sense of community and belonging. A day was planned by the Student Success Team to have all these students meet in person and have a Grand Erie secondary school leadership class engage the students in team-building games. They also shared lunch together. Following this morning event students were bused to The Wayne Gretzky Centre to take part in Epic Jobs. Epic Jobs is an interactive event for students that introduces them to the skilled trades.

Parent Meetings Secondary school staff connected with parents/caregivers of students who registered with their secondary school to discuss individualized transition needs for their student.

#### **Grade 7 Right Fit Activity**

Grade 7 students from Six Nations Federal schools, Everlasting Tree School and Kawenniio Private School attended the Gathering Place to figure out which Grand Erie Secondary School was the "Right Fit" for them. Students participated in a blind quiz based off their interests to find out which secondary school would best suit their interests and skills. Students then got to meet with the Big Six Grand Erie schools, they met their Native Guidance Counsellors, the Cultural Mentor Grad Coaches and obtained relevant information to each secondary school. Students enjoyed lunch together and were able to ask questions and network with the secondary school supports, hoping to ease their transition into secondary school.

#### **Grade 8 Registration Night Support**

This year we hosted two nights in community, one at JC Hill and one at the Iroquois Lacrosse Arena. These two events were to support Six Nations families register their student for the high school of their choice and an opportunity to ask questions from Grand Erie staff.

### Grand Erie – Six Nations Transition Plan 2023-24 for Self-contained Special Education Placements

#### Self-Contained Recommendations Meeting

Grand Erie Program Coordinator for Special Education and Six Nations Special Education/Transition Lead and/ or designates reviewed the needs of the students being recommended for self contained placements in Grade 9 to discuss program options. Parents/caregivers were invited to participate.

#### **Self-Contained Program Placements Confirmed**

Self-contained program placement options were confirmed by Grand Erie. Conversations with Grade 8 parents/ caregivers occurred to discuss and approve final placement via registration forms.

#### **Parent Meetings**

Secondary school staff connected with parents/caregivers of students who registered with their secondary school to discuss individualized transition needs for their students.

#### Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC)

Secondary school staff participated in IPRC meetings of Grade 8 students who registered at their secondary school.



Grand Erie has developed a variety of innovative community-based education programs to meet the needs of Six Nations students. These programs offered at Grand Erie's Community Based Learning Centre located on Six Nations of the Grand River Territory provide for more opportunities in experiential and culturally relevant learning. Grand Erie continues to seek innovative strategies and program delivery models to meet the needs of all learners, including those who may require re-engagement programs and alternative ways to earn secondary school credits towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

### **Nations and Newstart**

The Nations and Newstart programs provide alternative learning in a community setting for secondary students from Six Nations, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and surrounding areas. It serves secondary students who prefer a smaller and more flexible learning environment.

**Program Highlights:** 

**Eligible Students:** Grand Erie secondary students in Grades 9-12+,

up to age 21 years old.

- **Supported Pathways:** All grades and pathways.
- Program Details: Co-op program



Above: Aidyn Hill learns Haudenosaunee traditional techniques to pound corn and make flour at 13 Moons Camp in Oneida.

## **Education and Community Partnership Programs (ECPP)**

Under the provisions of Section 23 of the Ministry of Education's General Legislative Grant Regulation (Reg. 287/98) educational programs may be provided by District School Boards in collaboration with community partners, for school- aged young people, who for various reasons are unable to attend regular schools. Grand Erie offers two Education and Community Partnership Programs (ECPP) specific to Indigenous students.

### **Ratiweientehta's – They Are Learning**

Grand Erie has partnered with Ganohkwasra Family Assault Support Services to offer a ECPP classroom out of the Youth Lodge facility. Ganohkwasra provides therapeutic counselling and services while a Grand Erie Teacher provides individualized academic programming.

#### **Program Highlights:**

- Eligible Students: Students aged 13-21
- Supported Pathways: All grades and pathways
- Program Details: Students must complete an intake process with Ganohkwasra intake worker. They must have exhausted resources at their home school

#### **Ohahi:yo Program**

In partnership with the Ministry of Child and Youth Services - Youth Justice Services Division, Grand Erie employs one (1) itinerant teacher to provide services and supports to First Nation, Métis and Inuit youth who are engaged in some capacity with the youth justice system. Through a holistic approach, students are provided individualized program planning and support toward their full re-engagement into schooling and community.

