



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, October 26, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

- A - 1 **Opening**
Roll Call J. White
Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement
- B - 1 **GEPIC Slate of Members**
(a) Election of Chair (MS Form for Voting) J. White
(b) Terms of Reference
- C - 1 **Minutes**
(a) Approval of the Minutes – May 25, 2023 Chair
(b) Business Arising from the Minutes
- D - 1 **Financial Report** J. White
(a) GEPIC Budget
(b) PRO Grants for 2023-24
- E - 1 **School Highlights** D. Dean/
G. Stead
- F - 1 **System Updates** J. White
- G - 1 **Updates from the Board** Trustee Bradford/
Trustee Passmore
- H - 1 **New Business - Information** R. Vanckerbroeck/
J. White
(a) GE-MAAP
(b) Communication Boards
- I - 1 **Planning for Future Meetings** Chair/
R. Vanckerbroeck
(a) Speaker Series
(b) School Council Orientation
(b) GEPIC Event
- J - 1 **Future Meetings** Chair
January 25, 2024, March, 28, 2024, May 23, 2024

School Council Orientation
November 23, 2023



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Terms of Reference

Grand Erie Parent Involvement (GEPIC) Committee Terms of Reference

[Ontario Regulation 612/00](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/R00612) <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/R00612>

1.0 Statement of Purpose and Responsibility

1.1 The purpose of a Parent Involvement Committee is to support, encourage and enhance engagement at the board level to improve student achievement and well-being.

A parent/caregiver involvement committee of a board shall achieve its purpose by:

- (i) sharing effective practices to help engage all parents/caregivers in their children's learning,
- (ii) identifying and reducing barriers to parent/caregiver engagement at the system level,
- (iii) providing information and advice to the board on parent/caregiver engagement, and,
- (iv) communicating with and supporting school councils of schools of the board.

2.0 Committee of the Composition

2.1 The GEPIC committee shall be composed of:

- (i) ~~School Council Chairs representing 72 schools,~~ A minimum of 6 School Council Chairs, and where possible, -representing all areas of the board.
 - Parent/caregiver member(s) must have a pupil enrolled in a school of the ~~b~~Board.
- (ii) a parent/caregiver to be recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee.
- (iii) a parent/caregiver to be recommended by the Six Nations Advisory Committee/ Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.
- (iv) community members (a maximum of three).
- (v) the Director of Education/Designate.
- (vi) two Trustees.
- (vii) Manager of Communications and Community Relations or Superintendents of Education.
- (viii) two Principals and/or Vice Principal(s) – elementary and secondary.
- (ix) optional GEPIC members may include: one elementary teacher, one secondary teacher, one non-teaching board employee.

3.0 Term of Appointment

3.1 The term of office for community and parent members of the Committee shall be one or two years.

3.2 The term of office for the Trustee member(s) shall be determined by the Board of Trustees.



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Terms of Reference

3.3 -The term of the chair of the Committee shall be elected for a two-year term by the parent members of the committee at the first meeting of the committee in each school year that there is a vacancy in the office of the chair.

4.0 **Committee Operating Procedures and Scope:**

~~3.1~~ 4.1 The GEPIC Committee will:

- ~~(i)~~ (i) share effective practices to help engage all parents/caregivers in their children's learning.
 - ~~(ii)~~ (ii) identify and reduce barriers to parent/caregiver engagement at the system level.
 - ~~(iii)~~ (iii) provide information and advice to the board on parent/caregiver engagement.
 - ~~(iv)~~ (iv) communicate with and support school councils of schools.
 - ~~(v)~~ (v) determine, in consultation with the Director of Education, how ministry funding, if any, for parent/caregiver engagement initiatives is to be allocated.
- (i) operate using a consensus model or entitled to vote– by parent/caregiver and community representative members.
 - (ii) select a Chair/Co-Chair(s) by the committee and must be a parent/ caregiver representative. The Chair/ Co-Chair(s) will be selected at the first meeting of each school year.
 - (iii) staff representatives will provide information, support and direction as requested by the committee. In addition, staff liaisons will facilitate the work of the committee as requested.
 - (iv) GEPIC may solicit and take into consideration the advice of school councils and parents/caregivers of students enrolled in schools of the board regarding matters under consideration by the committee.

5.4.0 **Role of the Board**

~~4.1~~ 5.1 -Appoint two Trustee members.

~~4.2~~ 5.2 Support the work of the committee.

