



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 22, 2025

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

A - 1 Opening

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session **(6:30 pm)**
 - (i) Personnel
 - (ii) Legal
 - (iii) Property
- (d) Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement
The Grand Erie District School Board recognizes Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as the longstanding peoples of this territory. We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples who reside within the Grand Erie District School Board. We are all stewards of these lands and waters where we now gather, learn and play, and commit to working together in the spirit of Reconciliation.
- (e) Call to Order
- (f) Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Agenda be approved."
- * (g) Memorial
 - (i) Kathleen Shaddock (Trustee L. Passmore)
- (h) In-Camera Report
- (i) Learn Lead Inspire Awards (J. Roberto, K. Graham)
- (j) Student Showcase – Major Ballachey Public School's Garden Project (J. Roberto, K. Graham)
- (k) Delegation

B - 1 Consent Agenda

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Board accept the September 22, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein."

- * (a) Approve the minutes of:
 - (i) Regular Board meeting dated June 23, 2025
 - (ii) Special Board meeting dated August 18, 2025
 - (iii) Special Board meeting dated August 19, 2025
- * (b) Receive the minutes of:
 - (i) Special Education Advisory Committee dated June 5, 2025
 - (ii) Audit Committee dated June 12, 2025
- * (c) Receive the correspondence from:
 - (i) Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board dated June 27, 2025

C - 1 Committee Recommendations and Reports

- * (a) [Finance Committee Meeting Report](#) dated September 8, 2025 (S. Gibson)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board approve the Capital Priorities Project Funding Submission 2025-26 to the Ministry of Education."
- * (b) [Audit Committee Meeting Report](#) dated September 11, 2025 (J. Bradford) (I)
- * (c) [Special Policy and Program Committee Meeting Report](#) dated September 15, 2025 (S. Gibson) (I)



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 22, 2025

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

D - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

E - 1 Report of the Director

(a) [Director's Report - September 2025](#) (J. Roberto) (I)

F - 1 Student Trustees' Report

G - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

- * (a) Summer Learning Report (D. Atanas, K. Graham, L. Munro, L. Thompson, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White) (I)

H - 1 OPSBA Report (C. VanEvery-Albert) (I)

I - 1 Adjournment

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned."



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 22, 2025

Education Centre Boardroom

7:15 p.m.

AGENDA

OCTOBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		01	02	03
			Special Education Advisory Committee 1:00 p.m.	
06	07	08	09	10
13	14	15	16	17
			Six Nations Advisory Committee 1:00 p.m.	
20	21	22	23	24
Policy and Program Committee 6:30 p.m.			Indigenous Education Advisory Committee 3:30 p.m. Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee 7:30 p.m.	
27	28	29	30	31
Regular Board Meeting 7:15 p.m.				

In Memoriam

Kathleen Shaddock (nee Winegard), a Grand Erie Educator

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Kathleen Shaddock (nee Winegard), a Grand Erie Educator.

Kathleen was a passionate and dedicated educator who believed wholeheartedly in the potential of every child. She championed the idea that all students can succeed, working tirelessly to support both their academic growth and their character development. Those who knew her will remember her infectious giggle, her wonderful sense of humour and the joy she brought to every interaction. She has a special way of making others feel seen and valued. In her classroom, learners raised caterpillars into butterflies, and through this, Kathleen taught wonder, patience, and transformation. Staff at River Heights Public School will always feel Kathleen's presence through butterflies and the lasting mark she has left on their hearts.

Our deepest condolences go out to Kathleen's family, friends, staff members, and everyone connected to this loss.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Rypma
Principal River Heights Public School

Presented at the Grand Erie District School Board's Regular Board Meeting
on September 22, 2025, by Trustee Passmore



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, June 23, 2025

Education Centre Boardroom

7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Chair: S. Gibson, Vice-Chair: T. Waldschmidt, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, B. Doyle, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Sault, C.A. Sloat, C. VanEvery-Albert, L. Whiton, Student Trustees: A. Hill, O. Prince, C. Shields

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Manager: K. Ireland-Aitken, Recording Secretary: C. Dero

A - 1 **Opening (6:30 p.m.)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:31 p.m.)**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Trustee Waldschmidt read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorial** – Nil

(h) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve changes to the Grand Erie District School Board Management Support Team Terms and Conditions retroactive to September 1, 2022.

