



The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

Committee of the Whole Board Meeting | October 1, 2018

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2R8zmoj>

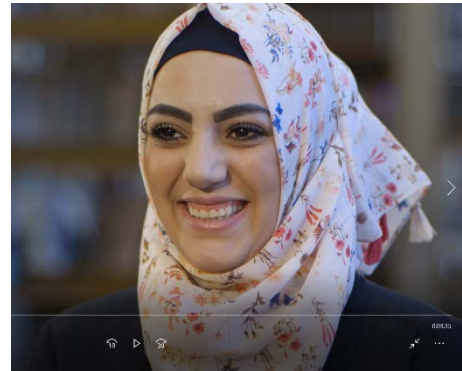
Caledonia Centennial Public School Capacity Review

Trustees received an report on school capacity at Caledonia Centennial Public School (CCPS) on Monday night. The report was requested in June as part of deliberations on a recommendation from Grand Erie's Quality Accommodations Committee. In April, the Committee recommended moving part of CCPS's French Immersion Program (Grades 4-8) to River Heights School (RHS) to balance enrolment pressures. CCPS is the home school for all new elementary students from the McClung development in Caledonia. The McClung development has boosted the town's overall population, resulting in a need to address both short-term and long-term capacity at CCPS. Following discussion of the report, Trustees recommended for approval the transfer of CCPS' French Immersion Program (Grades 4-8) to RHS, effective September 2019. The recommendation aligns with Grand Erie's ultimate goal of building a new school in Caledonia for students and families in the McClung development. To read the full report, including background information, see pages 3-8 here: <https://bit.ly/2R8zmoj>.



Multi-Year Plan Video: Nour and Khaled's Story

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 Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan are: Achievement, Well-Being, Equity, Environment, Technology and Community. This year, to demonstrate the embodiment of the Multi-Year Plan, Grand Erie has created a video series focusing on Equity, one of the six indicators. Equity is a part of everything Grand Erie does, from the supports provided to students and staff, to the events and activities the board honours and celebrates. Equity is a guiding force. The videos tell just four of the many stories of students and staff embracing Equity.



The second video in the series highlights Nour and Khaled Aldakak, who settled in Brantford from Syria with their two children. They credit their successful transition to Canadian life to the support they received from staff at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School as well as the Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) team. See Nour and Khaled's story here: <https://bit.ly/2ltW9Xl>.

School Council Start-up Set for October 18

Grand Erie's annual School Council Start-up, sponsored by the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC), takes place Thursday, October 18 from 6-8 p.m. at Waterford District High School. All School Council Chairs, Home and School Association Chairs or Parent Teacher Association Chairs as well as their members are urged to attend. The School Council Start-up is an important event for all School Council Chairs as key information is provided and great ideas are shared. For details or to RSVP visit: <https://bit.ly/2MRCjqa>.



School Council Start-up

Sponsored by the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC)

Provincial Consultation on Education Reform

On September 28, the Province launched its consultation process for education reform. There are three ways to participate: an online submission, an online survey and telephone town halls. Consultation topics include: improving student performance in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM); preparing students with needed job skills, such as skilled trades and coding; Improving provincial standardized testing; ensuring students graduate with important life skills, including financial literacy; managing the use of technology in classrooms, such as cell phones; building a new age-appropriate Health and Physical Education curriculum that includes subjects like mental health, sexual health education and the legalization of cannabis; and, developing the first-ever Parents' Bill of Rights. The consultation closing date is December 15, 2018. For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/2Iqlc0Y>.

Upcoming Events:

Several upcoming events were highlighted, including:

- Tuesday, October 2 – PA Day for all Grand Erie Students
- Thursday, October 4 – Paris District High School Commencement
- Thursday, October 4 – Simcoe Composite School Commencement
- Friday, October 5 – Teacher Appreciation Day
- Friday, October 5 – Dunnville Secondary School Commencement
- Friday, October 5 – Waterford District High School Commencement
- Monday, October 8 – Thanksgiving
- Wednesday, October 17 – Global Dignity Day Student Conference 2018-19

Additional Items

Delegation: A delegation from Rebecca Walter was received related to the French Immersion Program at Caledonia Centennial Public School.

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Voluntary Indigenous Self-Identification
- Public Consultation Plan for Special Education Annual Review
- OPSBA Report

The following Procedures were shared for Information:

- P102 Business Procedures for Experiential Learning Programs
- SO104 Ontario Student Records

Multi-Year Plan Stories

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

Achievement

- BCI Teacher Librarian Recognized with Grand Erie's Highest Honour for Staff
 - <https://bit.ly/2ORPDMS>
- Ready, Set, Build at Walpole North
 - <https://bit.ly/2zFIYAb>

Community

- Parent Council Provides Community Link at École Dufferin
 - <https://bit.ly/2NVTe0b>

Equity

- Grand Erie Participates in Orange Shirt Day; Residential Schools Resource Shared
 - <https://bit.ly/2lqG4C8>

Well-Being

- GELA's Personal Support Worker Students Prepare for Careers Helping Others
 - <https://bit.ly/2xNxY2B>