



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, June 24, 2024

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
 - (i) Josh Carrier (Trustee Collver)
- (h) In-Camera Report
- (i) Learn Lead Inspire Awards (J. Roberto)
- (j) Student Showcase
 - (i) Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair (J. Roberto, R. Vankerrebroeck)
- (k) Patti McCleister Award (J. Roberto, J. Tozer)
- (l) Delegations

B - 1 Approval of the Minutes

- * (a) May 27, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated May 27, 2024, be approved."
- * (b) June 10, 2024 (Special Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated June 10, 2024, be approved."

C - 1 Committee Recommendations and Reports

- * (a) [Finance Committee Meeting Report](#) dated June 10, 2024
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board approve the 2024-25 Operating budget of \$397,299,843."

Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board approve the 2024-25 Capital budget of \$23,525,000."

Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board approve the commencement of a Boundary Review process to establish an attendance area boundary for the New Caledonia Elementary school involving



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AGENDA

Caledonia Centennial Public School, River Heights School, Seneca Central Public School, and J.L. Mitchener Public School."

- * (b) [Audit Committee Meeting](#) Report dated June 13, 2024
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board approve the 2024-25 Internal Audit Plan."

- * (c) [Policy and Program Committee Meeting](#) Report dated June 17, 2024 (I)

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

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

F - 1 Student Trustees' Report

- * (a) Student Senate Report (M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye) (I)
- * (b) OSTA-AECO Report (K. Gayowsky) (I)

G - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

- * (a) Quarterly Budget Report (R. Wyszynski) (I)
- * (b) Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report 2023-24 (J. White, R. Vankerrebroeck) (I)
- * (c) Strategic Communication Plan Evaluation (D. Smouter) (I)
- * (d) Finance, Policy and Program, and Regular Board Meeting Schedule of Reports 2024-25 (J. Roberto) (I)
- * (e) Annual Review of the Special Education Plan (L. Thompson)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board approve the Annual Review of the [Special Education Plan 2023-24](#), and the submission of the Special Education Report Components Checklist to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education by July 31, 2024."

H - 1 Other Business

- * (a) Audit Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 7, 2024 (I)
- * (b) Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 28, 2024 (I)
- * (c) Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated April 18, 2024 (I)
- * (d) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated May 2, 2024 (I)
- * (e) Student Senate Minutes dated April 25, 2024 (I)

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

J - 1 Correspondence

K - 1 Adjournment

- Recommended Motion:**
"THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned."



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, June 24, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

SEPTEMBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
02	03	04	05 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m.	06
09 Finance Committee 6:30 p.m.	10	11	12 Audit Committee Meeting 4:30 p.m.	13
16	17	18	19	20
23 Regular Board Meeting 7:15 p.m.	24	25	26 Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting 1:00 p.m.	27
30				

In Memoriam

Josh Carrier, a student
at Valley Heights Secondary School

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Josh Carrier, a Grade 12 student who began his high school career at Valley Heights Secondary School before moving on to the School Within a College program through Fanshawe, where he continued to be involved with its welding course. He had been working towards completing his secondary school diploma through Waterford District High School's Turning Point program.

Josh was part of a large, close-knit family in the Langton community, and loved hunting, fishing and anything that kept him outdoors. He was known for his cowboy boots and beaming smile, both of which he wore often. He loved sports, played hockey, and was always eager to discuss his career goals. Josh had a big heart, and was deeply loved by his family and friends.

Our sincerest condolences go out to Josh's family, friends, staff members and school community, and everyone connected to this loss.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison High
Valley Heights Secondary School

Presented at the Grand Erie District School Board's Regular Board Meeting
on June 24, 2024, by Trustee Collver

In Memoriam

Sophia Love Solis Caro (nee Milbin)
a teacher at École Dufferin

Sophia Love Solis Caro (nee Milbin) was a dedicated teacher at École Dufferin and a beloved member of the school community. She began her career with Grand Erie in 2016, and over her time as an educator, was a friend and inspiration to countless students and staff members. She was a well-loved and respected teacher, with a huge heart that was full of compassion for those around her. Sophia was well known for her love for her students, always willing to give of her time, and she was recognized in the school for her calming presence and endless patience. She will be lovingly remembered by the learners and staff members in the École Dufferin school community.

Our deepest condolences go out to Sophia's family, friends, colleagues and everyone connected to this loss.

Respectfully submitted,

Isreal Segura-Romero
École Dufferin

Presented at the Grand Erie District School Board's Regular Board Meeting
on June 24, 2024, by Chair Gibson



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, May 27, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Present: Chair: S. Gibson, Vice-Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, T. Sault, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton, Student Trustees: K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

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

Regrets: Trustees: E. Thomas, C. VanEvery-Albert, Student Trustee M. Baker

A - 1 **Opening (6:30 p.m.)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

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

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:32 p.m.)**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

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

Student Trustee K. Gayowsky read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

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

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorial**

(i) **Reid Hanans**

The memorial of Reid Hanans was read by Trustee Whiton.

(h) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

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

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, May 27, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve Grandview Central Public School be declared surplus to the Board's needs in accordance with Ontario Regulation 374/23, section 1(1)(a).

Carried

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Board approve an easement, measuring approximately 0.1 acres on the northwest corner of Waterford District High School's lands, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 374/23, section 1(3)(a).

Carried

(i) **Learn Lead Inspire Award**

Director Roberto presented Macey Barber of James Hillier School with a Learn Lead Inspire award for raising awareness of neurodiversity and advocating for inclusion during Autism Awareness Month and throughout the year.

(j) **Student Showcase**

(i) **Oakland-Scotland School**

Director Roberto introduced the students from Oakland-Scotland School who will attend the Dance World Cup in Prague at the end of June. They performed their acro duet choreographed by their home studio titled, "You Loved Me".

