



# Regular Board Meeting

Monday, October 30, 2023

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

## AGENDA

### A - 1 Opening

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session (**6:30 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 - Nil
- (h) In-Camera Report
- (i) Presentations - Nil
- (j) Delegations - Nil

### B - 1 Approval of Minutes

- \* (a) September 25, 2023 (Regular Board)  
**Recommended Motion:**  
*"THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated September 25, 2023, be approved."*
- \* (b) October 16, 2023 (Special Board Meeting)  
**Recommended Motion:**  
*"THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated October 16, 2023, be approved."*

### C - 1 Committee Recommendations and Reports

- \* (a) [Finance Committee Meeting](#) Report dated September 11, 2023 (B. Doyle)
  - (i) Trustee Honoraria Policy (BU-04)  
**Recommended Motion:**  
*"THAT the Trustee Honoraria Policy (BU-04) be approved."*
  - (ii) Trustee Honoraria  
**Recommended Motion:**  
*"THAT the Trustee Honoraria for the period November 15, 2023, to November 14, 2024 be approved."*
- \* (b) [Policy and Program Committee Meeting](#) Report dated October 16, 2023 (S. Gibson) (I)
- \* (c) [Governance Committee Meeting](#) Report dated October 19, 2023 (S. Gibson)  
**Recommended Motion:**  
*"THAT the amendments to the General Working By-law, General Governance Policy and Borrowing By-law be approved."*

### D - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings



# Regular Board Meeting

Monday, October 30, 2023

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

## AGENDA

E - 1 **Report of the Director** (J. Roberto) (I)

F - 1 **Student Trustees' Report**

- \* (a) OSTA-AECO Conference (M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye) (I)

G - 1 **New Business - Action / Information Items**

- (a) [Annual Learning and Operating Plan 2022-23](#) (J. Roberto) (I)
- (b) [Annual Learning and Operating Plan 2023-24](#) (J. Roberto) (I)
- \* (c) Strategic Communications Plan Update (J. Roberto, D. Smouter) (I)
- \* (d) Elementary Class Size Report (R. Wyszynski) (I)
- \* (e) Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Caledonia Elementary School (R. Wyszynski)  
**Recommended Motion:**  
*“THAT the Board approve Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Caledonia Elementary School.”*
- \* (f) Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Southwest Brantford Elementary School (R. Wyszynski)  
**Recommended Motion:**  
*“THAT the Board approve Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Southwest Brantford Elementary School.”*

H - 1 **Other Business**

- \* (a) Governance Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 23, 2023 (I)
- \* (b) Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes dated May 25, 2023 (I)
- \* (c) Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated June 8, 2023 (I)
- \* (d) Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated June 8, 2023 (I)
- \* (e) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated September 7, 2023 (I)

I - 1 **OPSBA Report** (C. VanEvery-Albert) (I)

J - 1 **Correspondence**

- \* (a) Durham District School Board dated September 26, 2023 (I)

K - 1 **Adjournment**

**Recommended Motion:**

*“THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned.”*



# Regular Board Meeting

Monday, October 30, 2023  
 Education Centre Boardroom

7:15 p.m.

## AGENDA

### NOVEMBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		01	02 Audit Committee 4:30 p.m.	03
06	07	08	09	10
13 Finance Committee 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16 Special Education Advisory Committee 6:00 p.m.	17
20	21	22	23 Supervised Alternative Learning Committee 10:00 a.m.  Student Senate 10:00 a.m.  School Council Orientation 6:30 p.m.	24
27 Regular Board 7:15 p.m.	28	29	30	



## Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 25, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chair S. Gibson, Vice-Chair B. Doyle Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Sault, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton; Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, D. Smouter, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

**Guests:** Chief Stacey Laforme of Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Patrice Barnes, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education

A - 1 **Opening (6:30 pm)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:31 pm)**

Moved by: G. Anderson  
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt  
THAT the Board move In-Camera.

**Carried**

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson welcomed Chief Stacey Laforme of Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Patrice Barnes, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education to the meeting. Chief Laforme opened. Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. and at 8:35 p.m. upon reconvening.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: G. Anderson  
Seconded by: Waldschmidt  
THAT the agenda be approved.

**Carried**

(g) **Appointment of Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Trustee**

Moved by: J. Bradford  
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert  
THAT the Board appoint Tammy Sault as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Trustee for the term September 25, 2023 to November 23, 2026.

**Carried**



## Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 25, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

### MINUTES

(h) **Presentation**

(i) **Learn Lead Inspire Award**

Director Roberto presented Harper Hyslop of River Heights Public School with a Learn Lead Inspire Award for her outstanding contribution to her school community through fundraising. Harper is also the recipient of the Young Leader of the Year award from the Caledonia Chamber of Commerce.

(i) **Memorials**

(i) **Sheryl Cartwright**

The memorial of Sheryl Cartwright was read by Chair Gibson.

(ii) **Greg de Waard**

The memorial of Greg de Waard was read by Trustee Doyle.

(iii) **Avery Warwick**

The memorial of Avery Warwick was read by Trustee Waldschmidt.

(iv) **Lucas Crump**

The memorial of Lucas Crump was read by Trustee Bradford.

(j) **In-Camera Report (8:35 pm)**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board confirm that the Director's Performance Appraisal has been completed.

**Carried**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT Item D-1-a be approved.

**Carried**

(k) **Delegations – Nil**

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **June 26, 2023 (Regular Board)**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: L. Passmore

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, dated June 26, 2023, be approved.

**Carried**

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Finance Committee Meeting Report dated September 11, 2023**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Passmore

THAT effective September 26, 2023, new K-8 registrations at Caledonia Centennial Public School be directed to J.L. Mitchener Public School be approved.

**Carried**



## Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 25, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

### MINUTES

(b) **Audit Committee Meeting Report dated September 14, 2023**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Internal Audit 2023-24 Plan Report be approved.

**Carried**

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings** – Nil

E - 1 **Report of the Director**

Director Roberto highlighted the following:

- #GrandReturn - First Day of School.
- September 15, 2023 was a system-wide Professional Development Day, focused on major initiatives and the roll out of the Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan.
- Michael Jaques led a session with the Specialized Services team.
- Eight schools were recognized by Eco Schools, a national organization promoting environmentally friendly and sustainable practices in schools.
- Days of Significance for the month of September were highlighted.