Carried

(i) **Learn Lean Inspire Awards**

Jonathan Mann was the recipient of a Learn Lead Inspire Award for creating opportunities through student events and activities. He was also honored with a King



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MINUTES

Charles Coronation medal for his outstanding work with the Relay for Life cancer fundraiser.

Gisèle Budgell was a recipient of a Learn Lead Inspire Award for expanding Brant Food for Thought into a key community partner, coordinating 64 nutrition programs that support over 12,000 students daily, and extending services to 10 more schools to ensure all students start their day healthy.

(j) **Showcase** - Nil

(k) **Patti McCleister Award**

Colleen Bator, a geography teacher at Delhi District Secondary School, was a recipient of a Patti McCleister Award for fostering inclusive environments through groups like the Gay-Straight Alliance, Indigenous Student Association, Green Extreme Team, and Student Senate. She actively removes barriers and creates safe spaces in school and the community.

Cindy Smith was a recipient of a Patti McCleister Award as she has been an instrumental leader of Grand Erie's Business Services team. Her calm, behind-the-scenes leadership guided the team through challenges like the pandemic and digital transition, building strong leaders and exceeding service standards.

(l) **Delegation** – Nil

B - 1 **Consent Agenda**

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Board accept the May 26, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

(a) Approve the minutes of:

(i) Regular Board meeting dated May 26, 2025

(ii) Special Board meeting dated June 9, 2025

(b) Receive the minutes of

(i) Audit Committee dated March 6, 2025

(ii) Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee dated March 27, 2025

(iii) Indigenous Education Advisory Committee dated March 27, 2025

(iv) Six Nations Advisory Committee dated April 17, 2025

(v) Special Education Advisory Committee dated April 17, 2025

(vi) Special Education Advisory Committee dated May 15, 2025

(c) Receive the:

(i) Director of Education Highlights

Carried



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7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Report dated June 5, 2025**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Sault

THAT the Board approve the Special Education Plan 2024-25 for submission to the Ministry of Education and uploading to the board website.

Carried

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Sault

THAT the Board approve the appointment of Tammy West, HN REACH, to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remainder of the Term 2022-2026.

Carried

(b) **Special Policy and Program Committee Meeting Report dated June 9, 2025**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the change to the entry point for French Immersion programming to Grade 1 and that Kindergarten programming in English be offered in all French Immersion schools for those families intending on enrolling in the French Immersion program in Grade 1, effective September 2026.

Carried

(c) **Finance Committee Meeting Report dated June 9, 2025**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Board approve the 2025-26 Operating budget of \$425,435,645.

Carried

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Board approve the 2025-26 Capital budget of \$21,865,860.

Carried

(d) **Audit Committee Meeting Report dated June 12, 2025**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the 2025-26 Internal Audit Plan.

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings – Nil**



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, June 23, 2025

Education Centre Boardroom

7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

E - 1 **Report of the Director**

The following highlights were included in the Director's Report:

- You Belong Here video series
- Schulich Leader Scholarship winners – Judy Gao and Jack Gillespie (McKinnon Park Secondary School)
- Champion Teacher 2025 - Richard Humpartzoomian, a Science teacher at North Park Collegiate and Vocational School
- National Theatre School Drama Fest district showcase
- Sharing our Voices - National Indigenous History Month and Indigenous Peoples Day
- Minister of Education Paul Calandra visit
- Haldimand-Norfolk MPP Bobbi-Ann Brady visit to the Innovation Hub
- Special Olympics at West Lynn Public School
- Celebrating Belonging
- Summer Learning 2025
- Technology Donation
- Leaders Mentoring Leaders
- Ontario Public Supervisory Officers' Association honours Norfolk Association for Community Living
- Project SEARCH Haldimand County
- Delhi Citizen of the Year
- Summer Ready Swim Program
- Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School Rugby Champs
- Brantford Sports Hall of Recognition
- Breaking Ground on West Elgin Expansion
- Laurier University Partnership Celebration
- New Grand River Public School Principal, future students and families meet and greet

F - 1 **Student Trustees' Report**

(a) **Student Senate Report**

Presented as printed.

G - 1 **New Business - Action / Information Items**

(a) **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report 2024-25**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Quarterly Budget Report**

Presented as printed.

(c) **Finance, Policy and Program, and Regular Board Meeting Schedule of Reports 2025-26**

Presented as printed.



B-1-a-i

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, June 23, 2025

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

H - 1 OPSBA Report

Trustee VanEvery-Albert noted the Congress and National Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education of the Canadian School Boards Association will be held July 2-5, 2025.

I - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Special Board Meeting

Monday, August 18, 2025

MS Teams

B-1-a-ii

7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Chair: S. Gibson, Vice-Chair: T. Waldschmidt, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, B. Doyle, L. Passmore, T. Sault, C.A. Sloat, E. Thomas, C. VanEvery- Albert, L. Whiton

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Senior Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

A - 1 **Opening (7:15 p.m.)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (5:30 p.m.)**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda** - Nil

(g) **In-Camera Report** – Nil

The Board will reconvene at a Special Board meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

B - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Special Board meeting be adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Special Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

MS Teams

B-1-a-iii

5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Chair: S. Gibson, Vice-Chair: T. Waldschmidt, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, B. Doyle L. Passmore, T. Sault, C.A. Sloat, E. Thomas, L. Whiton

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Senior Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

Regrets: C. VanEvery-Albert

A - 1 **Opening (5:30 p.m.)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (4:00 p.m.)**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Special Board meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda** - Nil

(g) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

That the Board release the 16-page Investigation Report by Cenobar Parker dated June 5, 2024 regarding "Call the Police" and that the names of the staff noted in the Investigation Report are redacted for confidentiality purposes when issued to the public.

Recorded Vote:

Trustee Waldschmidt – yes Trustee Anderson – no

Trustee Doyle – yes Trustee Thomas – no

Trustee Sault – yes Trustee Bradford – yes

Trustee Whiton – no Trustee C.A. Sloat – no

Trustee Passmore – yes Chair Gibson - yes

Trustee Collver – no

Carried



Special Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

MS Teams

B-1-a-iii

5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: B. Doyle
That Item B-1-a-ii be approved.

Carried

B - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: G. Anderson
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Special Board meeting be adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday June 5, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Norfolk Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

Present:

Chair: L. DeJong Vice Chair: K. Jones, Trustees: B. Doyle, L. Whiton
Community Representatives: L. Nydam Organizations: L. Campbell, P.
Found, Christina Gilman

Administration:

Director J. Roberto, Superintendent: L. Thompson, Principal Leader J.
Senior, Specialized Services Supervisor P. Bagchee, Program
Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar

Absent with regrets: Community Representatives: G. Ianniruberto, K. Kelly Organizations: S.
Jennions, C. Stefanelli

Guests:

Trustee C.A. Sloat

A - 1 Opening**(a) Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair DeJong called the June 5, 2025 meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder

Recording Secretary J. Valstar confirmed roll call.

(c) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Add: C-1(c): SEAC Meeting Dates 2025-26

E-1-(b): Approval of new SEAC member

Moved by: K. Jones

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the June 5, 2025 agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B - 1 Timed Items**(a) Grand Erie's SEAC Terms of Reference (TOR)**

Changes to Grande Erie's SEAC Terms of Reference were discussed, specifically related to member attendance requirements, emphasizing the necessity for all members from organizations to designate an alternate to ensure representation and quorum to pass motions. Clarification was provided regarding voting rights: the two appointed trustees, or their alternates, plus non-staff committee members are eligible to vote, and alternates are permitted to vote in the absence of the primary member. The Chair is authorized to vote on all motions. Quorum is defined as the presence of half the members plus one. J. Valstar will distribute an email outlining member responsibilities along with a request for members from organizations to secure an alternate.

C - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**(a) You Belong Video Series**

SEAC members viewed videos from Grand Erie's You Belong Video Series. In response to a question whether there will be more videos made, specifically from an Elementary



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday June 5, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Norfolk Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

lens, Superintendent Thompson will find out more information and update SEAC members at a future meeting.

(b) **Grand Erie's Special Education Plan 2024-25**

Moved by: L. Nydam

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT SEAC recommends the Board approve the 2024-25 Special Education Plan for submission to the Ministry and uploading to the Board's website.

Carried

(c) **Grand Erie's SEAC Meeting Dates 2025-26**

SEAC meeting dates for the 2025-26 school year were confirmed.

D - 1 **Consent Agenda**

THAT SEAC accept the June 5, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

Moved by: L. Campbell

Seconded by: K. Jones

(a) Approve the Minutes of:

- (i) SEAC meeting Minutes dated April 17, 2025
- (ii) SEAC meeting Minutes dated May 15, 2025

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Grand Erie's Specialized Services Summer Programing**

Superintendent Thompson provided an overview of the Specialized Services Summer programs being offered in Grand Erie. Highlights of the program will be shared with SEAC members in the fall.

