



Special Board Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2025

6:20 p.m.

MS Teams

AGENDA

A - 1 Opening

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session **(6:15 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) Memorials
- (h) In-Camera Report

B - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

- * (a) Renaming of Elgin Avenue Public School In Simcoe, Ontario (R. Vankerrebroeck)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board rename the school previously known as Elgin Avenue Public School to West Elgin Public School."

Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board disband the Special Ad Hoc Naming Committee for Elgin Avenue Public School."

C - 1 Adjournment

- Recommended Motion:**
"THAT the Special Board meeting be adjourned."



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Regan Vankerrebroeck, Superintendent of Education
RE: **Renaming of Elgin Avenue Public School in Simcoe, Ontario**
DATE: June 9, 2025

Recommended Motion: Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
"THAT the Board rename the school previously known as Elgin Avenue Public School to West Elgin Public School."

Recommended Motion: Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
THAT the Board disband the Special Ad Hoc Naming Committee for Elgin Avenue Public School.

Background

The renovation and expansion of Elgin Avenue Public School is proceeding and the students from West Lynn Public School and Elgin Avenue Public School are currently attending West Lynn Public School. The students and staff are scheduled to move into the facility in late winter/early spring of 2026. With the combining of two schools into one, a survey was issued to students (Grades 3-8), staff, and families who are currently at West Lynn Public School, asking if Elgin Avenue Public School should be renamed. A majority of respondents wished to rename the school.

Additional Information

On March 24, 2025 Board of Trustees approved a request from Superintendent Vankerrebroeck to rename Elgin Avenue Public School and that a Special Ad Hoc School Renaming Committee be struck to name the school in the 2024-25 school year as per Naming/Renaming of Schools and Facilities Policy (FA-03). The launch date for community input was set as March 25, 2025 for a 60-day period. The 60-day period for community input ended May 24, 2025. The committee meeting took place on June 3, 2025.

Submissions were considered by the naming committee whose members were:

- T. Ahlberg-Vice-Principal, West Lynn Public School
- B. Cowan-School Advisory Council Member, West Lynn Public School
- E. Enoaku-Student, West Lynn Public School
- K. Gallagher-Staff Member, West Lynn Public School
- C. Hrycun-Staff Member, West Lynn Public School
- C. Jagt-School Advisory Council Member, West Lynn Public School
- R. Kerrigan-Student, West Lynn Public School
- H. Robinson-Principal, West Lynn Public School
- T. Waldschmidt-Trustee

There were 193 submissions in total, representing 86 different names. Each submission was accompanied by a rationale, which formed part of the committee's deliberations. Names were vetted using the criteria included in Grand Erie's Naming/Renaming of Schools and Facilities Procedure (FA-003) to include a final list of six (6) names.

On June 3, 2025, the Elgin Avenue Public School Special Ad Hoc School Renaming Committee proposed the name West Elgin Public School for consideration by Trustees. The rationale for this choice is as follows:

Once the renovations and additions are completed, the school will house the students from the former Elgin Avenue Public School and West Lynn Public School. The name West Elgin Public School combines the names of the two schools and thus honours the past of both schools while embracing the future. Additionally, the school is located on the west side of Elgin Avenue in the west end of Simcoe, Ontario, and therefore it identifies the geographical location of the school.

Communication Plan

Once approved, the new name for Elgin Avenue Public School will be circulated to all partners.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report is connected to all priorities: Learning, Well-being, and Belonging.

Respectfully submitted,

Regan Vankerbroeck
Superintendent of Education