



*Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Board Room*

## Committee of the Whole Meeting | September 14, 2020

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/33rYhtV>

### COVID-19 Funding Update

Trustees were provided with an update on the funding Grand Erie received this year from both the provincial and federal governments for COVID-19 and back-to-school. Funding will be used for a variety of items, including:

- The hiring of additional custodians, social workers, teachers, designated early childhood educators, and support staff for supervision.
- Assistance for Grand Erie's Virtual Academy through the purchase of student devices and internet connectivity as well as the hiring of principals and school administrative support.
- Health and Safety training for staff.
- Transportation costs related to additional cleaning, the development of seating plans and additional sanitizer and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- LED-UV air purification systems as well as 60 air purifiers for use in elementary and secondary schools.



The report outlined the funding received as well as expected costs. To review the report, see pages 11-14 here <https://bit.ly/33rYhtV>. This report supports Grand Erie's [Multi-Year Plan](#) through the Achievement indicator and the following statements: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff. We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes."

### Supervised Alternative Learning Annual Report

While most students will attend, and successfully complete secondary school, a small number of students are at risk of leaving school early for a variety of reasons. The Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) program provides Grand Erie students (aged 14-17) who have significant attendance difficulties with an alternative learning experience. The SAL program provides individualized learning plans, allowing students to progress towards obtaining their Ontario Secondary School Diploma or other educational/life goals. Once approved for SAL, each student's plan consists of at least one of the following activities: credit courses (regular day school, e-Learning, cooperative education or credit recovery), part-time or full-time employment, volunteering, counselling, earning a certificate or participating in training for a specific job, developing job-search skills or other course/workshops.

On Monday, Trustees received an update on the SAL program from 2019-20. The information presented demonstrates continued success for Grand Erie students in SAL. This is a direct result of the combined efforts of families, students, school administrators, student success team members, attendance counsellors and community agencies who all assist in the creation of individualized

SAL plans for students. To review the full report, see pages 17-20 here: <https://bit.ly/33rYhtV>. This report supports Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the Achievement indicator and the following statements: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff. We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes."

## Additional Items

---

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Exemption to Human Development and Sexual Health Report
- Director's Report
- Schedule of Pre-Budget Consultation and Budget Review Meetings
- School Closure Information
- Enrolment Update
- OPSBA Report
- Correspondence: County of Brant Operations – June 10, 2020 re: Bobby Street West

The following Bylaws and Policies were recommended for approval:

- Bylaw 8 – Committees of the Board – Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Terms of Reference

The following Procedure will be sent out for comment:

- FT105 Playground Equipment

## Multi-Year Plan Stories

---

In 2016, Grand Erie approved a new strategic direction to guide the work that the school board is doing. At the centre of this Multi-Year Plan is *Success for Every Student*. Grand Erie will achieve *Success for Every Student* through a focus on students and staff in a culture of high expectations. The six indicators that support the Multi-Year Plan are: Achievement, Community, Environment, Equity, Technology and Well-Being.

The following stories showcase some of the most recent stories related to the Multi-Year Plan.

### Achievement

- Grand Erie Ready to Welcome Back Students Beginning Tomorrow
  - <https://bit.ly/3hwlQqt>
- Grand Erie's Online Learning Plan for 2020-21 Includes Creation of Virtual School
  - <https://bit.ly/3kid15p>

### Environment

- Bus Driver Shortages to Impact Local Elementary and Secondary Students in Parts of Brant, Brantford and Haldimand
  - <https://bit.ly/3hqO2uY>
- School Buses are Lighting the Way for Safety as Students Return
  - <https://bit.ly/3itVwi3>