F - 1 **Student Trustees' Report** - Nil

G - 1 **New Business - Action / Information Items**

(a) **Appointment of Non-Board Audit Committee Member**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Board approve the appointment of Atit Thakker as Non-Board Audit Committee member for a three-year term ending October 31, 2026.

**Carried**

(b) **Capital Priorities Project Funding Submissions 2023-24**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the Capital Priorities Project Funding Submissions 2023-24 to the Ministry of Education.

**Carried**

(c) **Major Construction Project Report**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, it was noted that the Elgin Avenue Public School construction is currently in the design phase. An update will be brought to the Finance Committee meeting in February 2024.



## Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 25, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

### MINUTES

(d) **Summer Learning Report**

Presented as printed.

H - 1 **Other Business** – Presented as printed.

(a) Audit Committee Meeting Minutes dated June 15, 2023

(b) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated June 15, 2023

I - 1 **OPSBA Report**

(a) **Canadian School Boards Association and Alberta School Boards Association Congress 2023**

Presented as printed.

J - 1 **Correspondence** – Presented as printed.

(a) Simcoe County District School Board dated June 23, 2023

(b) Waterloo Region District School Board dated June 27, 2023

(c) Avon Maitland District School Board dated June 30, 2023

(d) Upper Grand District School Board dated September 8, 2023

(e) Thames Valley District School Board dated September 8, 2023

(f) Thames Valley District School Board dated September 8, 2023

K - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

**Carried**

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Chair S. Gibson

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Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



## Special Board Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chair S. Gibson, Vice-Chair B. Doyle Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore (MS Teams), T. Sault, C.A. Sloat, E. Thomas (MS Teams), C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt (MS Teams), E. Whiton (MS Teams)

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, D. Smouter, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

**Guests:** M. Zega, Legal Counsel, J. Bell, General Legal Counsel (MS Teams)

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gibson at 6:00 p.m.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:05 pm)**

Moved by: G. Anderson  
Seconded by: S. Gibson  
THAT the Board move In-Camera.

**Carried**

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Vice-Chair Doyle read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Vice-Chair Doyle called the Special Board meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

(f) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: G. Anderson  
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert  
THAT Item B-1-b be approved.

**Carried**

B - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: G. Anderson  
Seconded by: S. Gibson  
THAT the Special Board meeting be adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

**Carried**

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Chair S. Gibson

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Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto

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## Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 11, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

### REPORT

**Present:** Committee Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: J. Bradford, S. Gibson, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Waldschmidt

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: J. Tozer (online), J. White, R. Wyszynski. Recording Secretary: C. Dero

**Guests:** L & C Consulting: L. Morgulis, Planning Supervisor: N. Hercanuck

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair B. Doyle at 6:30 p.m. and roll call was confirmed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **Welcome/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Committee Chair B. Doyle read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: S. Gibson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Finance Committee agenda be approved.

**Carried**

Chair Doyle noted that once the tenders were originally scheduled for this meeting are confirmed, they will be brought forward to a future Board meeting or Finance Committee meeting.

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **June 12, 2023**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the Minutes of the Finance Committee dated June 12, 2023 be approved.

**Carried**

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes/Previous Meetings** – Nil

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP)**

Presented as printed.

Planning Consultant, L. Morgulis spoke to Grand Erie's Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP), which addresses projected enrolment and school utilization, as well as planning for program locations and capital investments.

In response to several questions, L. Morgulis provided addition information regarding:

- The importance of an LTAP and how it will guide the Board's accommodation strategies



## Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 11, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

### REPORT

- using the LTAP to recognize where potential growth is projected to take place;
- identifying the right school size for each area;
- reviewing the plan annually;
- the importance of working closely with municipalities and being aware of the land that Grand Erie will need in the next five years;
- anticipating growth in a competitive environment;
- Education Development Charges.

(b) **Caledonia Centennial Public School Enrolment**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Passmore

THAT effective September 26, 2023 new K-8 registrations at Caledonia Centennial Public School be directed to J.L. Mitchener Public School, and that it be forwarded to the September 25, 2023 Regular Board meeting for approval.

**Carried**

In response to a question, it was noted that Superintendent White will work closely with administrators and a process will be followed to ensure communication is issued.

(c) **Trustee Honoraria Policy**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Trustee Honoraria Policy (BU-04) be forwarded to the October 30, 2023 Regular Board meeting for approval.

**Carried**

(d) **Trustee Honoraria**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Trustee Honoraria for the period November 15, 2023 to November 14, 2024 be forwarded to the October 30, 2023 Regular Board meeting for approval.

**Carried**

F - 1 **Other Business** – Nil

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned.

**Carried**



C-1-a

## Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 11, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

### REPORT

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** November 13, 2023

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Committee Chair, B. Doyle

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Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, J. Roberto



## POLICY

BU-04

## TRUSTEE HONORARIA

<b>TRUSTEE HONORARIA</b>	
<b>Superintendent Responsible:</b> Superintendent of Business & Treasurer	<b>Initial Effective Date:</b> 2008/04/28
<b>Last Updated:</b> 2023/03/27	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 2023/09/15

**Objective:**

To provide the calculation methodology for Honoraria for Grand Erie District School Board (Grand Erie) Trustees in accordance with the *Education Act*.

**Policy Statement:**

Grand Erie is committed to providing, in a transparent, public way, fair levels of honoraria for Board of Trustees in accordance with *Ministry Regulation 357/06*. Board of Trustee Honoraria calculations shall be updated annually prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> and by October 15<sup>th</sup> in an election year.

**Trustee Honoraria Components**

- 1.0 The Honorarium for Board of Trustees, excluding student trustees, for any year of their term of office shall consist of the following components:
- a. 100% of the maximum base amount for the year
  - b. 100% of the enrolment amount for the year
  - c. 100% of the maximum allowable attendance amount
  - d. 0% of the distance amount for the year.

**Reference(s):**

- Ontario Regulation 357/06: Honoraria for Board Members



## Policy and Program Committee Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

### REPORT

**Present:** Committee Chair: S. Gibson, Trustees: G. Anderson, R. Collver, B. Doyle, C. VanEvery-Albert, L. Whiton (MS Teams)

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, D. Smouter, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroek, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

Roll call was completed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **Welcome /Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair S. Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Policy and Program Committee agenda be approved.