(ii) **North Park Collegiate and Vocational School**

Director Roberto introduced Saige Yanover at North Park Collegiate and Vocational School who will be travelling to Prague to perform at the IDO World Tap Championships 2024 in October.

(k) **Delegations – Nil**

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **April 22, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated April 22, 2024, be approved.

Carried

(b) **April 29, 2024 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: T. Sault

Seconded by: L. Passmore

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated April 29, 2024, be approved.

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, May 27, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Finance Committee Meeting Report dated May 6, 2024**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Policy and Program Committee Meeting Report dated May 13, 2024**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT Option Two for June 13, 2025 (Cancel Transportation in Port Dover/Lakewood Elementary School Closed to Students/Lakewood Staff Reports to School/Group Stops for Secondary Students) 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:

- New Caledonia Elementary School Ground-breaking
- Honourary Secondary School Diploma - D. Berry
- Summer Learning Programming
- EPIC Jobs
- Math Professional Learning
- Welcome to Kindergarten Sessions at School
- One-Stop Grad Shop
- Outdoor Education Experiences
- Destination College
- 8th Annual Rainbow Ball
- Days of Significance
- Chair-ish Exhibit Showcase
- Vision Into the Future - STEAM Event
- United Indigenous Student Council
- PRIDE Haldimand Norfolk
- Transforming Leadership
- Laurier University Partnership Opportunities

F - 1 **Student Trustees' Report**

(a) **Student Senate Report**

Presented as printed.

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

(a) **Major Construction Project Report**

Presented as printed.

(b) **Approval to Tender Construction of Childcare at Banbury Heights School**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Bradford



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, May 27, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

THAT the Board approve the design of the new childcare addition at Banbury Heights School for release of tender documents.

Carried

(c) **Approval to Tender Construction of South-West Brantford Joint-Use Elementary School**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Board approve the design of the new South-West Brantford Joint-Use Elementary School for release of tender documents.

Carried

H - 1 **Other Business**

(a) Student Senate Meeting Minutes dated February 15, 2024

(b) Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 28, 2024

(c) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated April 4, 2024

I - 1 **OPSBA Report** - Nil

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

(a) Durham District School Board dated April 24, 2024

K - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Special Board Meeting

Monday, June 10, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

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

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

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

Regrets: Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gibson at 6:35 p.m.

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

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:36 p.m.)**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

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

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Special Board meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

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

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorials** - Nil

(h) **In-Camera Report** - Nil



Special Board Meeting

Monday, June 10, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

B - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: C. Van Every-Albert

THAT the Special Board meeting be adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, June 10, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

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

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

Guests: Manager C. Smith, Manager A. Van Doorn, Accommodation and Planning Supervisor N. Hercanuck (MS Teams)

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair B. Doyle at 5:33 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: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Finance Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **May 6, 2024**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting dated May 6, 2024, be approved.

Carried

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

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Energy Consumption and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2022-23**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, it was noted that a funding source through the Ministry of Education would be needed to allow for opportunities for alternative thermal and solar energy initiatives.

(b) **Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan 2023-38**

Presented as printed.

It was noted that Grand Erie's two new school builds will incorporate energy consumption savings, where possible, based on the funding benchmark per square foot.



Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, June 10, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

(c) **Board Budget 2024-25**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the 2024-25 Operating budget of \$397,299,843 be forwarded to the June 24, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

Moved by: E. Thomas

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the 2024-25 Capital budget of \$23,525,000 be forwarded to the June 24, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

In response to a question, it was noted that the Budget Feedback Survey helped staff identify where budget should be allocated.

In addition, it was noted that there was an increase in the number of permanent Educational Assistants following Revised Estimates.

(d) **New Caledonia Elementary School Boundary Review**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: E. Thomas

THAT the commencement of a Boundary Review process to establish an attendance area boundary for the New Caledonia Elementary school involving Caledonia Centennial Public School, River Heights School, Seneca Central Public School, and J.L. Mitchener Public School be forwarded to the June 24, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

It was noted that the naming process for the new school will begin in the fall.

(e) **Delhi Gym**

Dialogue continues with the Ministry of Education to ensure proper guidelines for fundraising are adhered to. The board continues to advocate for the gymnasium.

F - 1 **Other Business** – Nil

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** September 9, 2024



Audit Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 13, 2024

4:30 PM

REPORT

Present: J. Bradford, R. Collver, B. Doyle, E. Hodgins, A. Thakker

Administration: J. Roberto, R. Wyszynski, C. Smith

KPMG (Internal Auditors): S. Bedi (Virtual)

Millards (External Auditors): M. McNally (Virtual)

Regrets: T. Waldschmidt

Recording Secretary: L. Howells

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

Committee Chair Waldschmidt sent his regrets. The meeting was chaired and called to order by Trustee Bradford

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

(c) **Welcome to Open Session**

Trustee Bradford read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

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

Presented as printed

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: A. Thakker

THAT the Audit Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

B - 1 **Consent Agenda**

Presented as printed

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Hodgins

THAT the Audit Committee approve the June 13, 2024, Consent Agenda:

(a) Minutes of the Audit Committee dated March 7, 2024.

(b) Receive the Consolidated Due Diligence report.

(c) Q2 Financial Forecast.

Carried

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

D - 1 **Internal Audit - Nil**

(a) **Math Achievement Assessment – Status Update**

S. Bedi, from KPMG, provided a brief update on the Math Achievement Assessment, noting this was an initial assessment. KPMG identified the priority areas that impact math achievement and outcomes, developed a student achievement framework, and deployed a dynamic audit approach that identified key risks. S. Bedi further noted that



Audit Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 13, 2024

4:30 PM

REPORT

KPMG also issued a regional benchmarking survey which identified common challenges. The Audit Committee will receive the detailed report at the September meeting.

