

62 Queensway Drive
Brantford, Ontario
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519-752-2296
www.granderie.ca/schools/jameshillier/

Principal
Jeannette Marry

Office Co-ordinator
Jenn Dalby

**INCLUDED
ARE...**

- Student Code of Conduct
- JH Student Technology Code of Conduct
- Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan
- Info-graphic – How to Get Help

September News

Welcome back! The staff at James Hillier Public School welcome back students, families and community members to a new school year! We hope that you have had a relaxing and fun-filled summer, and are ready for the exciting challenges ahead.

A special welcome to all our new staff (Mr. Bentham and Mme Naisbitt), students, and families joining the James Hillier school community. We look forward to a great year ahead for our students, staff and families of working, and learning together!

Meet the James Hillier Staff Team

Office Staff:

Mrs. Marry – Principal
Mrs. Dalby – Office Co-ordinator

Special Education Staff:

Mrs. Archibald – LRT
Mr. Braha – New Visions
Mrs. Telfer - Woodview
Educational Assistants: Mrs. Zimmer,
Mrs. Duiker, Mrs. Quattrociocchi

Prep Staff:

Mme Sorensen – French/Prep
Mme Naisbitt – French / Prep
Ms. Sabatino – Prep/Library
Mrs. Dudley - Prep

Classroom Staff:

Mrs. Fox / Ms. Smits – KG A
Mrs. Coon / Mrs. Walsh – KG B
Mrs. Metcalfe – Grade 1
Mrs. Sawdyk – Grade 1 / 2
Mrs. Eddy – Grade 2 / 3
Mrs. Pelich – Grade 3 / 4
Mrs. Wilson – Grade 4
Mr. Bentham – Grade 4 / 5
Ms. Clarke – Grade 5 / 6
Mr. Kronwald – Grade 6 / 7
Mr. Johnson – Grade 7 / 8
Mr. Corrigan – Grade 7 / 8

Custodial / Caretaking Staff:

Mr. Bishop – Mornings
Mr. Ramsey – Afternoons

DATES TO REMEMBER

- P.A. Day – No school for students – September 14/18
- Meet the Teacher – September 18/18 from 4:30 – 6:00 PM
- School Pictures – September 19/18
- Terry Fox Run – September 27/18
- Orange Shirt Day (Truth and Reconciliation) – September 28/18

REMINDER: If you are volunteering at the school in any capacity, you require a police check (including Vulnerable Sector) AND Proof of AODA certification – for more information [follow this link](#)

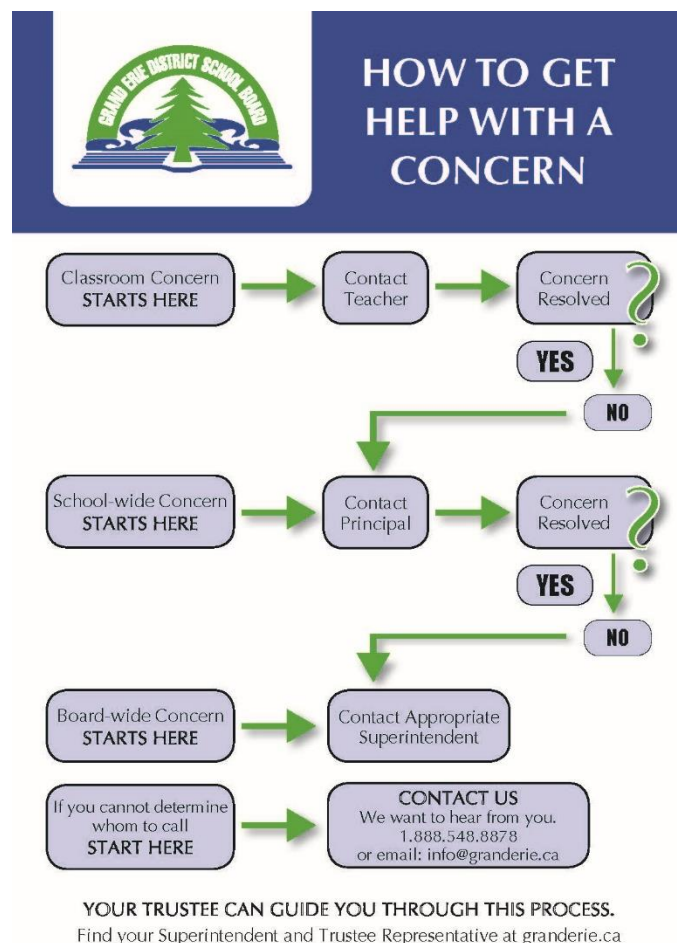
Grand Erie District School Board: Focus on Equity in 2018-19

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.

