



The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

Committee of the Whole Board Meeting | November 12, 2018

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2JT07K8>

Elgin Avenue Public School Consolidation Report

In May 2018, Trustees received an update on the Elgin Avenue rebuild. The report outlined the significant increase in costs associated with the project. The key issue: a third-party cost consultant estimated the rebuild at \$14.7 million, while Grand Erie only has \$8.7 million allotted for the project, including \$6.2 million in funding from the



Ministry of Education through School Consolidation Funding. Following a discussion of the report, Trustees chose to put a pause on the rebuild. They also requested Senior Administration bring a report back to the Board with options for next steps.

That report was presented to Trustees on Monday evening. The Elgin Avenue Public School Consolidation Report, which can be found on pages 7-11 here <https://bit.ly/2JT07K8>, provided Trustees with an update on each of the five options originally offered in May 2018. It also presented two scenarios for next steps. They include: forfeiting the \$6.2 million in funding from the Ministry of Education and exploring funding for a new school; or, revisiting the recommendations from the South East Norfolk Elementary Accommodation Review. This means keeping West Lynn Public School open and building an addition, while closing Elgin Avenue instead. Following discussion of the report, Trustees decided to refer the report back to the Committee of the Whole Meeting in February 2019. This report supports the Achievement indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year plan, *Success for Every Student*, and the following statement: "We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes." It also supports the Environment indicator of the Multi-Year Plan and the goal of making the best use of the space in schools.

2018-19 Indigenous Education Board Action Plan

The Board Action Plan for Indigenous Students is focused on the implementation plan in the First Nation, Metis, and Inuit Framework and the performance measures contained within that framework. Total funding for this work in 2018-19 is approximately \$123,000, not including funding from other areas, such as the Indigenous Support and Engagement Teacher. To review the action plan, see pages 25-33 here: <https://bit.ly/2JT07K8>. This report supports both the Achievement and Equity indicators of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan and the following statements: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff; We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes; We will promote practices that help students, families and staff feel safe, welcomed and included."

Ad Hoc Committee – Grand Erie and Six Nations Action Plan

The Ad Hoc Committee was established in 2017-18 in collaboration with Six Nations of the Grand River. Its purpose was to review enrolment pressures at McKinnon Park Secondary School. The committee met over four months before presenting a report to the Board in June 2018. Featured within that report were agreed upon next steps, including the development of an action plan to address ideas shared by the committee in order to enhance the relationship between Grand Erie District School Board and Six Nations. On Monday, the action plan was presented to Trustees. It includes four key areas: communications, exploration of program activities, joint learning opportunities, and partnerships. Each focus area features three to four action items as well as a timeline, where appropriate. To review the action plan, see pages 3-4 here: <https://bit.ly/2IT07K8>. This report supports the Achievement indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the following statement: "We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes." It also supports the Equity indicator and the goal of increasing the sense of belonging among students.

Facility Renewal Plan 2018-19

Trustees recommended for approval Grand Erie's 2018-19 Facility Renewal Plan, which outlines capital-related work to address urgent needs and other commitments across the Board. Proposed projects total approximately \$20 million and are funded through the Facility Renewal, School Condition Improvement and Community Hub allocations. This total also includes approximately \$18 million carried forward from prior years. Previously approved allocations for Building and Grounds budgets, Pride of Place, Community Partnership Incentive Projects and School/Program Improvement Fund Projects are also included. For the full list of facility renewal projects for 2018-19, see pages 16-20 here: <https://bit.ly/2IT07K8>. This report supports the Environment indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the following statement: "We will ensure that students and staff have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and work."

Annual Update on the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2017-22

Grand Erie's annual update to the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2017-22) was presented to Trustees on Monday. The update features highlights from 2017-18 as well as plans for 2018-19. The annual update was vetted through Executive Council and the Board's Accessibility Committee. It was also presented to the Special Education Advisory Committee for input. To review the update, see pages 39-51 here: <https://bit.ly/2IT07K8>. This report supports the Equity and Environment indicators of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the following statements: "We will promote practices that help students, families and staff feel safe, welcomed and included; We will ensure that students and staff have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and work."