In response to a question regarding 2024-25 Math Achievement Action Plan, Director Roberto noted that Superintendents are in the process of developing the 2024-25 professional development plan.

It was requested Superintendent Munro attend the September meeting to provide an update of the Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan (GEMAAP).

(a) **2024-25 Internal Audit Plan**

S. Bedi provided a high-level overview of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024-25 which will be focused on Absenteeism Risk and Cost Mitigation

In response to a question, S. Bedi provided clarification regarding the audit approach and stated the impact is financial and effects continuity of learning in the classroom.

Moved by: A. Thakker

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the 2024-25 Internal Audit Plan be forwarded to the June 24, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

E - 1 **External Audit**

(a) **Review of Engagement and Audit Planning Letters**

Millards was appointed auditors at the March 2023 Audit Committee meeting. M. McNally from Millards provided a high-level review of both letters.

In response to a question, M. McNally noted no significant changes in the audit approach however, the focus areas shift on a year-to-year basis to limit audit predictability. M. McNally further stated that if changes are required during the preliminary review, Millards would be in contact with the Audit Committee.



Audit Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 13, 2024

4:30 PM

REPORT

F - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **2024-25 Board Budget**

Superintendent Wyszynski provided a high-level review of the report presented at the June 10, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.

In response to questions regarding how the board mitigates the risk, Superintendent Wyszynski responded that the board takes a cautious approach when building the budget, through revised estimated that are completed in December and ensures variable expenses are regularly monitored.

In response to question, Superintendent Wyszynski provided examples of how the budget aligns with Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: A. Thakker

THAT the Audit Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Carried

H - 1 **2024-25 Meeting Dates:**

- Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. (Virtual only)
- Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. (In person / Virtual)
- Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (Virtual only)
- Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (In person / Virtual)



Policy and Program Committee

Monday, June 17, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Present: Vice-Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: R. Collver S. Gibson (MS Teams), T. Sault (MS Teams), C. VanEvery-Albert (MS Teams), T. Waldschmidt (MS Teams), L. Whiton (MS Teams)

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe (MS Teams), K. Graham (MS Teams), L. Munro (MS Teams), J. Tozer (MS Teams), R. Vankerbroeck (MS Teams), Executive Assistant: C. Dero (MS Teams), Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

Guest: C. Bedard, System Research Leader (MS Teams)

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

Roll call was completed.

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

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

Vice-Chair B. Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Policy and Program Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

May 13, 2024

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Sault

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Minutes of the Policy and Program Committee meeting dated May 13, 2024, be approved.

Carried

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

E - 1 **New Business - Program**

(a) **Welcome Centre/Multilingual Language Learner Report**

Presented as printed.

(b) **International Education Report**

Presented as printed.



Policy and Program Committee

Monday, June 17, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

In response to a question, it was noted that international fees align with the Ministry of Education tuition standards.

(c) **Curriculum Updates**

Presented as printed.

Key components of financial literacy graduation requirements were discussed.

In response to a question regarding the Math Proficiency Test (MPT), it was confirmed that February 1, 2025, is the effective date for the MPT requirement for all Ontario applicants and internationally educated applicants as a requirement of certification.

(d) **Attendance Strategy Report**

Presented as printed.

It was noted that communication will be shared with families, as well included at the Annual General Meeting and business to Federal Schools.

Trustee Waldschmidt left the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

(e) **Summer Programs School Culture and Well-being**

Presented as printed.

(f) **Student Climate 2024 Report**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, it was noted that the survey will be distributed every two years.

(g) **Workforce Census 2024 Report**

Presented as printed.

(h) **Literacy Skills Report**

Presented as printed.

(i) **Exam Days and Student Learning and Support Days Report**

Presented as printed.

(j) **Indigenous Land-Based Learning Course Bundle Report**

Presented as printed.

(k) **Transition Update - Elgin Public School Report**

Presented as printed.

(l) **Transition Update - Waterford Public School Report**

Presented as printed.

F - 1 **New Business** – none



Policy and Program Committee

Monday, June 17, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Policy and Program meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Carried

H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** October 21, 2024



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: Trustees of the Grand Erie District School Board

FROM: M. Baker, Student Trustee – South
K. Gayowsky, Student Trustee – North
A. Skye, Student Trustee – Indigenous

RE: **Student Senate Report**

DATE: June 24th, 2024

Introduction:

As the 2023-24 school year draws to a close, Student Trustees Baker, Gayowsky, and Skye are pleased to present this report to the Board, highlighting the progress they have made in their positions as Student Trustees and leaders of the Student Senate. Over the school year, they have actively sought student feedback on initiatives they pursue. They believe elevating student voice is central to the work they do, and they thank every student who approached with questions, suggestions, comments, and concerns.

Student Senate:

This year, Student Senate focused on three initiatives, encompassing the vision of learn, lead, and inspire. After extensive discussion, Student Senate honed in on initiatives to develop solid groundwork.

The Mental Health and Well-being working group had a successful past two years. Two years ago, Student Trustee Baker identified nutritional barriers within the school environment, and it became her purpose to reduce barriers as a Student Trustee. Student Trustee Baker began by connecting with leaders through Student Senate, laying the groundwork for the term. Initially, senators stressed the importance of identifying students' needs, and so they worked to draft survey questions with the intent of gathering as much student voice as possible. By the end of the year, senators were made aware of individual initiatives they can implement within their own schools to aid the nutritional wellbeing of their peers. In addition, concerns from senators regarding the naming of in-school nurses and the importance of days of significance was shared with board staff, and changes were implemented immediately to meet their needs. Through check-ins, thoughtful discussions, and a solid groundwork for the 2024-25 school year, senators hope that next year will bring a positive increase in participation, the increased understanding of mental health concerns from staff, and more recognition of the days that impact Grand Erie students the most. Student Trustee Baker would personally like to thank every senator in her working group for their dedication to making our schools a more inclusive, welcoming, and safe space. The initiatives they accomplished this year are a true reflection of their passion for student leadership and advocacy, and they certainly did not go unnoticed.

