



# The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BOARD MEETING | MAY 8, 2017

*Please note that reports are linked as one complete Board package.  
All reports for the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting held on May 8, 2017,  
can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2psjuic>*

**Grad Rates:** The Ministry of Education released the Grad Rate information for school boards across Ontario. Since 2014, when the Grad Rates were published by the Ministry, Grand Erie District School Board has seen an improvement of 6 per cent in Year 4 and 5.6 per cent in Year 5.

- Click here to access the media release issued by the Ministry of Education, 2016 Graduation Rates Across the Province: <http://bit.ly/2psV15X>



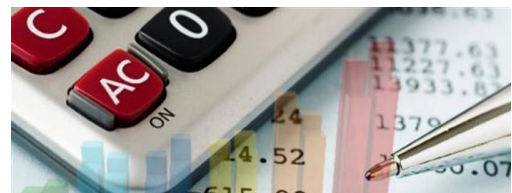
**Makerspace Pilot Project:** The Council of Directors of Education (CODE) is conducting a research opportunity on makerspaces. Grand Erie District School Board is pleased to select Agnes G. Hodge to be part of the pilot project set to begin in the fall, 2017.

*What is a makerspace?*

- A makerspace is a dedicated learning space where students take ownership of their education by creating and building in a collaborative, hands-on environment. Makerspaces often include access to the latest digital tools—equipment such as 3D printers and scanners, green screens, tablets, e-textiles, programmable robots and augmented reality. Sometimes makerspaces are called 'fab labs': places where students can fabricate and create things in a group environment.
- The inherent culture distinguishes a makerspace from a place where people make 'stuff'. A makerspace is much more than the equipment it houses. It should be committed to a culture of innovation, while at the same time providing the skills and foundation that students will need to succeed in that kind of learning environment. A maker culture promotes risk-taking, learning from mistakes, problem-solving and the development of perseverance when tasks are difficult.



**Budget Review Meeting:** The Board of Trustees are holding a series of public meetings to discuss the Budget. The first of the series will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/2q837LZ>



**School-Year Calendar 2017-18:** Grand Erie District School Board received confirmation from the Ministry of Education that the School-Year Calendar, 2017-18 is approved. The final calendar will soon be published online and in print for distribution to families. To view the calendar (as presented in draft form), click here: <http://bit.ly/2mukLqk>

**School Boards Partner with County Health Units for Healthy Schools Protocol:**

The Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit and Brant County Health Unit, together with Grand Erie District School Board and Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board, will formalize a longstanding cooperation by signing the Partnering Together for Healthy Schools protocol at Walter Gretzky Elementary School/St. Basil Catholic Elementary School library on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 10:15 a.m.



**BRANT COUNTY HEALTH UNIT**

**Boundary Review Meetings:** The following Boundary Review Meetings have been scheduled:

*South West Brantford*

The proposed boundary change will primarily impact elementary families moving into the development area attending the following schools: Walter Gretzky Elementary School and Ryerson Heights Elementary School.

- Date: May 23, 2017
- Time: 6:00 p.m.
- Location: Ryerson Heights Elementary School

*McClung Road Subdivision, Caledonia*

The proposed boundary changes will apply to families attending the following schools: Caledonia Centennial Public School, Seneca Central Public School, Cayuga Secondary School, and McKinnon Park Secondary School.

- Date: May 30, 2017
- Times: 6:00 p.m. (Elementary) and 6:30 p.m. (Secondary)
- Location: McKinnon Park Secondary School

**Facility Partnerships - Annual Facility Status Report:** The report outlines schools suitable for facility partnerships (unused space), schools suitable for facility partnership (new construction), an update on the work of the Facility Partnership Liaison, and communication with the community.

**Student Trustee Selection:** Trustees welcomed the new 2017-18 Student Trustees to the Board. For Grand Erie North, Jeriann Hsiao, and for Grand Erie South, Leicia Kelly.

**Data Report - Learner Intervention Tracking for Excellence (LITE)**

**Referrals for Professional Services:** Grand Erie has a team of school-based and system staff who support student learning by providing specialized assessment, intervention, and programming supports. The LITE platform is comprised of several modules that help manage data and processes in Special Education and Student Support Services.



**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

**Committee/Board Meeting Schedule:** The Grand Erie District School Board recommended for approval the 2017-18 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule with a change from April 30 to April 23.

**Allocation of Educational Assistants:** The allocation of 303 Educational Assistants, as outlined in the report was recommended for approval pending final budget approval.

**Capital Planning Capacity Program:** The Grand Erie District School Board receive the Capital Planning Capacity Program Report as information.

**MISA Update:** MISA was established by the Ministry of Education for the purpose of using data to improve student achievement by building capacity at the provincial level and at the board level.

**Anna Melick Memorial School Transition Committee Report:** A transition committee met three times since February, 2017. Anna Melick Memorial School held an open house on April 29, 2017. A motion to disband the committee was recommended for approval.

### **Bylaws/Policies/Procedures**

Trustees received the following as information:

- HR120 Communicable Diseases
- SO134 Website Requirements

The following Bylaws, Policies and Procedures were recommended for approval:

- SO08 Community Partnerships
- SO10 Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- SO11 Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour

The following Bylaws, Policies and Procedures were recommended to be rescinded:

- SO129 Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- SO130 Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour

*SUCCESS* for Every Student