



The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

Committee of the Whole Board Meeting | April 8, 2019

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2UDy0qa>

Education Week 2019

Education Week is an annual event that's celebrated across the province. The purpose is to highlight student excellence in learning. This year, Education Week takes place May 6-10, with the theme: *Feeling Well... Mind, Body and Spirit*.

Grand Erie's annual Education Week Gala serves as a preview for the week-long celebration. It features a number of artistic performances by students, including: singing, dancing, musical theatre and percussion. The Gala takes place on May 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sanderson Centre in Brantford.



Grand Erie's 2019 Education Week will also include two grand openings. On May 6, the Board will celebrate the opening of Central Public School's Learning Commons. On May 10, Grand Erie will celebrate the official grand opening of Mapleview Elementary School. This report supports both the Achievement and Well-Being indicators of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan, *Success for Every Student*. Achievement is seen through the following statement: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff." Well-Being is supported through the following goal: "Staff, students and parents will promote health and well-being and will know how to access supports when needed." To review this report, see pages 21-22 here: <https://bit.ly/2UDy0qa>.



Education Technology Initiative Update

Each year, an update on the Educational Technology Plan is provided to Trustees. In 2019, the report includes information on hardware (i.e., student and teacher devices) and professional development (i.e., Digital Lead Learners, Education Technology Projects, Ed Tech Student Crew, etc.) as well as next steps for the plan. This report supports the Technology indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the following statement: "We will provide secure and reliable learning environments that will allow students and staff to use technology in an effective and seamless manner." To review the report, see pages 23-29 here: <https://bit.ly/2UDy0qa>.

IBM Report

In the fall of 2018, IBM Canada's Education Division was hired by Grand Erie to perform a review of the board's current utilization of educational technology. IBM was also tasked with providing recommendations and guidance for the most effective use of digital resources to support learning

in Grand Erie moving forward. IBM completed its work last month. The company's presentation, which can be found on pages 31-71 here: <https://bit.ly/2UDy0qa>, was presented to Trustees on Monday night. This report supports the Technology indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the following goal: "Develop measurements to better understand the impact of the Educational Technology initiative on staff and student learning."

Quality Accommodations Review Committee Update

Grand Erie's Quality Accommodations Review Committee is tasked with developing and maintaining a plan that maximizes the benefits for all students as well as meets the following statement of the Environment indicator of the Board's Multi-Year Plan: "We will ensure that students and staff have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and work."

Following a review of projected enrolment, the 2018-19 Quality Accommodations Review Committee identified two priorities moving forward for the Board. The first is a Pupil Accommodation Review for Brant/Brantford Secondary Schools, with the scope of work to include possible re-distribution of speciality programming as well as a boundary review to balance enrolment. The second includes four Pupil Accommodation Reviews in the following areas: Haldimand North and Haldimand South Elementary Schools; Haldimand Secondary Schools; Brantford Central Elementary Schools; and, Brantford North Elementary Schools.

The Quality Accommodations Review Committee will move forward with the above-noted priorities once the Ministry of Education removes the moratorium on school closures. To review the report, see pages 13-19 here: <https://bit.ly/2UDy0qa>.

2019 Summer School Report

Grand Erie will once again offer Summer School for students this year. Two sites have been selected for the in-class program: Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School and Hagersville Secondary School. Both locations will offer full credit, reach ahead and credit recovery courses. Full credit courses will also be



available through eLearning. Other key elements of the 2019 Summer School program include: Co-op and Dual Credit opportunities, Literacy and Numeracy Programs for Grades 6-8 students, and reach ahead opportunities for students in Grades 7-8. Finally, the Student Biz program is a unique Summer School community partnership with the Brantford-Brant Business Resource Centre that provides students with the chance to learn skills that will enable them to be successful entrepreneurs in a hands-on learning environment. This report supports the Achievement indicator of *Success for Every Student* and the following statement: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff. We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes." To review the report, see pages 73-74 here: <https://bit.ly/2UDy0qa>.

Upcoming Events

A number of upcoming events and activities were highlighted:

- International Day of Pink – Wednesday, April 10, 2019
- Elementary Eco Conference at Camp Trillium – Thursday, April 11, 2019

- PA Day – Friday, April 12, 2019
- Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Spring Event – *Social Networking and Online Safety: What Parents Need to Know* – Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Additional Items

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Allocations of Self-Contained Classrooms for 2019-20 – Revised
- Director's Report
- International Students – Fee Structure
- Mileage Remuneration Review
- e-Learning Annual Report
- Before and After School Programs 2019-20
- Trustees' Expenses Report

The following Bylaw and Policy were recommended to be rescinded:

- BL31 Bridge Financing – Coronation School Renovation Project
- F107 Purchasing

The following Bylaw and Policies were recommended for approval:

- F6 Purchasing
- FT1 Major Construction Projects
- BL29 Student Trustees

The following Policies and Procedures will be sent out for comment:

- SO28 Student Concussion and Head Injury
- FT103 Temporary Closure of Board Building
- FT110 Recorded Surveillance: Board Buildings & School Transportation Vehicles
- HR103 Duties and Expectations of Teachers
- HR105 Term Appointments – Central Support Staff
- HR117 Re-evaluating Existing Non-Union Positions

The following Procedures were received as information:

- P104 Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL)
- SO103 Safe Arrivals
- SO106 Field Trips/Team Travel Bookings

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.

Community

- Parent Councils Bring Renowned Speaker to Paris for Presentation on Brain Development of Children and Teens
 - <https://bit.ly/2UAF77C>

Environment

- Community Partnerships at Bloomsburg Make the Great Outdoors the Classroom
 - <https://bit.ly/2G2zzG5>

Technology

- 'What's Your Plan' Career Showcase Connects Youth to Opportunities in Technology and Trades
 - <https://bit.ly/2Vra9qT>