The Student Voice Working Group had a fantastic year reinvigorating student voices and empowering leaders within the community. Following the Fall General Meeting with OSTA-AECO and the November Senate meeting, Student Trustee Gayowsky set her sights on improving the Senate social media page and outreach. She started by connecting with the Communications team at Grand Erie, laying out posts for significant events and information related to the Senate. While it has been a gradual start to engage student senators to help create and share posts, we have set the groundwork for an influential and active page for the 2024-25 school year. We have also planned out our *Why Grand Erie* project that we hope to be

carried over next year. The social media revamp also revealed the gap in knowledge about student trustee elections. This year, Student Trustees organized visits to three secondary schools to share information about elections with Senators. In turn, Grand Erie had historic numbers for elections, with nine (9) in the South, five (5) in the North, and two (2) Indigenous candidates. Senators also had the opportunity to voice their concerns related to Student voice. There were two main focuses of the group: the Land Acknowledgment and pronoun FAQs in class. Student Trustee Gayowsky actively listened to the group and collaborated to create solutions. As noted below, the placement of the Land Acknowledgement in opening and closing exercises as been formalized. Additionally, the wording surrounding asking students' pronouns has been adjusted to be more inclusive and supportive. Student Trustee Gayowsky would like to thank every senator and student in Grand Erie for advocating for themselves and making room for student voices. The initiatives accomplished this year are a testament to their dedication and commitment to student leadership.

The Environmental Working Group had a very successful past two years. Student Trustee Skye led the group where so many ideas and concerns were addressed and put into action to make change. During the last senate meeting, the group reflected on all the accomplishments they made over the past two years. First, the removing of all plastic water bottles from vending machines to help eliminate single-use plastic usage across the board, while also reducing the number of products used from bottling companies, who have many negative impacts on the environment and Indigenous communities. Another initiative completed was having proper signage provided to schools to encourage recycling and make it easier to understand where products go. Finally, the group ended their meeting on a positive note, by supporting plans of having a tree planted at every school as a gift from Senate, to show the impact that student voice has had across the district, ultimately reflecting Grand Erie's core values of learning, leading, and inspiring. The group was very satisfied with their accomplished initiatives and are eager to continue to make an impact through next year's Senate.

Additionally, through the partnership of the UISC and the Student Senate, the Opening and Closing Procedure (SO-039) is being revised to include prioritizing the land acknowledgement and providing an opportunity for an Indigenous, cultural exercise in morning announcements. The UISC gathered a large amount of student voice throughout the year, and the students are proud of their impacts they have made and are looking forward to new ideas that are yet to come!

OSTA-AECO:

The Student Trustees had the pleasure of attending three OSTA-AECO conferences in the 2023-24 academic year. At each conference, they heard from influential guest speakers, attended workshops, and met with co-members of their working groups. Notable guest speakers included the honorable Stephen Lecce and the Ontario Principals' Council, among others. Workshops once again focused on concepts including adaptability, formulating arguments, self-advocacy, and connecting with constituents.

Conclusion

As this academic year began, it was our hope that, through purposeful communication and critical thinking, as well as creativity, resilience, goal-orientation and collaboration, the Student Senate could work together to engage secondary students to promote the initiatives throughout Grand Erie. This experience has been a privilege. To have had the opportunity to represent the students of Grand Erie is something we will never forget, and we will be sure to take our learned advocacy skills into our future endeavors. We want to thank our team once again: Trustees, Director Roberto, Superintendents, Senators, and all staff for their continued support. Most importantly, thank you to the students for putting their faith in us over the past two years, we are humbled by this opportunity, and it has been an absolute pleasure to serve you.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Lead indicator of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: we will build a culture of belonging to support an equitable, inclusive and responsive environment for each learner.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Baker, Student Trustee – South
K. Gayowsky, Student Trustee – North
A. Skye, Student Trustee - Indigenous



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Keira Gayowsky, Student Trustee – North
RE: **OSTA-AECO Report**
DATE: June 24, 2024

This past month, Student Trustee Gayowsky attended the Ontario Student Trustees Association Annual General Meeting with Student Trustee Elects Hill and Prince. At the conference, the Grand Erie team connected with student trustees across the province, heard from various guest speakers, participated in workshops for incoming and outgoing student trustees, and wrapped up final projects.

Prior to this conference, the Public Education Interest Group hosted a one-day virtual conference titled “PEIG Town Hall” in late April. All members of the general assembly and incoming student trustees were invited. Student Trustee Gayowsky and the Public Cabinet led breakouts to discuss provincial issues and shared regional reports with the general assembly, a testament to our commitment to addressing important issues. The group also shared the data collected from the menstrual equity survey that was sent to student trustees and senators across Ontario. This session helped to prepare for the conference and meet some incoming student trustees.

The Leadership Team and Board of Directors organized various workshops and guest speakers, where students heard from changemakers around Ontario. Notable speakers included Cathy Abraham (President of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association), Annie Kidder (Executive Director at People for Education), and students from RECFO (Regroupement des Elèves Conseillereres Francophones De L'Ontario). One of the events also included a menstrual equity panel where speakers from Period Ontario, Marlow, and Help A Girl Out spoke on the importance of menstrual equity and education.

Student Trustee Gayowsky continued her work with the Student Well-Being Working Group, which Student Trustee Elect Prince recently joined. The Chair shared updates on final projects, and the group brainstormed ideas for future breakouts. Student Trustee Elect Hill joined the Truth and Reconciliation Working Group, which also finalized projects from last year and looked at ways to continue fostering Indigenous education next school year.