**Carried**

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **May 8, 2023**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Minutes of the Policy and Program Committee meeting dated May 8, 2023, be approved.

**Carried**

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes/Previous Meetings** - Nil

E - 1 **New Business - Program**

(a) **Student Census Survey Executive Summary 2022-23**

Presented as printed.

A focus of the Census Survey, moving forward, will include a voluntary participation plan and review of questions to ensure local community is reflected within the survey.

(b) **Reading Intervention – Systematic and Evidence Based Reading Program**

Presented as printed.

(c) **Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan (GEMAAP)**

Presented as printed.



## Policy and Program Committee Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

### REPORT

In response to a question, it was noted that data gathered for each student is done through diagnostic, formative and summative assessments. This provides students with multiple experiences and strategies to learning.

- (d) **Curriculum Updates**  
Presented as printed.
- (e) **Education, Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Results 2022-23**  
Presented as printed.
- (f) **Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Education Services Agreement Progress Report 2023-24**  
Presented as printed.
- (g) **Six Nations of the Grand River Education Services Agreement Progress Report 2023-24**  
Presented as printed.  
In response to a question, it was noted that the board continues to build on student transition by focusing on successful strategies to meet student needs and to provide opportunities to enhance learning experiences.
- (h) **Student Transition Update**  
Presented as printed.
- (i) **Student Dress Code**  
Presented as printed.
- F - 1 **New Business - Policy** - Nil
- G - 1 **Adjournment**  
Moved by: B. Doyle  
Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert  
THAT the Policy and Program meeting be adjourned at 9:05 p.m.  
**Carried**
- H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** January 15, 2024



## Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams

### REPORT

**Present:** Committee Chair S. Gibson, Trustees: J. Bradford, B. Doyle, C. VanEvery-Albert

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Recording Secretary: C. Dero

**Guests:** J. Bell, General Legal Counsel

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair S. Gibson and roll call was completed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest.

(c) **Welcome /Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Committee Chair S. Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

That the Governance Committee agenda be approved.

**Carried**

C - 1 **Approval of the Minutes**

THAT the Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting, dated March 23, 2023, be approved.

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: B. Doyle

**Carried**

D - 1 **Business Arising from the Minutes/Previous Meeting** - Nil

E - 1 **New Business – Governance Items**

(a) **Amendments to the General Working By-law, General Governance Policy and Borrowing By-law**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the amendments to the General Working By-law, General Governance Policy and Borrowing By-law be forwarded to the October 30, 2023 Regular Board meeting for approval.

**Carried**



## Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams

### REPORT

Amendments included:

- General Working By-law, Section 1.3
  - The appointment of the First Nations Trustee will occur every fourth year. Once appointed the First Nations Trustee serves under the same terms and conditions as elected Trustees, in accordance with the *Education Act* and current regulations.
- General Working By-law, Section 2.4
  - If there is a request by a Trustee to participate electronically, or by any other means due to extenuating circumstances, the Trustee will consult with the Chair of the Board and Director of Education, and voting will take place by email to [directorservices@granderie.ca](mailto:directorservices@granderie.ca)
- General Governance Policy, Section 4.0
  - The Chair of the Board, in appropriate circumstances, has the discretion to approve expenses in excess of the \$2,000 limit.
- General Governance Policy, Section 9.2 h)
  - Trustees can request additional meeting(s) through the Chair of the Governance Committee.

(a) **Terms of Reference**

The Governance Committee Terms of Reference were reviewed, and it was noted that they would be updated to include the changes made in the General Governance Policy, Section 9.2 h.

F - 1 **Other Business** – Additional meeting to be determined and a request was made for governance learning.

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: B. Doyle

That the Governance Committee meeting be adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

**Carried**





# Grand Erie District School Board

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**TO:** JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board

**FROM:** Keira. Gayowsky, Student Trustee – North  
A. Skye, Student Trustee – Indigenous

**RE:** **OSTA-AECO Conference**

**DATE:** October 30, 2023

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This past month, the Student Trustees attended the Ontario Student Trustees' Association Fall General Meeting. At this conference, we connected with Student Trustees across the province, heard from various guest speakers, learned about the initiatives of OSTA-AECO's leadership team and education interest groups, and joined an OSTA-AECO working group.

The Honorable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, spoke at the conference and discussed the Ontarian curriculum. The President of OPSBA also delivered remarks to the public Student Trustees, issuing her support for OSTA-AECO's general assembly.

OSTA-AECO's Leadership and Board of Directors prepared many presentations to aid Student Trustees in their initiatives and terms, covering topics including public speaking, Student Trustee rights and privileges, event planning, social media planning, and Indigenous education.

Student Trustee Gayowsky was selected to join the Public Education Interest Group (EIG) as a representative for the Southern Region. The Public EIG acts as a cabinet to the OSTA-AECO Public Vice-President, aiding in their initiatives. The Public EIG presented their primary initiative of revamping the OSTA-AECO's vision document and held regional breakouts to better support Student Trustees. Updates will follow as the Cabinet continues to meet.

Student Trustee Gayowsky also joined the Student Well-Being Working Group as Secretary. The Student Well-Being Working Group began their session by discussing their experiences with mental health within their schools. The Student Well-Being Working Group will be working to create an anti-vaping campaign and mental health resources that can be used across Ontario.

Student Trustee Skye joined the Truth and Reconciliation Working Group. The Truth and Reconciliation Working Group started by reviewing goals, to support and enhance matters related to Indigenous students. The Truth and Reconciliation Working Group then discussed plans for this year including incorporating Indigenous practices into the curriculum.

The Truth and Reconciliation Working Group also plans to create a strong foundation and hold monthly meetings to ensure plans are met in a timely manner.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Gayowsky, Student Trustee – North  
A. Skye, Student Trustee – Indigenous



# Grand Erie District School Board

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**TO:** Trustees of the Grand Erie District School Board  
**FROM:** JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board  
**RE:** **Strategic Communications Plan Update**  
**DATE:** October 30, 2023

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## Background

In May 2022, Grand Erie approved the 2021-26 Strategic Communication Plan that included goals and strategies for Communications and Community Relations. The Strategic Communications Ad Hoc Committee created a plan to align with the Grand Erie District School Board's (Grand Erie) 2021-26 Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

## Update

The 2021-26 Strategic Communications Plan continues to be well aligned with the goals and objectives of the board as outlined in the 2023-24 Annual Learning and Operating Plan.