This year, to demonstrate the embodiment of the Multi-Year Plan, Grand Erie has created a video series focusing on Equity, one of the six indicators. Equity is a part of everything Grand Erie does, from the supports provided to students and staff, to the events and activities the board honours and celebrates. Equity is a guiding force. These videos tell just four of the many stories of students and staff embracing Equity.

This first video highlights Matt Peaire, a Simcoe Composite School student who came out as transgender in Grade 11, and found support in his Guidance Teacher Jason Dale.

Watch Matt's Story here <https://bit.ly/2C1RZa5>
For more info on the Multi-Year Plan visit <https://bit.ly/2or827z>



SUCCESS for Every Student

Parents/guardians play an important role in the education of their children and can support the efforts of school staff by:

- showing an active interest in their child's school work and progress
- communicating regularly with school staff
- helping their child be neat, appropriately dressed and prepared for school
- ensuring their child attends regularly and on time
- being familiar with the school's Code of Conduct
- encouraging and assisting their child to follow the rules of behavior
- assisting the school staff in dealing with disciplinary issues involving their child

"Excerpt from Grand Erie Code of Conduct"



Reminders and Information...

Nutrition Breaks and Supervision

All Grand Erie Elementary schools are on a balanced school day. This means that your child will have two nutritional breaks during the day. Students are to remain at school during the first break but may go home during the second break. If your child has permission to leave the school (Grades 5 – 8) during the **second** break, please complete the attached form, and return it to the school as soon as possible. Students will not be permitted to leave the school premises without **written parental consent**.

Supervision in the morning begins at **8:50 AM**. For safety reasons, please do not send your child to school prior to the 8:50 AM start time when staff begin supervision on the playground. The school day begins at 9:00 AM and ends at 3:20 PM. All students are expected to head for home shortly after the bell. We ask all students that if they are returning to the school property to play in the yard, to always go home first and return with permission any time after 4:00 PM.

All students are reminded to use the sidewalks to enter and exit the school property, and **avoid cutting through the staff parking lot**. Please review this safety procedure with your child. Students are **reminded to walk bicycles, scooters onto or off school property before or after school!**

Absences and Lates:

Please call the school office to report your child's absence or late arrival. If you are aware of an upcoming appointment, please send a note in your child's agenda, or call the school office. It is important that students arrive regularly on time to school, so that they do not miss content, or learning time.

Allergies and Emergency Information:

There are a number of students at James Hillier with allergies to certain foods such as peanuts, tree nuts, seeds, dairy products, eggs etc. For some this may be a life threatening situation if they come in contact or ingest some of these foods. Peanut butter, nuts, or any products containing nuts including all peanut butter substitutes are not permitted for snacks or lunches at school. As a health and safety precaution, please remind your child to not share snacks and lunch items with friends. If in doubt, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

If there is any other emergency or medical information about your child that you would like to update or share with school personnel, please contact the office.

Reminders and Information...

Arrival and Dismissal from School

When students are arriving at school or leaving at dismissal time, the area around the school is very busy. If you are driving and dropping or picking your child up, please do not use the staff parking lot and/or the bus loading zones along St. George Street or Queensway Drive. Notably the intersection of St. George St. and Orchard Ave. is very busy and can be dangerous if drivers are not obeying the posted no stopping signs. Please use the parking lot at Queensway Baptist Church as an alternative safe parking area.

Adult Crossing Guards are located at the intersections of St. George Street and Queensway Drive and the intersection of Queensway Drive and Franklin. Please help keep our students safe by not stopping/parking in the bus zones, and by crossing with the assistance of our Crossing Guards.

Visiting During School Hours:

Parents and volunteers are always welcome at James Hillier. To maintain the safety of all our students and staff, it is imperative that all visitors to the building report to the main office. All entrance doors to the school are locked during regular school hours. Please push the buzzer at the front door to notify the office of your arrival. When dropping off lunches, or other forgotten items, please leave them at the office, and they will be delivered to your child. If you are picking up your child earlier than regular dismissal time for appointments or other events, please remain at the office or let us know ahead of time, and we will be happy to have your child wait at the office for your arrival. This limits disruptions for both staff and students.

