



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, March 28, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Committee Chair S. Darling, Trustee: T. Sault, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White. Committee Members: S. Casey, D. Dean, S, G. Stead, S, B. DeMille, B. Arthur, E. Huxley, R. Jakaitis, J. Smith.

Regrets: Trustee L. Passmore

Recorder: E. Roberts

A - 1 **Opening**

Roll Call / Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement

Superintendent White opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call was confirmed at 7:35 p.m. following the guest presentation. Superintendent White welcomed members and participants and read The Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Indigenous Astronomy as told by the Haudenosaunee: Filling your Spirit with Stardust and Astronomical Knowledge – Samantha Doxtator**

Samantha Doxtator provided an informative presentation on Indigenous/Haudenosaunee perspectives on astronomical connections to creation stories, innovation, perseverance and life cycles on Earth.

C - 1 **Minutes**

(a) **Approval of the Minutes – January 25, 2024**

Moved by: J. Smith

Seconded by: B. DeMille

THAT the January 25, 2024, Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes be approved.

Carried

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

D - 1 **System Updates**

Superintendent White shared information regarding:

- Kickstart to Kindergarten
- Learn, Lead and Inspire in Action and #Learning at Grand Erie school highlights
- GEMAAP – The Coaching Cycle (Mathematics coaching and learning) in schools
- The Right Fit (Transition from Elementary to Secondary program) geared for Indigenous students
- Upcoming events and days of significance



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E - 1 Updates from the Board

Trustee Sault shared information about:

- Student Recognition – Learn Lead Inspire Award recipient Emmerson Craig, Kindergarten student at St. George German PS
- Capital Projects - construction update

F – 1 School Highlights

(a) Updates from School Council Chairs

- Successful fundraising projects at Banbury Heights PS were noted

(b) Updates from School Principals

- Restorative practice approaches for students and early reading training for elementary educators were highlighted.
- Activities in Secondary schools included: a Polar Plunge with OPP at Cayuga Secondary, a student mural art project at Hagersville Secondary, and Basketball sports team success at Simcoe Composite.
- OSSLT testing preparation and GEMAAP math coaching initiatives for secondary educators were shared.

G – 1 Pro Funding Update

Twenty-seven applications were submitted and received Pro Funding for projects and opportunities promoting and support parent/caregiver involvement. The total funding contributed to these projects is \$22,520. Approved projects included a variety of family events focusing on math learning, cultural diversity events, and activities supporting student well-being and belonging. (including guest speakers and parent outreach events)

H – 1 Learning/Information

(a) Solar Eclipse

Information regarding the eclipse was shared. Protective glasses donated from McMaster University will be provided to all Grand Erie students.

(b) Curriculum Updates were provided on the following:

- Mathematics Foundations and STEM education in Grade 1
- Grade 7 & 8 History - inclusion of learning about Black Communities from the 18th to 20th centuries, and history of Black Canadians
- Destreamed Grade 9 Geography
- Grade 9 & 10 Business Studies – financial considerations around Entrepreneurship
- Grade 9 and 10 Technology updates to the curriculum to further explore engineering design knowledge and skills

(c) School Climate Survey



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Grand Erie will again be conducting a survey to assess the school climate for students. Students in Grades 4-12 will be asked to participate in this voluntary electronic survey. The timelines for communication and completion schedule for elementary and secondary students was shared.

I-1 **Spring Event Update**

Guest speaker: Dr. Jean Clinton will provide an in-person presentation on the Power of Connection: Helping Students Thrive Through Challenging Times at the April 25, 2024 GEPIC annual event being held at Waterford District High School in the gymnasium starting at 6 p.m. Information booths with resources related to services offered by a variety of Grand Erie departments will be exhibited. All Grand Erie parents/caregivers are invited to attend. The flyer promoting the event will be posted on Grand Erie's website and circulated to all school communities.

J-1 **Future Meetings**

May 23, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.