Student Trustee Gayowsky is a cabinet member of the Public Education Interest Group. At this conference, the cabinet presented their final review/recap. Student Trustee Gayowsky has been working closely with fellow cabinet members on OSTA-AECO's menstrual equity campaign. At the conference, the cabinet announced the next round of data collection and report: OSTA-AECO Menstrual Equity Within Ontario Schools and School Boards Student Consultation, which will be formatted similarly to the previous e-learning report from 2019. OSTA-AECO also released two videos related to menstrual equity on their social media, which included experts from student trustees and partners like Marlow and RECFO.

Elections for OSTA-AECO's Leadership Team were slated for this conference but were cancelled due to undisclosed circumstances. Student Trustee Elect Prince submitted her

candidacy to chair the Student Well-Being Working Group. The Board of Directors hopes to share updates in the coming weeks.

As Grand Erie Student Trustee terms come to a close, they are incredibly grateful to OSTA-AECO for the experiences and professional development gained through the experience of being a student trustee. They are absolutely honoured to have served in these roles and represent Grand Erie provincially and look forward to seeing the incredible work that takes place next year.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Gayowsky - Student Trustee - North



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: **Quarterly Budget Report**
DATE: June 24, 2024

Background

Consistent with Budget Development Process Policy, the Quarterly Budget Report for the nine months ended May 31, 2024, is attached.

Additional Information

Business Services has reviewed the financial activity for the period September 2023 to May 2024, collected information from budget-holders, made spending assumptions for the next three months and compared forecasted expenditures against the Revised Estimates budget. Some of the highlights are summarized below:

- Revenues are expected to increase primarily due to the supplementary funding provided by the Ministry of Education for the retroactive payments to address the additional compensation provided through Bill 124. Additionally, enrolment is expected to increase over Revised Estimates, but slightly lower than what was forecasted in the 2nd Quarter. Our Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) are still expected to be \$382,000 higher than Revised Estimates as a result of 31 additional students.
- Grand Erie's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) costs are expected to significantly increase over what was originally estimated. The in-year pressure of approximately \$700,000 is as a result of a combination of higher number of WSIB incidents, increased insurable earnings, indexation, and an overall increase in the cost of health care.
- Facility energy costs are expected to result in a favourable position due to a milder winter than originally anticipated leading to an approximated \$300,000 underspend.
- Absenteeism costs are expected to also provide a favourable budget impact due to lower than anticipated costs of supply teachers, educational assistants, and early childhood educators. Grand Erie staff is still forecasting a significantly conservative projection for June; however, the savings are anticipated to provide about \$300,000 in budget relief.
- Facility renewal costs are still anticipated to increase by over \$2 million due to increases to the cost of skilled labour and materials as well as the volume of projects underway. Grand Erie's facilities team is providing enhanced investments to repair, renovate, and refurbish our buildings.
- Additional furniture costs, to furnish growing schools, is expected to cost approximately \$40,000 greater than budgeted.

The 2023-24 Revised Estimates was filed with a balanced budget. The forecast as of the third quarter has provided us with some expenditure assurances as ninety percent of the school year is complete, and the enrolment count dates have surpassed. Although there are some significant budget pressures, Grand Erie's finance team has been able to identify sufficient additional revenues and cost savings to remain on a balanced budget trajectory. Risks associated with the forecast presented are connected to uncertainties regarding inflation, climate control, preparatory costs in anticipation of the 2024-25 school year as well as any required spending associated with enrolment growth such as portables, additional furniture, and equipment.

The quarterly forecast for the period ending May 31, 2024 projects Grand Erie to file balanced financial position for the 2023-24 year-end. Appendix A summarizes the projected revenues and expenditures, along with variances explanations for the forecast.

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

**Grand Erie District School Board
2023-24 Q3 Forecast Dashboard
For the period ended August 31, 2024**

Summary Comparison of 2023-24 Revised Estimates Budget versus 2023-24 Q3 Forecast

(\$ Figures in Thousands)				Variance	
	23-24	23-24	23-24		
	Estimates	Revised	Q3 Forecast	\$	%
Revenue					
Provincial Grants (GSN)	326,719	337,219	370,638	33,418	9.9%
Grants for Capital Purposes	5,673	4,429	4,220	(209)	-4.7%
Other Non-GSN Grants	7,411	7,621	8,628	1,007	13.2%
Other Non-Grant Revenues	8,868	9,600	9,742	142	1.5%
Amortization of DCC	20,045	20,356	20,356	-	0.0%
Total Revenue	368,717	379,225	413,583	34,359	9.1%
Expenditures					
Classroom Instruction	247,391	254,282	282,866	28,584	11.2%
Non-Classroom	30,987	31,539	34,861	3,323	10.5%
Administration	8,628	8,895	9,392	497	5.6%
Transportation	17,728	18,038	17,776	(262)	-1.5%
Pupil Accommodation	56,494	58,363	61,080	2,716	4.7%
Contingency & Non-Operating	7,489	8,109	7,609	(500)	-6.2%
Total Expenditures	368,717	379,225	413,583	34,359	9.1%
In-Year Surplus (Deficit)	-	-	-	-	-
Prior Year Accumulated Surplus for compliance	9,487	11,111	11,111	-	0.0%
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) for compliance	9,487	11,111	11,111	-	0.0%