This report highlights some progress made against the 2021-26 Strategic Communications Plan.

- All schools have received and are displaying materials promoting Grand Erie's vision and mission
- Grand Erie's material and outreach consistently reflect style and missional components of the brand
- Social media channels consistently sharing information and stories of student and staff success with increasing levels of community engagement
- Kindergarten registration and secondary transitions campaigns re-designed and re-launched across the district, including multiple language formats
- New website in development
- New opportunities and platforms for the promotion of professional development have been developed

Grand Erie's Strategic Communications Plan is a living document. In addition to this update, the Manager of Communications and Community Relations is responsible for providing an evaluation of the plan to the Board in May or June. The update coincides with the presentation of the Annual Operating Plans. At each of these points – evaluation and update – the Manager may assess the Strategic Communications Plan and make changes in order to ensure it's meeting the objectives outlined and responding to changing environments.

## Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports all indicators of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: we will, together, build a culture of Learning, Well-Being and Belonging to inspire each learner.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnna Roberto  
Director of Education and Secretary of the Board



# Grand Erie District School Board

**TO:** JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board  
**FROM:** Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer  
**RE:** **Elementary Class Size Report**  
**DATE:** October 30, 2023

## Background

The Ministry of Education, through Ontario Regulation 132/12, requires school boards in Ontario to be fully compliant with class size caps such that:

- 90 per cent of primary classes will have 20 or fewer students, and
- 10 per cent of primary classes may have up to 23 students, and
- The average class size in Grades 4 to 8 is 24.5 or less, and
- The average class size for Junior Kindergarten or Kindergarten shall not exceed 26.

Up to 10 per cent of Junior Kindergarten or Kindergarten classes are permitted to have between 30 and 32 students if they meet one of the following exceptions:

- if a program will be negatively affected (e.g., French Immersion); or
- where compliance will increase Kindergarten/Grade 1 combined classes.

For the 2023-24 school year, no changes to elementary class sizes were required, however fully remote classes are subject to in-person class size requirements. Grand Erie offers remote learning to students via a consortium agreement with the Upper Grand District School Board and those students are reported under that board's class size statistics.

## Additional Information

All boards are required to report actual school organizations that are in place each school year. Boards are permitted to select an appropriate reorganization date in the month of September for this purpose. Grand Erie's reorganization date was Friday September 15, 2023. The table below demonstrates Grand Erie's compliance with the class size regulation.

	Board Statistic	Regulation Requirement	Compliance Status
<b>Number of Primary Classes over 23</b>	0	Not greater than 0	Achieved
<b>Number Primary/Junior-Intermediate Combined Classes over 23</b>	0	Not greater than 0	Achieved
<b>Average Junior/Intermediate (Grades 4-8) Class Size</b>	24.3	Less than or equal to 24.5	Achieved
<b>Percentage of Primary Classes 20 and under</b>	92%	Greater than or equal to 90%	Achieved
<b>Average Kindergarten Class Size</b>	24	Less than or equal to 26	Achieved
<b>Number of Kindergarten Classes Over 32</b>	0	Not greater than 0	Achieved
<b>Percentage of Kindergarten Classes Between 30 and 32</b>	3%	Less than or equal to 10% & valid Kindergarten conditions	Achieved

Important information as follows:

- 3,765 Kindergarten students are organized into 155 classes.
- 5,604 Grade 1-3 students are organized into 286 classes.
- 10,386 Grade 4-8 students are organized into 427 classes.

For 2023-24, 100% of Grand Erie's Primary Classes are 23 students or under, 92% (263 of 286) are at 20 and under and 8% (23 of 286) of the Primary Classes are greater than 20 but no more than 23. All 46 combined Grade 3/4 classes are organized at 23 or under.

It is important to note this confirms that the average Grades 4-8 class size is compliant at 24.3. Grand Erie has 155 Kindergarten classes with an average class size of 24 which is below both the average class size of 26 and below the funded level of 25.57 per class. 15 Kindergarten classes have been organized with 15 or fewer students, one teacher and no Early Childhood Educator (ECE) as permitted in Regulation 224/10.

Additionally, Grand Erie has organized 128 self-contained students into 25 classes.

**Next Steps**

Senior Administration will submit the class size report to the Ministry of Education before the October 31, 2023 deadline.

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski  
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer



# Grand Erie District School Board

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**TO:** JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary to the Board  
**FROM:** Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer  
**RE:** **Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Caledonia Elementary School**  
**DATE:** October 30, 2023

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<p><b>Recommended Motion:</b> Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ THAT the Board approve Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Caledonia Elementary School.</p>
--

**Background**

The signing authorities of the Grand Erie District School Board are authorized to enter into a Letter of Agreement with the Royal Bank of Canada re: Bridge financing for the construction of the Caledonia Elementary School pending the receipt of direct capital funding from the Ministry of Education upon completion of the project.

Credit Facility        \$12,290,000 non-revolving term facility, by way of Bankers' Acceptances

Repayment            Borrowings under this facility are repayable when replaced by receipt of direct capital funding from the Ministry of Education.

Interest Rate         Banker's Acceptance rate plus an Acceptance Fee of 0.75% per annum.

Maturity Date:        December 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski  
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer



# Grand Erie District School Board

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**TO:** JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary to the Board  
**FROM:** Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer  
**RE:** **Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Southwest Brantford Elementary School**  
**DATE:** October 30, 2023

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<p><b>Recommended Motion:</b> Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ THAT the Board approve the amendments to Borrowing By-law Bridge Financing – Southwest Brantford Elementary School.</p>
--

### Background

Original By-law 31 Bridge Financing - Southwest Brantford Elementary School in the amount of \$16,270,000 was approved by the Board of Trustees in April 2021 with a maturity date of December 29, 2023.

The Bridge Financing with the Royal Bank of Canada needs to be extended to December 31, 2027.

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski  
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer



# Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 23, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams

## MINUTES

**Present:** Committee Chair S. Gibson, Trustees: B. Doyle, J. Bradford, C. VanEvery-Albert

**Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken  
Executive Assistant: C. Dero

**Guests:** J. Bell, General Legal Counsel

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair S. Gibson and roll call was completed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest.

(c) **Welcome /Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Committee Chair S. Gibson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: B. Doyle

That the Governance Committee agenda be approved.