(b) **New SEAC Member – Motion to Approve**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: L. Campbell

THAT the appointment of Tammy West, HN REACH, to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remainder of the Term 2022-2026 be forwarded to the June 23, 2025 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

F - 1 **Information Items**

(a) **Math Counts Newsletters**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Procedures out for comment**

Nil

(c) **System Updates**

Superintendent Thompson presented system updates across Grand Erie.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday June 5, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Norfolk Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

(d) **Chair / Vice-Chair Updates**

- (i) Accessing Publications on Grand Erie's website
Vice-Chair Jones showed SEAC members where to access Grand Erie's publications on the Grand Erie website.
- (ii) Appreciation to SEAC
Chair DeJong reminded SEAC members of the Special Olympica taking place in Brantford in July 2025. SEAC will hold its annual Guest Speaker event before the October 3, 2025 meeting. SEAC members are encouraged to suggest options for speakers. Chair DeJong thanked SEAC members for their participation this year.

G - 1 **Community Updates**

- (a) Lansdowne Children's Centre Summer Programming
Chair DeJong shared information about the summer programming being offered at Lansdowne Children's Centre.
- (b) Birds Canada June Event
Vice-Chair Jones shared information about the fully accessible Slow Birding Event being held at Birds Canada, in Port Rowan, on June 7, 2025.

H - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**

- (a) Introduction to Grand Erie's new Mental Health Lead
- (b) Grand Erie's Specialized Services Major Initiatives 2025-26
- (c) System Staff – Elevator Pitches
- (d) PAAC on SEAC website
- (e) Approval of Terms of Reference
- (f) Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE)
- (g) ODEN presentation – Specialized Services Transition Navigator
- (h) Skill Building and Hub Programs

I - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday September 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Education Centre in the Norfolk Room with a virtual option.

J - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: K. Jones
Seconded by: L. Nydam
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:10 p.m.
Carried



Audit Committee

Thursday, June 12, 2025

4:30 PM

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

MINUTES

Present: Members: Chair – T. Waldschmidt (Trustee), J. Bradford (Trustee), E. Whiton (Trustee), E. Hodgins (Volunteer), A. Thakker (Volunteer)
Management: J. Roberto (Director), R. Wyszynski (Superintendent of Business), C. Smith (Manager of Business Services), A. Van Doorn (Incoming Manager of Business Services)
KPMG (Internal Auditors): S. Bedi, B. Sisson
Millards (External Auditors): M. McNally

Recording Secretary: L. Howells, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Business

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Waldschmidt at 4:34 p.m. Roll call was completed.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nil

(c) Land Acknowledgement Statement

Committee Chair Waldschmidt read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

(d) Approval of Agenda

Presented as printed.

Moved by: A. Thakker

Seconded by: E. Hodgins

THAT the Audit Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

B - 1 Consent Agenda

Presented as printed

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Audit Committee accepts the June 12, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein:

(a) Minutes of the Audit Committee dated March 6, 2025 be approved.

(b) Receive Consolidated Due Diligence Report.

(c) Receive Q2 Financial Forecast.

(d) Receive Core Ed Debrief.

(e) Receive AI in Education.

Carried

C - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

(a) Audit Reports – Recommendations Tracking

Superintendent Wyszynski provided a high-level overview of the report which reflects Grand Erie's commitment to continuous improvement through internal audits. The focus was to revisit significant recommendations from prior internal audits to highlight progress made, outline any remaining challenges or outstanding items that require further attention. Annual updates will be provided to the Audit Committee each June.



Audit Committee

Thursday, June 12, 2025

4:30 PM

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

MINUTES

D - 1 Internal Audit

(a) Attendance Support Program Needs Assessment

B. Sisson, from KPMG, provided a brief update on the progress of the Attendance Support Program Needs Assessment and noted KPMG is targeting to send Management interim report by the end of June, with final report presented at the September 2025 Audit Committee meeting.

(b) 2025-27 Internal Audit Plan

S. Bedi, from KPMG, provided a high-level overview of the Internal Audit Plan for 2025-27 noting the plan was developed through a risk refresh survey and outlines key risks and proposed audit projects based on a comprehensive risk assessment. The key audit themes identified for Grand Erie are Information Technology (IT) Capacity Management and Program Continuity & Sustainability Assessment. KPMG noted there has been interest from other school boards for the Program Continuity and Sustainability using horizontal auditing.