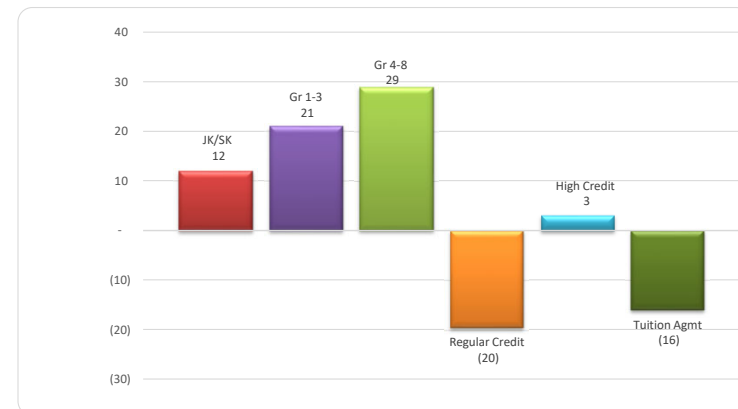
Summary of Staffing

FTE	23-24	23-24	Variance	
	Estimates	Revised	#	%
Classroom				
Teachers	1,719.3	1,756.0	36.7	2.1%
Early Childhood Educators	122.0	136.0	14.0	11.5%
Educational Assistants	353.0	368.0	15.0	4.2%
Total Classroom	2,194.3	2,260.0	65.7	3.0%
School Administration	232.8	234.1	1.3	0.6%
Board Administration	71.0	75.0	4.0	5.6%
Facility Services	222.1	232.0	9.9	4.5%
Coordinators & Consultants	43.0	43.0	-	0.0%
Paraprofessionals	57.0	58.0	1.0	1.8%
Child & Youth Workers	30.0	30.0	-	0.0%
IT Staff	35.0	34.0	(1.0)	-2.9%
Library	12.8	12.8	-	0.0%
Transportation	6.0	6.0	-	0.0%
Other Support	6.0	6.0	-	0.0%
Continuing Ed	8.1	8.1	-	0.0%
Trustees	15.0	15.0	-	0.0%
Non-Classroom	738.8	754.0	15.2	2.1%
Total	2,933.1	3,014.0	80.9	2.8%

Summary of Enrolment

ADE				Variance	
	23-24	23-24	23-24		
	Estimates	Revised	Q3 Forecast	#	%
Elementary					
JK/SK	3,563	3,774	3,786	12	0.3%
Gr 1-3	5,880	6,029	6,050	21	0.3%
Gr 4-8	9,757	9,972	10,001	29	0.3%
Total Elementary	19,200	19,775	19,837	62	0.3%
Secondary <21					
Regular Credit	7,337	7,587	7,567	(20)	-0.3%
High Credit	29	29	32	3	10.7%
Tuition & Visa	435	441	425	(16)	-3.6%
Total Secondary	7,800	8,056	8,024	(32)	-0.4%
Total Board	27,000	27,831	27,861	30	0.1%

Changes in Enrolment: Budget v Forecast



**Grand Erie District School Board
2023-24 Q3 Forecast Dashboard
Revenues
For the period ended August 31, 2024**

(\$ Figures in Thousands)

	23-24 Estimates	23-24 Revised Estimates	23-24 Q3 Forecast	Change		Material Variance Note
				\$	%	
				Increase (Decrease)	Increase (Decrease)	
Grant Revenues						
Pupil Foundation	154,350	159,288	159,588	300	0.2%	a.
School Foundation	22,229	22,623	22,685	62	0.3%	
Special Education	41,855	43,278	43,278	-	0.0%	
Language Allocation	4,781	5,463	5,573	110	2.0%	
Supported School Allocation	28	28	28	-	0.0%	
Rural and Northern Education Funding	1,157	2,219	2,219	-	0.0%	
Learning Opportunities	5,252	5,667	5,667	-	0.0%	
Continuing and Adult Education	1,589	2,355	2,355	-	0.0%	
Teacher Q&E	30,238	29,010	29,010	-	0.0%	
ECE Q&E	1,948	2,004	2,004	-	0.0%	
New Teacher Induction Program	124	124	124	-	0.0%	
Restraint Savings	(80)	(80)	(80)	-	0.0%	
Transportation	16,574	16,699	16,724	25	0.1%	
Administration and Governance	8,335	8,540	8,560	20	0.2%	
School Operations	30,006	30,926	30,937	11	0.0%	
Community Use of Schools	376	376	376	-	0.0%	
Declining Enrolment	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Indigenous Education	2,120	2,791	2,791	-	0.0%	
Support for Students Fund	2,968	2,968	2,968	-	0.0%	
Mental Health & Well-Being	1,055	1,098	1,098	-	0.0%	
Safe Schools Supplement	559	576	576	-	0.0%	
Program Leadership	993	1,005	1,005	-	0.0%	
Bill 124	-	-	32,890	32,890	N/A	b.
Permanent Financing - NPF	262	262	262	-	0.0%	
Total Operating Grants	326,719	337,219	370,638	33,418	9.9%	
Grants for Capital Purposes						
School Renewal	2,937	2,937	2,937	-	0.0%	
Temporary Accommodation	322	-	-	-	0.0%	
Short-term Interest	1,535	468	259	(209)	(44.6%)	c.
Debt Funding for Capital	2,584	2,584	2,584	-	0.0%	
Minor Tangible Capital Assets (mTCA)	(1,705)	(1,560)	(1,560)	-	0.0%	
Total Capital Purposes Grants	5,673	4,429	4,220	(209)	(4.7%)	
Other Non-GSN Grants						
Priority & Partnership Fund (PPF)	4,382	5,282	6,289	1,007	19.1%	d.
Other Federal & Provincial Grants	3,029	2,339	2,339	-	0.0%	
Total Non-GSN Grants	7,411	7,621	8,628	1,007	13.2%	
Other Non-Grant Revenues						
Education Service Agreements - Six Nations	5,829	5,821	5,635	(186)	(3.2%)	
Education Service Agreements - MCFN	606	614	614	-	0.0%	
Other Fees	166	110	110	-	0.0%	
Other Boards	210	210	210	-	0.0%	
Community Use & Rentals	815	798	798	-	0.0%	
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,241	2,046	2,374	328	16.0%	e.
Non Grant Revenue	8,868	9,600	9,742	142	1.5%	
Deferred Revenues						
Amortization of DCC	20,045	20,356	20,356	-	0.0%	
Total Deferred Revenue	20,045	20,356	20,356	-	0.0%	
TOTAL REVENUES	368,717	379,225	413,583	34,357	9.1%	

Explanations of Material Grant Variances

- a. Increase in revenue as a result of higher enrolment.
- b. Increase as a result of anticipated Bill 124 funding
- c. Decrease as a result in a change in the anticipated timing of projects.
- d. Increase as a result of additional PPFs announced by the Ministry for targeted initiatives.
- e. Increase as a result of revenue generated through Jordan's Principle; offset by decrease in anticipated interest income.