Communication

Classroom agendas will be used in Grades 1 – 8 as a regular form of communication between home and school. Please review your child's agenda regularly for notes, homework, and important dates. If you have questions about your child specific to the classroom, please always contact the teacher first!

You should receive a monthly newsletter from your child's teacher during the first week of each month.

Similar to last year, I will be sending home monthly newsletters, using School Messenger, letters, emails, and phone calls home. School Messenger requires an up-to-date email and phone number. Please check your child's Registration Form enclosed to update this information if necessary.

This year we will be continuing to use Facebook for pictures, events, and reminders. We have also started a Twitter feed. Our Twitter handle is James Hillier School @JH_Jayhawks.

Reminders and Information

School Council

School Council is one of many ways to get involved at James Hillier. Our Council meets about 4 – 5 times over the school year. Each year, Council members work in collaboration with school staff and the Principal to support initiatives that enhance the educational experiences of all our students. Please see below for more information regarding the Hot Lunch Program that is run by Council, and another way you can be involved!

Hot Lunch Program

Welcome back Jayhawks! And a warm welcome to new Jayhawks!

The James Hillier School Council is happy to announce that our lunch program is returning for the 2018/2019 school year. For those new to the school, and a friendly reminder to all, the lunch program operates every Tuesday and Friday. Orders are placed through the **Cash-Online system**. Tuesday is Pizza and Friday lunches are provided by an assortment of local vendors including La Bottega, Pita Pit & Bar Burrito.

The lunch program is crucial in providing funds that are utilized by James Hillier staff and students. We assist in bringing special events and groups to J.H. as well as contribute to the Trip Assist program that helps keep the costs of school trips down.

As always, we are run entirely by our wonderful community of Parent Volunteers. If you have an hour to spare, even once a month, we would welcome your help (a valid police check, and completion of the AODA from the Grand Erie Board is required).

If you have any questions about the lunch program or would like further information, please feel free to reach out to Jenn Lounsbury jennifertjitske@gmail.com or Lindsay Soden lindsaymcloed@yahoo.ca

School Cash Online:

Over the past 2 school years, James Hillier has successfully moved to becoming a “cashless school.” Please find enclosed, instructions on how to set up your family account. Many of our events, trips, fundraisers, and other purchases will be uploaded to School Cash Online for easier payment. We currently have about 96% of our students and families paying for all school events through this online program. It is very important that you meet the due dates for payment in the Cash Online program. Once the due date has passed, the event is locked, and online payments will not be accepted. **Please be advised, that teachers will not be accepting cash payments at the last minute for school trips and events.** We want our students to not miss out on these extra-curricular opportunities, so please **meet all due dates and timelines for School Cash Online!**

Message from the Principal

Back to school is an exciting time for students, staff and families. If you have family members or friends who are teachers, you know that the work that goes into preparing for back to school starts well before the date arrives.

Each year, staff put in a great deal of time, effort and consideration into organizing classrooms for the arrival of students. An important part of a new school year is student placement, and staffing. The process for this work begins prior to June. When the initial organization of a school is submitted, it is based on current student enrollment and the staffing allocation.

One “unknown” factor that impacts a school’s organization is changes to enrollment. This occurs when students either transfer out or transfer into a school area. The trend data shows us that each summer, homes in our school catchment area have either been purchased or rented to new families.

The “Henderson” area of Brantford has historically been a desirable area to purchase or lease homes and to raise families and children. This is a positive outcome for our school, in terms of sustainability for the long term.

The short-term “pain” that occurs when enrollment increases or decreases is the possibility of school re-organization. This can be a difficult situation for students, staff and parents. A school organization can change until mid to late September. If this occurs, please **TRUST** the school and the staff to make the best possible placement decision for your child(ren). Classroom placements are completed in collaboration with school staff, and are **solely** school-based decisions. You can also help your child at home, to understand that although change is challenging, it can be overcome by the “helping hands” of home and school working together to support our children!

Thank you in advance for your commitment to your child’s education, and success as we begin a new year together!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marry