Grand Erie management has recommended proceeding with the IT Capacity Management for 2025-26.

In response to a question, KPMG noted the focus of the IT Capacity could be the overall budget line for administration and instructional. Superintendent Wyszynski further added Grand Erie will be taking the pause on the lease devices so that it can identify the right strategy for procuring devices.

In response to an additional question, KPMG noted the specific programs have not been identified and would be seeking feedback from the other boards and committees on the direction. Superintendent Wyszynski indicated that examples of these programs could include Continuing Education, Alternative Education, Turning Point Programs, French Immersion or Baccalaureate Programs.

Moved by: A. Thakker

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the 2025-27 Internal Audit Plan be forwarded to the June 23, 2025 Regular Board Meeting for approval."

Carried

E - 1 External Audit

(a) Review of Engagement and Audit Planning Letters

Millards was appointed auditors at the March 2025 Audit Committee meeting. M. McNally, from Millards, provided a high-level review of the Engagement and Audit Planning letters.

In response to question, Millards stated Information Technology hardware and Artificial Intelligence capital may not pose a significant risk but would be covered in our audit testing. Superintendent Wyszynski further added with respect to data security and the use of in-house services or third-party services, Grand Erie currently utilizes both platforms and this could be included in the scope of the IT Capacity internal audit.



Audit Committee

Thursday, June 12, 2025

4:30 PM

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

MINUTES

F - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **2025-26 Board Budget**

Superintendent Wyszynski provided a high-level review of the report that was presented at the June 9, 2025 Finance Committee Meeting.

(b) **School Audits 2024-25**

Superintendent Wyszynski provided a brief overview of the report noting that financial audits were re-initiated for 2024-25 to ensure schools follow rules and policies. Ten schools were audited in 2024-25 and the report contains the results sorted by risk levels. The next steps for schools are to implement proposed actions to enhance their financial integrity and operational efficiency.

(c) **Evaluation of Internal and External Auditors**

Superintendent Wyszynski provided a verbal update noting a review of internal and external auditors is required annually. A survey link will be sent out to Audit Committee members by the end of the month.

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: A. Thakker

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Audit Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Carried

H - 1 **2025-26 Meeting Dates:**

- Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (In person/Virtual)
- Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (In person/Virtual)
- Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. (In person/Virtual)
- Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. (In person/Virtual)

Jaine Klassen Jeninga
Chairperson of the Board

B-1-c-i

June 27, 2025 B-1-c-i

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Education
5th Floor
438 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M7A 2A5

Dear Minister Calandra,

At the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR), we are proud to provide a world-class leading educational experience for students and the communities we serve.

We take very seriously our obligation to be responsible stewards of public funds and make sound financial decisions for the organization. Each year we balance that obligation with supporting the services and programs we know are crucial for student success, ensuring that student and classroom needs are our number one funding priority.

While we are appreciative of the recent enhancements to provincial core funding as a welcome positive change, establishing a balanced budget for the next school year has illustrated, once again, that the current provincial funding model is not keeping pace with the on-the-ground costs of service delivery to students.

The funding gaps we have identified in critical areas – most notably in transportation and special education, remain year over year. While we continue to adopt efficiencies and service model changes to address these gaps, our ability to provide the necessary resources and supports for our students and staff to be successful, healthy and well becomes increasingly challenging each year without adequate funding to cover our actual costs.

An additional area of challenge is the underfunding of sick leave. While we appreciate the supply teacher and supply Early Childhood Educator (ECE) allocation, it does not cover the full costs the Board is incurring. Additionally, supply/sick time funding is only explicitly funded for these two groups (classroom teachers and Early Childhood Educators), when all employee groups are faced with sick leave challenges. This regrettably results in the Board being under pressure to absorb these funding costs from within other budget areas. While we continue to work diligently on absence management strategies, the funding gap in this area continues to grow.

The Honourable Paul Calandra B-1-c-i

June 27, 2025

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We would also highlight the lack of financial support to fund our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. This is a core value of our Board, and is foundational to the educational achievement, well-being and success of our students. For that reason, we have continued to dedicate resources to this important area of work. We are very concerned, however, that there remains no enveloped funding explicitly dedicated to support the incredible efforts of our staff leading this work to ensure equity and inclusion for all.

A further important but often overlooked funding gap we are experiencing is unfunded financial liabilities. Legislative changes increasing Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) contributions for employees is a legal obligation we must meet that results in increased costs to the Board. The Ministry of Education has indicated there is no accompanying funding to accommodate these changes. We have similar increased obligations related to other pension plan commitments, also unfunded provincially. This shortfall will continue to be compounded annually without provincial funding adjustments.