Notes:

- 1. 2023-24 Estimates Budget as approved by the Board in June 2023

**Grand Erie District School Board
2023-24 Q3 Forecast Dashboard
Expenses
For the period ended August 31, 2024**

(\$ Figures in Thousands)

	23-24 Estimates	23-24 Revised Estimates	23-24 Q3 Forecast	Percentage of Total Expenses	Change		Material Variance Note
					\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)	
Classroom Instruction							
Teachers	180,862	182,809	206,725	50.0%	23,915	13.1%	a.
Supply Teachers	7,513	7,813	7,501	1.8%	(311)	(4.0%)	
Educational Assistants	20,396	20,765	24,024	5.8%	3,259	15.7%	a.
Early Childhood Educators	6,917	7,615	9,135	2.2%	1,520	20.0%	a.
Classroom Computers	4,832	5,289	5,527	1.3%	238	4.5%	
Textbooks and Supplies	8,251	9,998	8,969	2.2%	(1,029)	(10.3%)	b.
Professionals and Paraprofessionals	12,008	12,882	13,509	3.3%	627	4.9%	a.
Library and Guidance	5,525	5,373	5,435	1.3%	63	1.2%	
Staff Development	694	1,344	1,647	0.4%	303	22.5%	c.
Department Heads	394	394	394	0.1%	-	0.0%	
Total Instruction	247,391	254,282	282,866	68.4%	28,584	11.2%	
Non-Classroom							
Principal and Vice-Principals	15,525	15,765	16,523	4.0%	758	4.8%	d.
School Office	7,901	7,890	9,186	2.2%	1,295	16.4%	a.
Coordinators & Consultants	6,163	6,172	7,274	1.8%	1,102	17.8%	a.
Continuing Education	1,398	1,711	1,879	0.5%	167	9.8%	
Total Non-Classroom	30,987	31,539	34,861	8.4%	3,323	10.5%	
Administration							
Trustees	376	391	554	0.1%	163	41.5%	
Director/Supervisory Officers	1,565	1,675	1,658	0.4%	(17)	(1.0%)	
Board Administration	6,686	6,828	7,180	1.7%	352	5.2%	e.
Total Administration	8,628	8,895	9,392	2.3%	497	5.6%	
Transportation	17,728	18,038	17,776	4.3%	(262)	(1.5%)	
Pupil Accommodation							
School Operations and Maintenance	28,644	29,206	29,956	7.2%	751	2.6%	f.
School Renewal	2,937	3,737	5,703	1.4%	1,966	52.6%	g.
Other Pupil Accommodation	4,328	4,382	4,382	1.1%	-	0.0%	
Amortization & Write-downs	20,585	21,038	21,038	5.1%	-	0.0%	
Total Pupil Accommodation	56,494	58,363	61,080	14.8%	2,716	4.7%	
Non-Operating	2,310	2,408	2,405	0.6%	(3)	(0.1%)	
Provision for Contingencies	5,179	5,701	5,204	1.3%	(497)	(8.7%)	h.
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	368,717	379,225	413,583	100.0%	34,359	9.1%	

Explanations of Material Expense Variances

- a. Increase as a result of expenditures associated with Bill 124.
- b. Decrease as a result of anticipated underspend in school based accounts as well as spending reallocated to other categories.
- c. Additional budget allocated through PPFs.
- d. Increase due to the additional support for administrators.
- e. Increase as a result of implementation costs associated with the new Financial Software; additional payroll expenses as well as impacts due to Bill 124.
- f. Increased costs as a result of Bill 124 offset slightly by reduced gas consumption
- g. Increase due to higher than anticipated costs to enhance repairs and maintenance service levels in buildings.
- h. Decrease due to movement of ECE costs to ECE spending category

Notes:

- 1. 2023-2024 Estimates Budget as approved by the Board in June 2023



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph.D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Julie White, Superintendent of Education
Regan Vankerrebroeck, Superintendent of Education
RE: **Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report for 2023-24**
DATE: June 24, 2024

Background

The Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) is a statutory committee of the board whose purpose is to support, encourage and enhance meaningful parental involvement within schools and across the district in our collective efforts to improve student learning, well-being and sense of belonging. This year, GEPIC provided opportunities for parents and caregivers to learn and connect with others by hosting sessions in a virtual platform and an in-person event. GEPIC meetings covered topics and speakers that were relevant and responsive to current needs and interests. Sara Darling was selected as GEPIC Chair for 2023-24. A summary of activities is included below.

GEPIC Sessions:

There were four (4) GEPIC meetings along with a school council orientation and a spring event during the 2023-24 school year. A School Council orientation was held in November and a GEPIC Spring Event was hosted at Waterford District High School in April.

The school council orientation provided opportunities for learning and collaboration amongst school council members. Information and guidance were provided in the following areas:

- Role of School Council
- School Council Guide and Resources
- How to Run Effective Meetings
- Funding for School Councils
- Fundraising Tips and Best Practices
- Recruiting Members
- What is GEPIC?