**Program Highlights:** 

- Eligible Students: FNMI self-identified youth 14-21 years old engaged in Youth Justice System
- **Supported Pathway:** All grades and pathways
- Program Details: Students must be referred by youth justice connection, such as a Probation Officer



### School Within a College (SWAC)

SWAC is a dual credit program that provides senior high school students an opportunity to complete post-secondary credits on a college campus while completing their high school diploma.

SWAC allows eligible students to:

- Attend up to two semesters
- Complete their Ontario Secondary School Diploma requirements
- Take up to four college credits, counting towards both high school and college diplomas.

#### Who is eligible?

Students between 17 and 21 years of age, are in the last year of high school and have 20+ high school credits are eligible to register in a SWAC program.

#### **Two SWAC programs**

- Conestoga College, Brantford
- Fanshawe College, Simcoe

### **Day Away Programs**

**Conestoga College, Brantford** Fanshawe College, Simcoe Mohawk College, Haldimand

### **Online Dual Credit Programs**

#### Fanshawe, Simcoe

- Practical Photography (a few students in this course) had their pictures in an SCWI Spring Newsletter)
- Introduction to Healthcare Careers
- Marketing & Social Media
- Mohawk, Haldimand First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Perspectives

### Adult Dual Credit Programs (students 21 years and older)

- Conestoga College, Brantford
- Fanshawe College, Simcoe
- Mohawk College, Haldimand

### **Team-Taught Dual Credit Programs**

All secondary schools in Grand Erie have access to team-taught dual credits offered through Conestoga, Fanshawe and Mohawk College







### **Celebrating Indigenous Student Success**

#### McKinnon Park won OFSAA Championship

Congratulations to the McKinnon Park Blue Devils boys Field Lacrosse team on winning OFSAA, with many of the students from the Six Nations community. Grand Erie would also like to send a huge thank you to Community Coach Jason Johnson on his 20 years of dedication to the team by volunteering his time, skills and lacrosse wisdom to the Blue Devils team.

### Indigenous **Allyship Award**

The Indiaenous Allyship Award is a donation for a \$1,000 award. Commencing with the 2020-21 graduating class a Grand Erie graduate of Indigenous ancestry will



be selected as the recipient of this award on the basis of the strength of character they have shown in successfully obtaining their OSSD. The term Indigenous is inclusive of students who have self-identified as First Nation, Métis and Inuit.

The 2023-24 recipient of the Allyship Award was Denver Doxtator of Hagersville Secondary School. Denver, completed a dual-credit photography course which inspired him to pursue a career in photography. Denver has volunteered at the food bank in Jarvis and at Ganohkwasra's Next Step Housing program.

### **BCI Six Nations Student Top 10** in Ontario for Wrestling

Keylin Cowan won the Wrestling Award at BCI as he placed 7th in all of Ontario.



### **Indigenous Student Leadership Initiative**



### **Grand Erie Welcomes Aleena** Skve as Indigenous Student Trustee for 2023-24 School Year

Aleena Skye is Mohawk Wolf clan from Six Nations and completed her second term as the Grand Erie Indigenous Student Trustee. Aleena attended Brantford Colligate Institute and continued her work representing all Indigenous students across Grand Erie. The Indigenous Student Trustee is selected through consensus by the United Indigenous Student Association which is made up of Indigenous student representatives from each Grand Erie secondary school.

Indigenous Student Trustee Aleena Skye is dedicated to her role as a part of Grand Erie and was an active member of Grand Eries Indigenous Student Leadership Initiative (ISLI). The Indigenous Student Trustee has plans on helping make Grand Erie more inclusive and welcoming to Indigenous students by communicating directly with the students through Student Senate which takes place throughout the school year, as well as communicating through social media and in secondary schools. We wish Aleena the best of luck in her post secondary endeavours, Nia:wen for serving two terms.



### **Grand Erie District School Board**

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