



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release
June 19, 2017

Great News for South East Norfolk Elementary Families

Ministry of Education Approves Grand Erie's Accommodation Review Recommendation

Brantford ON: Elementary students from West Lynn Public School and Elgin Avenue Public School will receive new accommodations based on decisions made from the South East Norfolk Pupil Accommodation Review process completed in October, 2016.

The Ministry of Education accepted Grand Erie's application and announced the approval of a \$6.2 million addition to Elgin Avenue Public School to accommodate students from West Lynn Public School. Grand Erie District School Board is contributing \$2.3 million from its School Conditions Fund to support the complete redevelopment project, which amounts to a total of \$8.5 million.

The redevelopment project will accommodate a total of 536 pupil spaces from the consolidated West Lynn Public School and Elgin Avenue Public School at 80 Elgin Avenue in Simcoe. In addition, three child care rooms will be constructed to include 39 child care spaces.

"We are pleased to move forward with the accommodation of students and provide access to child care spaces for Simcoe families," said David Dean, Chair of the Board. "Engaging families in this accommodation review process has led to a more positive outcome for the community."

Details of the accommodation announcement include:

- Four classrooms added to the current Elgin Avenue site
- Three child care rooms to accommodate 39 child care spaces
- A fully accessible school that meets the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
- A Learning Commons in the current gym and a new gym constructed
- Upgrades to all electrical and mechanical infrastructure

Facility Services will initiate plans for the redevelopment in the 2017-18 school year with a ground-breaking in June, 2018. Construction will start that summer and throughout the 2018-19 school year. The new school will be ready for staff and students for the start of the 2019-20 school year in September, 2019. West Lynn Public School will then close and become surplus to the Board.

"This is great news for the community and we anticipate many questions in terms of transition planning," said Wayne Baker, Superintendent of Education. "A complete transition plan will be communicated with all impacted families once approved by the Board of Trustees."

-30-

Contact:

Shawn McKillop
Manager of Communications and Community Relations
Office: 519.756.6301 ext. 281147 | Cell: 905-978-1417

www.granderie.ca