**Carried**

C - 1 **Approval of the Minutes**

THAT the Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting, dated October 13, 2022, be approved.

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: B. Doyle

**Carried**

D - 1 **Business Arising from the Minutes/Previous Meeting - Nil**

E - 1 **New Business – Governance Items**

(a) **Housekeeping Amendments to the General Working By-Law, General Governance Policy and Governance Policies**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Housekeeping Amendments to the General Working By-Law and General Governance Policy be forwarded to the March 27, 2023 Regular Board meeting for approval.

**Carried**

Housekeeping items were addressed, including amendments to the General Governance Policy and the General Working By-Law. The Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (Governance Policy #4) was reviewed.



# Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 23, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams

## MINUTES

Director Roberto provided clarity on the proposed amendment to the Committee Reports section, noting that this only applies to Board committees.

(b) **Trustee Appointment – Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the appointment of a Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) trustee to represent the interests of MCFN students, and the name of the representative be confirmed by MCFN, no later than September 1, 2023, for the remainder of the 2022-26 current term of the Board, be forwarded to the March 27, 2023 Regular Board meeting for approval, pending budget approval.

**Carried**

J. Bell, General Legal Counsel, explained that the number of school board trustees is governed by population, with the exception of the Indigenous trustees.

Director Roberto referred to the Trustee Determination and Distribution report regarding the general election, whereby the Board of Trustees determines the number of trustee positions on their board and distributes trustees across the board. This aligns with the *Student Achievement and School Board Governance Act, 2009* and the determination formula in O. Reg. 412/00.

(c) **Governance: Self-Assessment Survey**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the recommended Self-Assessment Survey to be completed by all trustees before June 30, 2023 be forwarded to the March 27, 2023 Regular Board meeting for approval.

**Carried**

Director Roberto confirmed that trustee responses would be confidential, and a summary report would come to Board in the fall of 2023 if the Board supports this motion.

F - 1 **Other Business** - Nil

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

That the Governance Committee meeting be adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**Carried**





# Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 25, 2023

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

H-1-b

6:30 p.m.

## 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](mailto:gepicchair@granderie.ca).



# Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 25, 2023

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

H-1-b

6:30 p.m.

## MINUTES

### 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 7<sup>th</sup>. 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.**



# Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2023  
MS Teams Virtual Meeting

3:30 p.m.

## MINUTES

- Chair:** J. Tice, Indigenous Education Advocate
- Community Representative(s):** N. Shawana, Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor
- Trustees:** Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- Grand Erie Staff:** E. Whiton, Trustee
- J.P. Gauthier, Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant
- K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
- J. Martin, Native Advisor Teacher Consultant
- S. Miller, Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant
- M. Moniz, Indigenous Student Engagement and Support Teacher
- J. Roberto, Director of Education
- D. Smouter, Manager of Communications
- R. Staats, System Principal Leader Indigenous Education
- J. Burnham, Local Association Representative
- Organizations/Agencies:**
- Parent/Family Designates:** T. Simon, Parent/Family Designate
- Absent with Regrets:** R. Collver, Trustee
- S. George, Parent/Family Designate
- S. Kennedy, Parent/Family Designate
- R. Skye, Indigenous Education Advocate
- H. Watts, Education Manager – Six Nations Lifelong Learning Taskforce
- Absent:** P. Barber, Director of Lifelong Learning of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- C. General, Local Association Representative
- A. Hyslop, Indigenous Student Engagement and Support Teacher
- V. King-Jamieson, Mississaugas of the Credit Education Pillar Lead
- B. Sandy, Local Association Representative
- K. Sandy, Local Association Representative
- A. Skye, Student Trustee
- T. Lickers-Smith, Local Association Representative
- D. Sowers, Local Association Representative
- Guests:** Nil
- Recording Secretary:** D. Fletcher, Executive Assistant

- A - 1 **Opening**
- (a) **Opening Address**  
Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation N. Shawana provided opening greetings for the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Meeting.
- (b) **Land Acknowledgement Statement**  
Superintendent Graham read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
- (c) **Introduction of New Members & Roll Call**



# Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2023  
MS Teams Virtual Meeting

H-1-c

3:30 p.m.

## MINUTES

Chair Tice welcomed members to the meeting.

(d) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(e) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approvals**  
The agenda was approved by consensus.

B - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous meeting**

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **February 16, 2023**

Moved by: J. Burnham

Seconded by: E. Whiton

THAT the minutes of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee dated February 16, 2023 be approved.

**Carried**

D - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Overview and learning about Board Action Plans, Jordan's Principle and Reciprocal Education Agreement (REA)**

Superintendent Graham provided an overview regarding supports provided for the Indigenous Education around Board Action Plan, Jordan's Principle, and the Reciprocal Education Agreement.

The Board Action Plan has two goals: 1) To improve student achievement and well-being among Indigenous students and 2) To close the achievement gap between Indigenous students and "all students". The four areas that the Board Action Plan addresses were reviewed.

In response to a question regarding budget allocations, Superintendent K. Graham shared that the budget and how funds are spent can be brought forward for discussion and suggestions from the committee as an advisory role.

The Reciprocal Education Agreement would be needed for a First nation student who has status and resides on-reserve and who wishes to register at a Grand Erie elementary school. The process was reviewed with contact information for Six Nations and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Jordan's Principle is an Initiative through the Federal Government that applies equally to all status First Nation and Six Nations children whether a resident is on or off reserve. Types of applications include school supplies, tutoring services, and Educational assistants; most requests are around education assistants and technology.

He clarified that we would first seek out any services provided through Specialized Services within the school.



# Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2023  
MS Teams Virtual Meeting

3:30 p.m.

## MINUTES

In response to a question, Superintendent K. Graham clarified that an individual working within Grand Erie are employees, and that supervision would fall under the Principal of the school.

In response to a question, Superintendent K. Graham explained that Indigenous Services Canada approve to fund the wages of supports and the Board would use those funds to hire the worker to provide assistance.

(b) **Future Agenda/Topic Development (areas of interest)**

Chair Tice opened discussion to the committee members to see how the agendas can be created going forward.

Suggestions from the committee included: a call of agenda items, include timely items taking place and input driven from community.

(c) **Proposed Meeting Dates (2023-24)**

Chair Tice referred to the proposed meeting dates for 2023-24 and opened discussion on format.

