



# The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING | OCTOBER 16, 2017

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

## **Elgin Avenue Public School Consolidation Project**

In the final report on the South East Norfolk Accommodation Review, the Board approved a redevelopment at Elgin Avenue Public School to include additional classroom space for West Lynn Public School students; and, the closing of West Lynn Public School. In order to redevelop Elgin



Avenue Public School, a temporary accommodation strategy is needed to manage students during the 2018-19 school year when construction will occur on-site. Trustees are recommending for approval the preferred option presented by Senior Administration, which includes the addition of 10 portables at Lynndale Heights for Elgin Avenue Public School students in 2018-19. Additionally, as part of the temporary accommodation strategy, the special education classes at Elgin Avenue Public School will be relocated to Bloomsburg Public School, while the enrichment program will be relocated to Teeterville Public School in 2018-19. The redevelopment at Elgin Avenue Public School is expected to be completed for the 2019-20 school year. To read more, including all four options that were considered, see pages 74-76 here: <http://bit.ly/2kTHVaz>.

## **Enrolment Update – Fall 2017**

This year, Grand Erie has seen an increase in elementary school students, while secondary school enrolment is down slightly. Projected enrolment for elementary students this fall was estimated to be 17,477. Instead, enrolment has increased by 329 students to 17,806. Projected enrolment for secondary school students this fall was estimated to be 8,479.8, while actual enrolment is down 81.4 to 8,398.4. To review the complete update, see pages 9-11 here: <http://bit.ly/2kTHVaz>.

## **2017-18 Board Action Plan on Indigenous Education**

Grand Erie's Achievement Plan: Success for Every Student is a plan for all students, including Indigenous students. The Board's Action Plan for Indigenous Students, which was presented to Trustees and has been submitted to the Ministry of Education, ties directly to the *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework Implementation Plan (2014)*, which is found here: <http://bit.ly/2zcNQKe>. To review the Board's Action Plan on Indigenous Education, see pages 18-35 here: <http://bit.ly/2kTHVaz>.

### **Our School Survey Results**

Results from the 2016-17 *Our School* survey were presented. The survey took place between November 2016 and January 2017, with every Grand Erie school completing the engagement model related to student outcomes and school climate. The elementary survey featured results from grades 4-6, while the secondary survey included grades 7-12. To review the complete results, see pages 38-73 here:

<http://bit.ly/2kTHVaz>. A few highlights include:

- Grand Erie elementary students rated the rigor of classroom instruction (i.e. well-organized, with a clear purpose, and immediate and appropriate feedback that helps learning) at 8.4 out of 10, compared with the Canadian norm of 7.9.
- Positive student-teacher relationships were rated at 8.5 out of 10 for Grand Erie elementary students, compared to the Canadian norm of 7.9. For Grand Erie secondary school students, it was 6.5, compared to the Canadian norm of 6.0.
- Grand Erie secondary school students rated teachers' expectations for academic success (i.e. how school staff emphasize academic skills and hold high expectations for all students to succeed) at 7.4 out of 10 compared with the Canadian norm of 7.1.



**Vote now** (up to 18 times!)  
for Paris Central Playground  
Revitalization Project to win \$50k

### **Paris Central Needs Your Vote!**

Paris Central is in the running for an Aviva grant to fund their playground equipment and the revitalization of their outdoor space. Voting began October 10 and closes October 19. To help Paris Central win the grant, vote here:

<http://bit.ly/2zbA76i>.

### **Parents Reaching Out Grants**

On September 29, the Province announced its funding for the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants. In total, 24 School Councils from Grand Erie were awarded \$23,001 for a wide-range of events and activities during the 2017-18 school year. A complete list of the Grand Erie PRO grant recipients can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2yqey4s>. Details of the Ministry of Education's announcement can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2wZa6GN>.

### **Upcoming Events and Activities**

A number of upcoming events and activities were noted, including:

- Local Government Week 2017 (October 15-21)
- School Bus Safety Week (October 16-20)
- Waste Reduction Week (October 16-22)
- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (October 17)
- National School Safety Week (October 17-23)
- Dress Purple Day in Brant/Brantford (October 24)
  - Organized by Brant Family and Children's Services, it is part of Child Abuse Prevention Month. Two Grand Erie Schools (Central and North Ward) will be key stops on a VIP tour for the event

## **ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

### **Trustees received the following reports and Information Items:**

- Violent Incidents in Schools – Grand Erie Perspective
- Primary Class Size Report
- Data Report – Voluntary Indigenous Self-Identification (SO16)
- Public Consultation Plan for Special Education Plan Annual Review
- “Our School” Survey Results
- OPSBA Report

### **The following Policy and Bylaw were recommended for approval:**

- F2 – Budget Development Process
- BL25 – Director’s Performance Appraisal

### **The following Policies and Procedures will be shared with stakeholders for comment:**

- F5 – Advocacy
- HR2 – Consideration of Employee Concerns
- F102 – Purchasing Card Program
- F103 – Travel and Expense Claims
- FT112 – Disposal of Surplus Furnishings and Equipment