At KPR, and across our province, school boards serve broad and diverse student populations with complex and unique needs. After adjusting for inflation, the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) has recently estimated a funding gap of \$404 per pupil compared to 2018, which leaves less funding available to meet those needs.

We urge you to continue to close this gap to address the true costs of meeting the needs of the students, staff, families and communities we serve.

We remain available at any time to discuss this matter with you or Ministry of Education staff at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Jaime Klassen Jeninga
Chairperson
Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

C: Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
MPPs (Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board)
Chairpersons (Public School Boards – Ontario)



Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 8, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

REPORT

Present: Committee Acting Chair: S. Gibson Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, S. Gibson, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Waldschmidt

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Associate Director: L. Munro, Superintendents: D. Atanas K. Graham, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Senior Manager: R. Strang, Senior Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

Guests: Trustees: C.A. Sloat, L. Whiton, Planning Supervisor: N. Hercanuck

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Acting Committee Chair S. Gibson at 6:30 p.m. and roll call was confirmed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Acting Committee Chair S. Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the Finance Committee agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

C - 1 **Consent Agenda**

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Finance Committee accept the September 8, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

(a) Approve the minutes of:

(i) Finance Committee meeting dated June 9, 2025

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes/Previous Meetings** – Nil

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Long-Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP)**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Special Approvals Report – Cobblestone Elementary School**

Presented as printed.



C-1-a

Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 8, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

REPORT

(c) **Capital Priorities Project Funding Submission 2025-26**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Capital Priorities Project Funding Submission 2025-26 to the Ministry of Education be forwarded to the September 22, 2025 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

(d) **Major Construction Project Report**

Presented as printed.

F - 1 **Other Business** – Nil

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The Finance Committee meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** November 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.



Audit Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 2025

4:30 PM

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

REPORT

Present: Trustee T. Waldschmidt, Trustee J. Bradford, Trustee E. Thomas, E. Hodgins, A. Thakker

Administration: J. Roberto, R. Wyszynski, A. Van Doorn, J. Tozer

KPMG (Internal Auditors): B. Sisson

Regrets: Trustee L. Whiton

Guests: Trustees: R. Collver, S. Gibson, C.A. Sloat

Recording Secretary: L. Howells

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Wyszynski at 4:34 p.m. Roll Call was completed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Superintendent Wyszynski read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

(d) **Approval of Agenda**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Audit Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

B - 1 **Selection of Audit Committee Chair**

Superintendent Wyszynski explained the statutory cycle of the committee and reminded the committee that all Trustees and voluntary members are eligible for the role of the Chair. Superintendent Wyszynski opened the floor to accept nominations.

Trustee Bradford self-nominated. Trustee Waldschmidt self-nominated.

No further nominations were received for Audit Committee Chair and the nominations were closed.

Electronic ballots were distributed, collected and tabulated.

Trustee Bradford declared elected as the Audit Committee Chair for the 2025-26 statutory committee cycle.



Audit Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 2025

4:30 PM

Norfolk Room, Education Centre

REPORT

C - 1 **Consent Agenda**

Presented as printed

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: A. Thakker

THAT the Audit Committee accepts the September 11, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein:

(a) Minutes of the Audit Committee dated June 12, 2025 be approved.

(b) Receive the Consolidated Due Diligence Report.

(c) Receive the Q3 Financials Forecast.

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings - Nil**

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Review Audit Committee Terms of Reference**

Superintendent Wyszynski reviewed the current Audit Committee Terms of Reference noting these continue to align with *Ontario Regulation 361/10* (the Regulation) and the *Education Act*, no changes required.

F - 1 **Internal Audit**

(a) **Attendance Support Program Needs Assessment**

B. Sisson, from KPMG, presented the final Attendance Support Program Needs Assessment report providing a high-level overview of the scope and approach and the recommendations.

In response to question, Superintendent Wyszynski stated update on the recommendations will be included in the annual internal audit update report brought to the June Audit Committee meeting. Superintendent Tozer added we are pleased current process is strongly aligned with PPM 171 and next steps will be to further mature our program, review data collected to inform program decisions and build the knowledge and capacity of staff, including those on the Human Resources team, to support employees with accessing early intervention resources to maintain regular attendance at work.