Suggestions from the committee included: Hybrid approach (Virtual and Face to Face) and the opportunity for evening meetings.

In response to a question, Superintendent K. Graham asked that the committee hold these dates in calendars. As fall approaches committee representation will be reviewed and meeting dates and format will be determined and shared out to members.

(d) **Update - Indigenous Student Trustee**

Indigenous Student Engagement and Support Teacher M. Moniz provided an update on the the United Indigenous Student Council Leadership day held on May 17, 2023. The event was hosted by Carmen Thomas and provided various learning workshops. Positive feedback was received by students, staff, and parents.

FNMI students at Secondary schools have been invited to participate in celebrations for Indigenous Peoples' Day on June 21, 2023.

The process of Indigenous Student Trustee through consensus was shared and positively received by students. Indigenous Student Trustee A. Skye and Chair VanEvery-Albert are working through the process to have it more formerly articulated in the Board policy. Next steps will be to submit the recommendation to the Governance Committee.

(e) **Update – Indigenous Education Team**

System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats shared updates on Major Goals of Indigenous Education 2022-23, Native Language Initiatives, Kanien'kéha Circle Updates, Speaker Series - Learning from the Land and Indigenous Knowledge, Perspectives, and Histories, June Newsletter, Ellie Joseph-Speaker Series, Indigenous Allyship Award and Offerings to celebrate National Indigenous Month.



# Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2023  
MS Teams Virtual Meeting

H-1-c

3:30 p.m.

## MINUTES

A Bursaries and Scholarships Lunch and Learn is being planned for all students in Grade 11 and Grade 12.

(f) **Update - Community**

Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation N. Shawana provided an update on transitions, EPIC Jobs Event, MCFN students partnered up with public school feeder/secondary school, Grade 9 shadow day at the secondary schools. She shared that all of students coming to HSS are enrolled in the Ojibwe class, and she continues to support the pursuit of Indigenous knowledge for teachers in Grand Erie and Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board. There were exciting workshops at New Start, a mini POW WOW at Hagersville Secondary School with Haudenosaunee dancing.

In response to a question, Superintendent Graham explained that planning for Indigenous Education is very fluid and collaborative. The Board Action Plan submission is due in the middle of January and sees the committee's role as a sounding board as planning continues.

E - 1 **Information Items**

(a) **Correspondence** - Nil

(b) **Policies Out for Comment**

Superintendent K. Graham referred to the [Policies Out for Comment](#) that are posted on the Board Website for stakeholder feedback and invited committee members to review them.

F - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday, October 19, 2023, 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Microsoft Teams)

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Chair Tice adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.

H - 1 **Closing Address**

Chair Tice gave the closing address.



# Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8 2023

9:00 a.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

## MINUTES

- Chair:** C. VanEvery-Albert, Trustee
- Community Representative(s):** A. Powless-Bomberry, Six Nations Elected Council Representative
- Trustees:** E. Thomas, Trustee
- Grand Erie Staff:** R. Hill-Beauchamp, Native Education Counsellor/Community Liaison Worker  
K. Graham, Superintendent of Education  
J. Laight, Native Education Counsellor  
J. Martin, Native Advisor Teacher Consultant  
R. Staats, System Principal Leader Indigenous Education  
S. Vansickle, Native Education Counsellor  
C. Vyse, Native Community Liaison worker
- Grand Erie Staff (Resources):** Nil
- Organizations/ Agencies:** Nil
- Absent with Regrets:** S. Graham, Six Nations Federal Schools Representative  
J. Roberto, Director of Education
- Absent:** T. Anderson, Indigenous Services Canada Director of Education responsible for Six Nations Federal Schools  
A. Skye, Indigenous Student Trustee  
M. Turner, Native Education Counsellor  
S. Williams, Native Education Counsellor
- Recording Secretary:** D. Fletcher, Executive Assistant

- A - 1 **Opening**
- (a) **Opening Address**  
System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats provided opening greetings for the Six Nations Advisory Committee (SNAC) Meeting.
- (b) **Land Acknowledgment Statement**  
Superintendent Graham read the Land Acknowledgment statement.
- (c) **Introduction of New Members & Roll Call**  
Native Advisor Teacher Consultant J. Martin welcomed committee members.
- (d) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil
- (e) **Approval of Agenda**  
The following agenda item was added to the agenda:
  - E-1-c Data Request from Six Nations Federal Schools
 The agenda was approved by consensus.
- (f) **Student Trustee Update** – Nil

### B - 1 ESA Staff Roundtable



# Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8 2023

9:00 a.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

## MINUTES

(a) **Updates from each school**

Native Education Counsellor S. Vansickle shared information and updates from the Thunderbird Festival at Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School and Mustang Day that took place at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School.

Native Education Counsellor/Community Liaison Worker R. Hill-Beauchamp shared information and updates on preparations for graduation, Indigenous History Month lunch hour event, and implementation of homework sessions during lunch hour that took place at McKinnon Park Secondary School.

Native Community Liaison Worker C. Vyse shared information and updates on Fall plans and credit recovery for students at Hagersville Secondary School.

Native Education Counsellor J. Laight shared information and updates on the Crafting course at Nations and New Start. The crafts are part of a course (AWA with varying grade levels). Other updates included POW WOW, Social, and Shadow day for upcoming Grade 8 Students at Hagersville Secondary School.

Native Advisor Teacher Consultant J. Martin shared highlights regarding the United Indigenous Student Council during the school year. All First Nations and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Students from all secondary schools have been invited to participate in Indigenous Solidarity date at Six Nations on June 21, 2023 at the Community Hall in Ohsweken.

The process of Indigenous Student Trustee through consensus was shared and positively received by students. Indigenous Student Trustee A. Skye and Chair VanEvery-Albert are working through the process to have it more formally articulated in the Board policy. Next steps will be to submit the recommendation to the Governance Committee.

C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

(a) **Education Service Agreement Review Update**

Chair VanEvery-Albert provided an update that the ESA paper has been revised and reviewed by herself, Superintendent Graham, Director Roberto and System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats.

Feedback was provided through discussions and meetings with the Indigenous Education Team members.

The next ESA Meeting will be held on June 22, 2023. The ESA Agreement will be effective September 2025.

Revisions will be provided at the first SNAC meeting in the 2023-24 School year.

D - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Approval of Minutes – March 30, 2023**

Trustee E. Thomas moved THAT the minutes of the Native Advisory Committee held on March 30, 2023 be approved. The minutes were approved by consensus.

**Carried**

E - 1 **New Business**





# Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8 2023

9:00 a.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

## MINUTES

(a) **Update on Mohawk Teachers Certification Program**

Superintendent K. Graham referred to System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats with her work to bring together community members in support of the certification of Mohawk Language teachers, while recognizing pathways in Western ideologies and those individuals who have lived experiences.

System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats shared that the Kanien'kéha Circle has completed the first year and is in the process of preparing rubric interview questions. The plan is to have a call out for candidates in the fall, and to look for ways to encourage immersions students to review their pathways.

In response to a question, System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats shared that incoming Immersion students were eligible to receive PLAR credits for having the ability to speak Indigenous Languages at other boards in the province.

In response to a question, System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats explained that Mohawk Language teachers through the Grand Erie Learning Alternatives were provided opportunities to teach through asynchronous courses. Three indigenous language teachers were able to have a full teaching caseload. When the courses were offered last year to the community, the attendance was very low, this initiative will be re-visited again in the future. Difficulties to find teachers continue to be the barrier.

Chair VanEvery-Albert requested a written report for the fall SNAC meeting on Kanien'kéha Circle and Grand Erie.

(b) **Proposed Meeting Dates (2023-24)**

Superintendent K. Graham shared calendar with the proposed meeting dates.

The following dates were agreed upon and confirmed the 2023-24 School Year:

Thursday September 28, 2023

Thursday December 14, 2023

Thursday February 22, 2024

Thursday April 18, 2024

Thursday May 16, 2024 - Annual General Meeting

Thursday June 13, 2024

Next steps: Superintendent K. Graham, System Principal Leader Indigenous, Education R. Staats and Native Advisor Teacher Consultant J. Martin will finalize meeting times/locations and share out to the committee members before the end of June 2023.

(c) **Data Request from Six Nations Federal Schools**

Native Advisor Teacher Consultant J. Martin brought forward a request from Indigenous Services Canada Director of Education responsible for Six Nations Federal Schools T. Anderson, through of Six Nations Federal Schools Representative S. Graham. The request is for Six Nations administrators to share out to intermediate teachers how their students are doing coming into Grade 9 and 10.

Superintendent K. Graham explained this report can be provided to include aggregate data and can support any actions or questions that come out of this data.



# Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 8 2023

9:00 a.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

## MINUTES

In response to a question, Native Advisor Teacher Consultant J. Martin explained that there is no plan to re-activate the Principals Professional Committee, as there are other points of intersection for the Six Nations administrators. She referred to PD funds in the ESA agreement that provides for joint professional development between Grand Erie and Six Nations.

Suggestions included a few meetings for all principals, joint professional development, and invitations to Six Nations principals to attend Family of Schools meetings for learning and connections. K. Graham will reach out to Travis to provide those FOS dates.

System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats shared that five PD sessions are planned for after school, she will share the invites to Six Nations teachers.

F - 1 **Information Items**  
(a) **Principal's Reports**

Superintendent K. Graham shared examples of the report by referring to Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School and Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School.

Committee members were asked to review the reports as discussion was opened to evaluate which method works best to share data with SNAC.

Data such as enrolment in "N" courses, ESA Staff/allocation, transition activities, and community engagement was shared.

Recommendations for data included a report on Year-to-Date Attendance and a report on Number of students registered per semester with the % drop out rate and % return rate.

Discussion included the relationship and partnership building with principals, and the recommendation was made to invite principals to the meetings in some capacity.

Next steps are for Superintendent K. Graham, System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats and Native Advisor Teacher Consultant J. Martin to take away the recommendations and incorporate into the process.

(b) **Policies Out for Comment**

Superintendent K. Graham referred to the [Policies Out for Comment](#) that are posted on the Board Website for stakeholder feedback and invited committee members to review them.

G - 1 **Next Meeting**

September 28, 2023. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Microsoft Teams)

H - 1 **Closing Address & Adjournment**

System Principal Leader Indigenous Education, R. Staats gave the closing address.

Chair VanEvery-Albert adjourned the meeting at 10:42 a.m.



# Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday September 7, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

## MINUTES

<b>Chair</b>	Chair L. DeJong, Social Worker, Lansdowne Children's Centre Vice Chair K. Jones, Community Representative
<b>Community Reps</b>	B. Bruce                      K. Kelly                      L. Nydam
<b>Trustees</b>	W, Rose T. Waldschmidt L. Miedema, Program Coordinator J. Roberto, Director of Education
<b>Grand Erie Employees</b>	J. Senior, Principal Leader, Specialized Services M. Tokaci, Information Technology L. Sheppard, Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Coordinator L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education L. Boswell, Community Navigator, Contact Brant
<b>Organizations/Agencies</b>	C. Gilman, Easter Seals Ontario C. Stefanelli, Program Manager, Woodview Mental Health & Autism Services
<b>Guests</b>	K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
<b>Absent</b>	L. Whiton T. Buchanan, Supervisor of Employment Supports, Community Living Brant
<b>Absent with Regrets</b>	M. Gatopoulos, Community Representative R. Vriends, Autism Ontario
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	J. Valstar, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Education

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair DeJong called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) **Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder**

M. Tokaci, Information Technology, informed members of the YouTube livestream. Chair DeJong reminded members of the closed caption feature available in MS Teams. Trustee Sloat was announced as a visitor.

(c) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Add G-1 (b) – Resignation of M. Gatopoulos  
Add F-1 (c) – Snowball Activity

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the September 7, 2023 Agenda be approved, as amended

**Carried**

B - 1 **Timed Items**

(a) **Student Success – Update on Destreaming in Grand Erie**



# Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday September 7, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

## MINUTES

Superintendent Graham shared an update on Destreaming in Grand Erie, presenting on the objectives and goals of Destreaming, supporting students where they are at, a timeline of curriculum revisions, how assessments are done, and the professional development educators will receive. There was discussion and questions from committee members. Superintendent Graham will attend a SEAC meeting in the new year to provide further updates and respond to take away questions.

### C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

#### (a) **Approval of Minutes**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the Minutes dated June 15, 2023 be approved, as presented.

**Carried**

#### (b) **Dates for SEAC Meetings 2023-24**

Presented as printed.