Ed Tech Team Launches Website and Podcast Series

Grand Erie's Educational Technology team recently launched its new website. The site can be found here: Granderie.ca/edtech. It features a wide range of resources for Grand Erie staff and students, including details on Ed Tech Student Crews, Digital Lead Learners, Demonstration Classes and Ed Tech Support. The Professional Learning section of the website includes the first two episodes of the Ed Tech team's new podcast series: GEDSB Talks. The first episode is an interview with author Brian Aspinall on coding, while the second episode features an overview of the evolution of technology in schools. The Ed Tech team supports Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the Technology indicator.

Child Care Project Committees – Hagersville Secondary and Central Public School
Trustees approved the striking of two project committees for child care projects in Brantford and Haldimand. The Central Public School project features a four-room addition at the school to create a Child Care Program area to serve 10 infants, 15 toddlers and 24 preschoolers as well as space for a family aged group. Grand Erie received approximately \$2 million in funding from the Ministry of Education for this project. The anticipated opening is September 2019.

The Hagersville Secondary School project will see classroom space on the first floor of the school converted into a Child Care Program area for 10 infants, 15 toddlers and 24 preschoolers. The Child Care Program provider will be Mississaugas of the New Credit. Grand Erie received approximately \$785,000 in funding from the Ministry of Education’s Early Years Division for this project. The anticipated opening is September 2019.

Upcoming Events:

Several upcoming events were highlighted, including:

- Take Our Kids to Work Day – Wednesday, November 14
- Louis Riel Day – Friday, November 16
- PA Day for Elementary and Secondary Students – Friday, November 16

Additional Items

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Rural and Northern Education Spending Report
- Trustees’ Travel and PD Expenses
- Grand Erie Graduation Report
- Health and Safety Annual Report 2017-18
- Student Suspension Report (SO6)
- Student Expulsion Report (SO7)

The following Bylaw and Polices were recommended for approval:

- BL9 – Processes for Development of Bylaws, Polices and Procedures
- Policy Changes due to Enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, 2017
 - SO10 – Bullying Prevention and Intervention Processes
 - SO11 – Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour
 - SO12 – Code of Conduct

Multi-Year Plan Stories

In 2016, Grand Erie approved a new strategic direction to guide the work that the school board is doing. At the centre of this Multi-Year Plan is *Success for Every Student*. Grand Erie will achieve *Success for Every Student* through a focus on students and staff in a culture of high expectations. The six indicators that support Grand Erie’s Multi-Year Plan are: Achievement, Well-Being, Equity, Environment, Technology and Community.

The following stories showcase some of the most recent work related to the Multi-Year Plan.

Achievement

- Hands-on Learning at Grand Erie Learning Alternatives
 - <https://bit.ly/2qEAdRE>
- Future Grade 9 Student and Parent Information Nights begin this week at Grand Erie
 - <https://bit.ly/2PDUNjt>

Community

- Grand Erie Schools Commemorating Remembrance Day with Special Events and Activities
 - <https://bit.ly/2AQpf1h>

Environment

- Maplevue Elementary School Opens its Doors
 - <https://bit.ly/2DDn3gc>
- Woodman-Cainsville School Sets its Sights on Greener Pastures
 - <https://bit.ly/2zxjB2q>
- Oakland-Scotland Public School Clubs Working Together to Build Citizenship, Environmental and Global Awareness
 - <https://bit.ly/2F8OPTE>
- Waterford District High School Unveils New Learning Commons
 - <https://bit.ly/2QW2eiV>

Equity

- Grand Erie Honours Treaties Recognition Week
 - <https://bit.ly/2yU2HM1>
- Grand Erie Teacher Honoured with Dreamcatcher Foundation Award
 - <https://bit.ly/2zr8qIG>
- On the Job with... Stacie Fehrman, Office Coordinator at McKinnon Park Secondary School
 - <https://bit.ly/2JtOgCt>
- Grand Erie's Day of Dignity Aims to Inspire Meaningful Action
 - <https://bit.ly/2S9LExu>
- James Hillier Public School Students Know There's More Than One Way to Reach a Goal
 - <https://bit.ly/2Qolgyi>
- Indigenous Student Leaders Come Together to Start the Year Off Strong
 - <https://bit.ly/2QnLgtl>

Well-Being

- Banbury Heights Celebrates International Day of the Girl
 - <https://bit.ly/2quXp4G>
- Young Yogis Flexing Well-Being at Langton Public School
 - <https://bit.ly/2PkvnXP>