G - 1 **External Audit - Nil**

H - 1 **Other Business - Nil**

I - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Audit Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Carried

J - 1 **Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (In person)



Special Policy and Program Committee

Monday, September 15, 2025

5:30 p.m.

MS Teams

REPORT

Present: Chair: S. Gibson, Trustees: T. Waldschmidt, J. Bradford, T. Sault, C.A. Sloat, C. VanEvery-Albert, L. Whiton

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Associate Director: L. Munro, Superintendents: D. Atanas, K. Graham, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Senior Manager: R. Strang, Senior Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

Guests: Trustee: R. Collver, Consultants: K. Edgar, M. Moynihan

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair S. Gibson at 5:30 p.m. and roll call was confirmed.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest - Nil

(c) Welcome /Land Acknowledgment Statement

Committee Chair S. Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Special Policy and Program Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 Consent Agenda

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Policy and Program Committee accept the September 15, 2025 Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

Approve the minutes of:

(i) Special Policy and Program Committee meeting dated June 9, 2025

Carried

D - 1 Business Arising from Minutes/Previous Meetings - Nil

E - 1 New Business - Program

(a) Secondary Program Review Report

Presented as printed.

(b) Student Learning Support Days and Grade 9/10 Exams Report

Presented as printed.



Special Policy and Program Committee

Monday, September 15, 2025

5:30 p.m.

MS Teams

REPORT

F - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Special Policy and Program Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Carried

G - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** October 20, 2025

Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education, CEO & Secretary of the Board

FROM: D. Atanas, Superintendent of Education
K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
L. Munro, Associate Director of Curriculum & Student Achievement
L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education
R. Vankerbroeck, Superintendent of Education
J. White, Superintendent of Education

RE: **Summer Learning Report**

DATE: September 22, 2025

Background

Grand Erie District School Board (Grand Erie) continues to offer rich and engaging summer learning opportunities for students and staff. Building on past success, several innovative programs were offered for students to enhance their language, mathematics and technology skills, earn credits, make new connections and prepare for a smooth transition into the next school year.

Program Highlights

Camp SAIL

Camp SAIL hosted 112 students from Grades 2 to 4 across four sites throughout Grand Erie. Administrators, a Program Coordinator, Site Coordinators, Educators, a Child and Youth Worker, a Communicative Disorder Assistant, and Educational Assistants partnered to make camp a success for students this year.

Learners were provided with an opportunity to review resources and learn new math and literacy strategies for over two and a half weeks. Educators attended training and received resources to support program success. Educators worked responsively to program with individual strengths and needs, engaging campers in games, activities, and theme days to provide an engaging summer camp experience.

With a focus on early Mathematics, 31% of students demonstrated measurable growth by moving into a higher performance range on the post-assessment. In early language (i.e., phonological awareness), 63% of students demonstrated some or significant growth in phonemic awareness.



Focus on Youth

With the support of the Ministry of Education, Grand Erie proudly facilitated summer employment, training, and mentorship opportunities for 24 secondary students from the Brant/Brantford area. Each participant engaged in paid employment readiness training, which included youth engagement strategies, workplace health and safety standards, resume development, and certification in First Aid and CPR.

As a result of their involvement, 22 students successfully earned a Co-operative Education credit, further enhancing the academic value of their summer experience. This initiative was made possible through strong collaboration with community partners, including the YMCA, the City of Brantford, the Boys and Girls Club, Glenhyrst Art Gallery, and Grand Erie's own Facility Services team.



OYAP Skilled Trades Camps

Over 200 participants were enrolled in 12 OYAP Skilled Trades Camps this summer with a focus on green industries, construction, small engines, and hospitality. All camps were designed to build student confidence and self-esteem while students actively learned new skills. Camps were designed to promote student awareness and interest in pursuing skilled trades opportunities in their secondary and post-secondary education. Camps were hosted over five (5) designated weeks across four (4) secondary schools throughout the district. Participants ranged from entering Grade 7 to Grade 9.

Secondary Summer School (Credit Bearing)

With 73 Secondary summer school courses to choose from in all pathways, secondary summer school received more applicants than previous years. Co-operative Education was once again offered throughout the summer to support experiential learning and provide opportunities tied to Specialist High Skills Major requirements for those students progressing toward their Red Seal. Opportunities for reach ahead courses provided students entering high school an opportunity to receive a credit in *Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset (BEM10)*, *Civics (CHV20)*, or *Careers (GLC20)*. In total, there were 5890 students enrolled in summer school. 5374 students achieved their credit resulting in a success rate of 91%. All courses were offered online through Brightspace. This provided flexibility for students and led to incredible success rates.

