



## Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, May 25, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

### MINUTES

**Present:** Committee Chair S. Darling, Director J. Roberto, Board Chair S. Gibson, Trustee L. Passmore, Trustee C.A. Sloat, Trustee R. Collver, J. White, K. Graham, Y. Brochu, B. Poladian, J. Smith, J. Belbin, M. Mummery, T. Marshall, P. Kaur, T. Van Kuren, A. Whitman, M. Markle, A. De Leebeeck, I. Segura-Romero, C. Vynckier, C. Charlton, R. Symons, L. Gray, T. Sault, S. Beauregard, D. Durette, C. Millen, J. Haskell, K. Naydenova, J. Kreitner, D. Reid, Q. Ballio, T. Butler, M. Lewis, R. Bouck, M. Snyder, L. Schmidt

**Regrets:** Trustee Bradford

**Recorder:** C. Dero

#### A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call / Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Chair Darling opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and K. Graham read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

#### B - 1 **Everyday Resiliency in Ever-Changing Times - Dr. Hanley-Dafoe**

Dr. Hanley-Dafoe spoke about learning to identify resilience-building practices, navigate barriers, manage stress during uncertainty, and reaffirm values and priorities for work-life integration.

#### C - 1 **Minutes**

(a) **Approval of the Minutes – April 27, 2023**

Moved by: M. Mummery

Seconded by: T. Marshall

THAT the April 27, 2023, Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes be approved.

**Carried**

(b) **Business Arising from the Minutes – Nil**

#### D - 1 **GEPIC Orientation**

Chair Darling requested suggestions for GEPIC agenda items, guest speakers for the 2023-24 school year, and School Council Orientation topics. Suggestions included:

- Successful fundraising ideas
- Events to increase parent engagement
- Grants/funds that are available to school councils
- Role of the school council and how to increase parent involvement
- How to align project ideas with school board policies
- Ways that parent councils can make an impact



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- How to share concerns if a policy isn't up for review
- Teaching school council about the purpose and impact of GEPIC

Additional suggestions can be sent to Chair Darling at [gepicchair@granderie.ca](mailto:gepicchair@granderie.ca).

#### E - 1 School Highlights

Tollgate Technical School conducted Mental Health Week activities, raised awareness of Red Dress Day and held a Spring Sale. School council used PRO Grant funds to purchase anti-racism resources for parents to support social inclusion and move to greater equality. Promotional materials are also being ordered to encourage school council participation,

JL Mitchener will use PRO Grant funds to host guest speaker Aubrey Noronha, who will speak to students, staff, and the community about to mental health and anti-racism.

Lakewood hosted a STEM event with the use of PRO Grant funds. They will celebrate the end of the year with an outdoor family movie night.

Simcoe Secondary School will use PRO Grant funds to introduce parents to tech. Grade 9 and 10 students, along with parents/caregivers will work together to make a project. The school also hosted a Car Show and Spring Sale earlier this month.

#### F - 1 System Updates

Superintendent White shared information about:

- Grand Erie's Anti-Racism Project
- Summer learning opportunities for students
- Cayuga Secondary School Art Exhibit on June 14
- Rainbow Ball was hosted by Simcoe Composite School and Waterford District High School
- Weekly Wellness Challenges at Thompson Creek
- Policies are up for review for public comment until June 7<sup>th</sup>. They can be found here: [By-law, Policies, Procedures, Protocols :: Grand Erie District School Board](#)

#### G - 1 Future Meetings

GEPIC

- October 26, 2023
- January 25, 2024
- March, 28, 2024
- May 23, 2024



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School Council Orientation

- November 23, 2023

**The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.**