



The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

Regular Board Meeting | April 29, 2019

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

Student Recognition

The recognition program is Grand Erie's way of honouring and celebrating students who have excelled in academics, arts, athletics or community involvement.

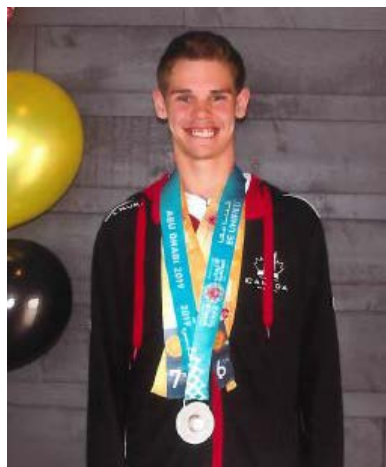
On Monday, Jacob Potts, a student in the Junior Mixed Exceptionalities class at Tollgate Technological Skills Centre, was presented with a certificate from Trustee James Richardson and Director of Education Brenda Blancher.

The Student Recognition Awards program supports the Achievement indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan and *Success for Every Student* through the following statement: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff."

JACOB POTTS – TOLLGATE TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS CENTRE – ATHLETICS

In March, Jacob Potts returned home to Brantford from the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi with a silver medal. Jacob, a Tollgate Technological Skills Centre student, placed second in the team relay event. He also finished sixth in the 800 metres and seventh in the long jump.

The international competition in the United Arab Emirates followed first-place finishes last summer during the National Games in Nova Scotia, where Jacob brought home gold medals in the 100 metres, 110-metre hurdles, long jump, and the team relay.



In addition to being a decorated international athlete, Jacob is recognized by teaching and administrative staff at Tollgate for his incredible perseverance, sense of humility, and cooperative attitude.



Enrolment Update Report

Each year, school boards across Ontario are required to report their enrolment to the Ministry of Education. Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) numbers are reported twice a year, on October 31 and March 31. The ADE is calculated by taking the enrolment from both count days and dividing them by two. On Monday, Trustees received Grand Erie's final ADE for 2018-19.



At the Elementary level, Grand Erie continues to grow. Original budget enrolment projections for 2018-19 were estimated to be 17,743. Actual enrolment on October 31 was 18,023 (+280). That number increased once again on March 31, to 18,110 (+87). This results in a final elementary ADE of 18,067 in 2018-19, marking the fourth-straight year enrolment has grown. At the Secondary level, Grand Erie's enrolment continues to decline, matching a five-year trend. In 2018-19, however, Secondary enrolment is higher than originally projected. In this year's budget, the Board estimated ADE to be 7,952 for Secondary. On October 31, ADE was 8,079 (+127). On March 31, Secondary ADE decreased to 8,056 (-23), yet it remained higher than originally projected.

Overall, Grand Erie's total enrolment sits at 26,126 for 2018-19. This report supports the Achievement indicator of *Success for Every Student* and the following statement: "We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes." To review the report, see pages 47-49 here: <https://bit.ly/2vrzCoT>.



Brantford Honours Students from Echo Place and Onondaga-Brant Intermediate students (Grades 7-8) from Echo Place School and Onondaga-Brant Public School will be honoured at the City of Brantford's Council Meeting on Tuesday night (April 30) when they receive an Environmental Recognition Award from the City's Environmental Policy Advisory Committee. The award is being given to students from both schools who hosted and participated in an Intermediate Social Justice Geography

Summit in January. The theme of the 2019 Summit was *Global Issues: Resource Use and Global Inequalities*. During the Summit, students brought to light issues that go unnoticed by most of society. Both schools also worked on an extensive three-phase inquiry research project related to Geography and joined together to present their findings. The purpose of the project was to have students use the inquiry process to investigate global issues of political, social, economic, and/or environmental importance, their impact on the global community, and possible responses to the issues. A photo from the January 25, 2019 Summit is featured above.

Grand Erie Awarded \$5,000 Through SpeakUp Grants

Seven Grand Erie schools were awarded a total of \$5,000 through the Ministry of Education's SpeakUp Project, which promotes student engagement and success. The grants support students in sharing ideas and collaborating with others to shape their educational experience. Grand Erie received funding through four projects: *Students Can Career Day* (\$2,000) is a joint initiative among four Haldimand Elementary Schools (River Heights School, J.L. Mitchener Public School, Rainham Central School and Seneca Central Public School); *Speaking Up for Positivity* (\$1,000) empowered students (Grades 6-8) at Delhi Public School in positivity, both online and in-person; *Equity and Inclusion – We're All in This Together* (\$1,000) is a Symposium using Unlearn at Ryerson Heights Elementary School; and, *The Pathways are Boundless* (\$1,000) was a school-based career day with community partners at Hagersville Elementary School.

Upcoming Events:

Several upcoming events were highlighted:

- Thursday, May 2 – Annual Education Week Gala – 11:30 a.m. – Sanderson Centre
- Thursday, May 2 – 5th Annual Rainbow Ball – 6:30 p.m. – Delhi District Secondary School
- 2019 Education Week – Grand Erie District School Board – May 6-10
- Monday, May 6 – Central Public School Learning Commons Grand Opening – 2 p.m.
- Friday, May 10 – Official Grand Opening of Mapleview Elementary School – 11:30 a.m.

Additional Items

Memorial: A memorial statement was read to honour Larry Hotte, a former teacher with the Board. Larry retired in 2011 after 35 years as an educator at Greenbrier, Paris Central and Brier Park Public Schools as well as Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School. Larry served as an Occasional Teacher until his death in March.

Approval of minutes: Trustees approved the minutes of the March 25, 2019 (Regular Board) and April 8, 2019 (Committee of the Whole) meetings.

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Director's Report
- Committee of the Whole – April 8, 2019
- Quarterly Budget Report
- Workforce Report
- Contract Award – Roofing – Onondaga-Brant Public School
- Contract Award – Roofing – Paris District High School
- Summary of Accounts – March 2019
- Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – February 14, 2019
- Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – March 21, 2019
- Audit Committee (Draft) – March 19, 2019
- Safe and Inclusive School Committee (Draft) – March 21, 2019
- Native Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) – April 9, 2019
- Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – March 21, 2019

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

- Statement on behalf of the Grand Erie District School Board: from Greg Anderson, Chair of the Board – Staffing Impacts for 2019-20
 - <https://bit.ly/2UBHRcg>
- Le Carnaval de Québec at École Confédération
 - <https://bit.ly/2UI2ldC>

Community

- GEPIC Event Empowers Parents on Topic of Online Safety for Children and Teens
 - <https://bit.ly/2W0ITQB>
- Delhi District Secondary School Breaks a Leg
 - <https://bit.ly/2Pnibin>

Environment

- Grand Erie's Eco Conference Motivates Young People to Take Action Now
 - <https://bit.ly/2GFy7sv>

Equity

- Stronger Together Builds Inter-Cultural Understanding through Traditional Drum-Making
 - <https://bit.ly/2Gppr9D>
- Rainbow Ball Continues Tradition of Safe, Welcoming Event for LGBTQ+ Students
 - <https://bit.ly/2PB615E>

Well-Being

- On the Job with... Christine Bibby, Safe and Inclusive Schools Lead
 - <https://bit.ly/2VUi4gZ>