#### (c) **Project SEARCH Funding Update**

Superintendent Thompson announced that Grand Erie will be opening a second Project SEARCH in Norfolk this year and will be receiving funding to start up a program in Haldimand. Also announced was that Grand Erie has received a one-time grant to provide program and services that prevent and remove barriers for students with disabilities.

### D - 1 **New Business**

#### (a) **OSSTF Inclusion Symposium – Summary Report**

Superintendent Thompson and Chair DeJong gave an overview of the Inclusion Symposium they attended in October 2022. The summary report is included in the meeting package.

### E - 1 **Other Business**

#### (a) **SEAC Terms of Reference (ToR) - Review**

Presented as printed.

Superintendent Thompson will investigate whether there can be some flexibility written into the SEAC ToR upon the next review.

#### (b) **Specialized Services Organizational Structure**

Presented as printed.

#### (c) **Specialized Services – Department Updates for 2023-24**

Superintendent Thompson shared Grand Erie's focus for 2023-24 on math, student success, supports for educators, continuing work with Shelley Moore, and the situational analysis from Sheila Bennett and team.



# Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday September 7, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

## MINUTES

### F - 1 Standing Items

**Policies Out for Comment** - Nil

#### (a) Trustee Updates

Trustee Waldschmidt welcomed SEAC members to the new school year and thanked members for their participation in SEAC.

#### (b) Chair/Vice Chair Updates

Chair DeJong provided an update for SEAC members. Vice-Chair Jones asked SEAC members to provide one challenge or opportunity OR a question for SEAC to be shared at the October meeting.

#### (c) Snowball Activity

SEAC members anonymously wrote down an opportunity, challenge or question they have for SEAC to be discussed at future meetings.

### G - 1 Information Items

#### (a) Grand Erie's SEAC Representatives 2022-26

Presented as printed.

#### (b) Resignation of M. Gatopoulos

Chair DeJong announced the resignation of M. Gatopoulos. A letter of thanks will be sent by Chair DeJong. There was discussion around recruiting new community members.

### H - 1 Community Updates - Nil

### I - 1 Correspondence

#### (a) Letter from Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

Presented as printed

There was discussion about the improved fill rates for Education Assistants within Grand Erie.

### J - 1 Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning

#### (a) Social Justice Series Review

#### (b) Pathways to different student assessments

### K - 1 Next Meeting

Thursday October 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the boardroom at the Education Centre. A virtual option will be provided.

### L - 1 Adjournment



H-1-e

## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday September 7, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

### MINUTES

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt  
Seconded by: K. Jones  
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:38 p.m.  
**Carried**



## Durham District School Board

400 Taunton Road East, Whitby, Ontario L1R 2K6

Phone: 905-666-5500; Toll Free: 1-800-265-3968

The Honourable Stephen Lecce

Minister of Education

5th Floor, 438 University Ave.

Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

Sent via email to: [minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)

September 26, 2023

### **Re: Urgent Funding Request for the West Whitby Area and Concerns over Capital Priority Approval Process**

Dear Minister Lecce,

I am writing on behalf of the Durham District School Board (DDSB)'s Board of Trustees following a motion moved at our Board Meeting on Monday, September 18, 2023 to urgently request capital funding to support construction of new elementary schools in West Whitby and to express our concern about the Ministry of Education process for approving funding for new schools. This process has not addressed student needs in the Durham District School Board during a four-year period that has seen student enrollment grow from 70,000 students to 79,000 students.

We are aware that the Ministry is currently in the process of receiving capital priorities submissions from school boards across the province. DDSB staff are in the process of making their submission and our Board of Trustees would like to highlight our unanimous support for new schools in West Whitby. I am also aware of the engagement of MPP Lorne Coe on this topic due to the number of parental concerns received by his office and our Whitby trustees about the growth pressures in West Whitby. We will be extremely concerned if West Whitby is not included in the next round of approved capital project announcements.

West Whitby is an area of Durham Region that is experiencing tremendous growth. Once the entire community is developed, we anticipate that five elementary schools and one secondary school will be needed to serve a population of 26,000. Existing Whitby schools adjacent to this area are facing pressure with over 900 West Whitby students and growing, holding at eight schools, until new facilities can be built.

The approval of a new elementary school in West Whitby will help alleviate enrollment pressures at these schools and ensure that we do not fall even further behind in making sure that new schools can keep up with the pace of development in this community.

We have included new elementary schools in the West Whitby area as part of the last two Capital Priorities submissions to the Ministry but did not receive approval. Given the rapid pace of residential development and population growth in the West Whitby area of Durham Region, it is becoming



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extremely challenging for the DDSB to utilize existing Whitby schools, which have their own growth, as holding schools to accommodate new students while we wait for approval and funding to construct a school in West Whitby.

While we appreciate the challenge the Ministry has in selecting new schools to be approved, new development plans continue to be approved by the Town of Whitby and existing schools in the area continue to experience capacity pressures. I also want to highlight that this letter does not take away from the other enrollment pressures the DDSB is facing and may submit through the capital priorities process. It is our hope that the Ministry prioritizes the DDSB in this round of submissions given the growth our Board is facing through new development and strong Mayor powers that will likely result in more homes being built faster in Durham Region. It is critical that Ministry processes align with this new challenge as the province seeks to address the affordability challenges that many of our shared constituents are facing.

In addition, I want to reiterate that the Board has previously expressed concerns that due to the length of time it currently takes from the initial Ministry approval and subsequent rounds of Ministry approval that have led to delays in getting some DDSB schools built. We are aware of some recent changes in that process and would like to highlight that this issue could reach unmanageable levels and urgent Ministry action is required. Should you have any concerns about this, I know our staff would be pleased to meet with Ministry staff to discuss this matter further in the spirit of working together to ensure that new schools come online as soon as possible.

We urge your Ministry to provide much needed funding and an expedited approval for a new elementary school in West Whitby and for other DDSB capital priorities.

We look forward to your response and support for this growing community as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Donna Edwards  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Durham District School Board

Cc: Premier of Ontario  
Lorne Coe, MPP for Whitby  
Patrice Barnes, MPP for Ajax  
Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock  
Hon. Todd McCarthy, MPP for Durham  
Jennifer French, MPP for Oshawa  
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP for Pickering-Uxbridge  
Trustees, Durham District School Board  
Ontario Public School Boards Association



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