~~4.3~~ 5.3 The board may solicit and take into consideration the advice of GEPIC regarding matters that relate to improving student achievement, well-being and belonging and respond to any recommendations from GEPIC.

6.5. **Meetings**

~~5.1~~ 6.1 GEPIC shall meet a minimum of four times in each school year.

~~5.2~~ 6.2 A GEPIC meeting cannot be held unless,

- (i) a majority of the members present at the meeting are parent/ caregiver members.
- (ii) the director of education, or the person designated under subsection 46(1), is present.
- (iii) the member of the board who sits on the committee, or the person designated under subsection 46(2), is present.

~~5.3~~ 6.3 All meetings of GEPIC shall be open to the public and shall be held at a



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Terms of Reference

location that is accessible to the public or virtually to include a livestream.

7.6.0 Reporting

~~6.1~~ 7.1 A report on the work of the committee shall be presented at GEPIC annually.

~~6.2~~ 7.2 Minutes will be taken at all meetings and available on the website and included in ~~b~~Board meeting packages received as information.



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, May 25, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Committee Chair S. Darling, Director J. Roberto, Board Chair S. Gibson, Trustee L. Passmore, Trustee C.A. Sloat, Trustee R. Collver, J. White, K. Graham, Y. Brochu, B. Poladian, J. Smith, J. Belbin, M. Mummery, T. Marshall, P. Kaur, T. Van Kuren, A. Whitman, M. Markle, A. De Leebeeck, I. Segura-Romero, C. Vynckier, C. Charlton, R. Symons, L. Gray, T. Sault, S. Beauregard, D. Durette, C. Millen, J. Haskell, K. Naydenova, J. Kreitner, D. Reid, Q. Ballio, T. Butler, M. Lewis, R. Bouck, M. Snyder, L. Schmidt

Regrets: Trustee Bradford

Recorder: C. Dero

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call / Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Chair Darling opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and K. Graham read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Everyday Resiliency in Ever-Changing Times - Dr. Hanley-Dafoe**

Dr. Hanley-Dafoe spoke about learning to identify resilience-building practices, navigate barriers, manage stress during uncertainty, and reaffirm values and priorities for work-life integration.

C - 1 **Minutes**

(a) **Approval of the Minutes – April 27, 2023**

Moved by: M. Mummery

Seconded by: T. Marshall

THAT the April 27, 2023, Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes be approved.

Carried

(b) **Business Arising from the Minutes – Nil**

D - 1 **GEPIC Orientation**

Chair Darling requested suggestions for GEPIC agenda items, guest speakers for the 2023-24 school year, and School Council Orientation topics. Suggestions included:

- Successful fundraising ideas
- Events to increase parent engagement
- Grants/funds that are available to school councils
- Role of the school council and how to increase parent involvement
- How to align project ideas with school board policies
- Ways that parent councils can make an impact
- How to share concerns if a policy isn't up for review
- Teaching school council about the purpose and impact of GEPIC

Additional suggestions can be sent to Chair Darling at gepicchair@granderie.ca.



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E - 1 School Highlights

Tollgate Technical School conducted Mental Health Week activities, raised awareness of Red Dress Day and held a Spring Sale. School council used PRO Grant funds to purchase anti-racism resources for parents to support social inclusion and move to greater equality. Promotional materials are also being ordered to encourage school council participation,

JL Mitchener will use PRO Grant funds to host guest speaker Aubrey Noronha, who will speak to students, staff, and the community about to mental health and anti-racism.

Lakewood hosted a STEM event with the use of PRO Grant funds. They will celebrate the end of the year with an outdoor family movie night.

Simcoe Secondary School will use PRO Grant funds to introduce parents to tech. Grade 9 and 10 students, along with parents/caregivers will work together to make a project. The school also hosted a Car Show and Spring Sale earlier this month.

F - 1 System Updates

Superintendent White shared information about:

- Grand Erie's Anti-Racism Project
- Summer learning opportunities for students
- Cayuga Secondary School Art Exhibit on June 14
- Rainbow Ball was hosted by Simcoe Composite School and Waterford District High School
- Weekly Wellness Challenges at Thompson Creek
- Policies are up for review for public comment until June 7th. They can be found here: [By-law, Policies, Procedures, Protocols :: Grand Erie District School Board](#)

G - 1 Future Meetings

GEPIC

- October 26, 2023
- January 25, 2024
- March, 28, 2024
- May 23, 2024

School Council Orientation

- November 23, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.