Specialized Services Summer Programs

The Specialized Services Summer programs empowered students from kindergarten to Grade 6 to return to school with confidence, connection, and excitement. Through engaging, inclusive programs, students practiced routines, strengthened learning skills, and built relationships and familiarized themselves with their school.

With smaller student groups, intentional teaching, and universally designed activities, students experienced personalized learning that met them at their entry points and set them up for success in September. Families and educators saw the difference as students transitioned back to school ready to learn and thrive.

Program Highlights:

This is My School

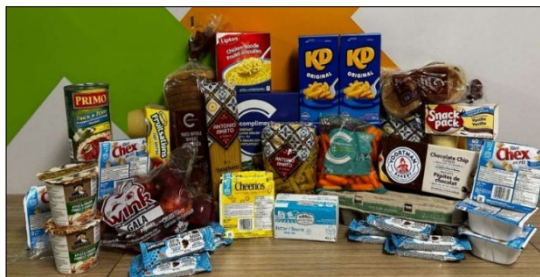
Helping primary students with communication, friendship, social interactions and transition skills. 12 programs | 36 students gained confidence and transition skills

It All Adds Up to Me

Building math skills and perseverance for junior students. 7 programs | 35 students strengthened mathematical skills

Mental Health and Well-Being Department

Over July and August, Mental Health and Well-Being staff supported families facing complex and urgent needs. During this time, Child and Youth Workers delivered 118 food hampers to 51 families, reaching 181 students and 46 additional siblings not currently enrolled in Grand Erie schools. Additionally, two Social Workers provided direct support to 34 families, focusing on individualized guidance, and coordination of mental health and community services. This proactive outreach helped connect families to essential resources, supported student well-being, and ensured continuity of care throughout the summer months.



Lieren un Spalen Summer Camp

This summer, Lieren un Spalen Summer Camp welcomed students again at Houghton Public School from August 18th to 29th. This program supported literacy and numeracy development, along with engagement in hands-on learning for students aged 4-11 of various levels of academic readiness. At the outset, students were assessed using board-recommended tools such as Early Literacy Assessment Tool and Lawson-style interviews, which guided the planning of daily lessons and activities. Literacy learning was supported through UFLI and small group centres, with students showing particular excitement around exploring new books and building a love of reading. Numeracy instruction combined targeted 1:1 intervention with engaging play-based games, including many of Alex Lawson's Math games. Afternoons were dedicated to STEAM, where students explored creativity and problem-solving through projects like making slime, designing and testing paper airplanes, and building marble mazes. Overall, the program provided academic growth and eased the transition from summer to full school days for its participants.

Summer Institute

This year's Summer Institute brought together over 240 employees from across the district to engage in a diverse range of educational experiences. With 26 different offerings available, participants had the opportunity to explore topics that spanned instructional innovation, cultural awareness, and student support strategies. This year's sessions included learning about Artificial Intelligence and the Grand Erie AI guidelines, visiting the Toronto Holocaust Museum and Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, and engaging in mathematics learning.

Additional sessions focused on STEAM education using Woz Ed kits at the Innovation Hub, embedding Indigenous education into curriculum, supporting multi-lingual learners, building effective literacy programs, and fostering social-emotional learning in classrooms. The variety and depth of offerings reflected a strong commitment to professional growth and inclusive education. Summer Institute continues to serve as a cornerstone for collaborative learning and district-wide development, reinforcing Grand Erie's dedication to excellence in teaching and learning.

Summer Additional Qualifications

This summer, 156 educators successfully completed Additional Qualifications courses. Ten educators took First Nations, Métis and Inuit People, 32 educators took Math Part 1, 2 or 3, 30 educators completed Reading Part 1, 2 or 3, 35 completed Special Education Part 1, 2 or 3, 18 educators completed Kindergarten Part 1 or 2 and 31 other additional qualifications were taken in a variety of curriculum areas.

Next Steps

Summer learning programs continue to be an integral part of Grand Erie's education service to the district. All Departments who offered summer learning opportunities this year will review and incorporate stakeholder feedback in their planning for 2026 summer learning programs.

Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Achievement and Well-Being indicators of Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Atanas, Superintendent of Education
K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
L. Munro, Associate Director of Curriculum & Student Achievement
L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education
R. Vankerbroeck, Superintendent of Education
J. White, Superintendent of Education