GEPIC meetings included updates and learning in relation to Grand Erie's Multi-Year Strategic Plan, Grand Erie's Annual Learning and Operating Plan, Grand Erie's Math Achievement Action Plan, our You Belong Here Campaign, School Climate Survey's, Kick Start to Kindergarten Events, and the New Language and Mental Health Curriculum.

Each meeting includes an opportunity for School Council Chairs to share initiatives and celebrations of learning and engagement from their individual schools.

GEPIC Spring Event:

The spring event hosted one of the speaker series; Jeff Martin, who spoke about preparing children for the future that awaits them and giving them the tools for success. Parents also explored their sense of agency in supporting their children for their future. The event included an information fair with representation from a variety of community agencies and Grand Erie departments to provide an opportunity for attendees to engage and ask questions on a variety of supports and topics.



GEPIC Speaker Series:

GEPIC partnered with their Indigenous Education Advisory Council (IEAC), Six Nations Advisory Committee (SNAC), Student Senate and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) to offer the following guest presentations:

- Samantha Doxtator – Indigenous Astronomy as told by the Haudenosaunee. Filling your Spirit with Stardust and Astronomical Knowledge.
- Jeff Martin – Preparing our Children for their Future, Not for Our Past.
- Dr. Andrew B. Campbell – Inclusion Begins at Home.

Jeff. A.D. Martin



GEPIC Parent Involvement Financial Overview:

GEPIC operating budget and Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Funding for the 2023-24 school year was \$83,088. PRO Funding provided each school council \$500 to support parent engagement. Parent Engagement funds were also used to support Parent Reaching Out (PRO) projects initiated by school councils across the district. School councils could apply for up to \$1000 to cover the cost or subsidize a parent engagement project at their school. Remaining funds were used to host the Speaker Series, and purchase refreshments and resources for the Spring event.

PRO Funding Projects:

PRO Grant events or projects were completed by 24 schools. Projects included hosting guest speakers with a focus on inclusion, restorative practices, equity and family wellness events. Schools also hosted family math, literacy and cultural diversity nights. All projects worked to welcome and support families to be engaged, connected, and learning together with others in their school community.



Feedback received from a few math events indicated that parents became more familiar with literacy/numeracy curriculum expectations and how they can take the information and tools given to them to make it fun and educational at home. Another event shared that many students and parents/caregivers participated in discussions facilitated by Garth Bell on the topics of racism and together they shared ideas on what makes a community and how they can create a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the learning, well-being, and belonging indicators of Learn Lead Inspire.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie White, Superintendent of Education
Regan Vankerrebroeck, Superintendent of Education



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: Trustees of the Grand Erie District School Board
FROM: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
RE: **Strategic Communication Plan Evaluation**
DATE: June 24, 2024

Background

In May 2022, Grand Erie District School Board approved the 2021-26 Strategic Communications Plan. Created by the Strategic Communications Ad Hoc Committee, the plan is aligned with the Board’s 2021-26 Multi-Year Strategic Plan and contains goals and strategies for Communications approved as part of the 2021-26 Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

The 2021-26 Strategic Communications Plan Evaluation measures success against Communication goals outlined in the 2021-26 Multi-Year Strategic Plan as reflected in 2021-26 Strategic Communications Plan.

There are three primary focus areas identified in Grand Erie’s Strategic Communications Plan: Learning, Well-being and Belonging. These focus areas support an overall goal to enhance Grand Erie’s position in its communities as a learning, leading and inspiring organization.

The evaluation measures and methodology are mixed, incorporating quantitative and qualitative data.

Overall, the work products produced by the Communication team increased significantly over the 2022-23 school year, including twice the number of projects completed for schools and departments, 140% more social posts, 35% more videos, and about 100% more pictures taken.

Learning

Goal: Enhance communications channels

Achievement:

- Strong suite of templates for staff use to support our brand, mission and vision
- Further developed content and ease of access to important information for Administrators in the online-based Administrators Toolkit
- Consistent messaging across platforms, highlighting Learning, Well-Being and Belonging in digital and traditional communications platforms
- All touch points emphasize our mission and vision
- Regular newsletters for staff (average open rate 60%), Administrators, educators and clerical staff
- Developed and delivered 20+ campaigns to support board initiatives and awareness (School Climate Survey, Budget Survey, International students, GEMAAP awareness, transitions, Kindergarten)

Goal: Support school communication with families

Achievement:

- Responded to >60 school requests for messaging support
- Translated important information for specific school communities

- Shared stories of school events and achievements across platforms and direct to families in more than 10 different languages
- Enhanced student journalism initiative with nine student stories

Goal: Support increased Kindergarten enrolment

Achievement:

- Enhanced and updated campaign across the district with additional promotional material and communication tactics
- Multiple language translation of materials, targeted to specific communities
- Initiated media stories around Kindergarten Kick-start programs
- New large format fence signs
- Visits to Kindergarten classrooms for photo refresh, social media content

Goal: Support transitions to secondary schools

Achievement:

- Expanded advertising campaign (movie theatres, Bulldogs)
- Shared stories of student success across all platforms
- More than 21,000 accounts reached through social campaigns
- Relaunched expanded and easy-to-use web-based school profiles
- Media stories published supporting opportunities for Grade 8 students

Well-Being

Goal: Support awareness of specialized programming

Achievement:

- Strong support for Project Search, website development, media outreach
- Promoted mental health awareness through events, recognition days, media outreach
- Web stories and regular social posts highlighting mental health activities and awareness
- Supported the development and communication of training materials for staff, including the Summer Learning Institute, PD offerings, specific departmental training packages

Goal: Develop a leading social media presence

Achievement:

- Strong engagement rates on social media, well above industry standards, increased 170% on Facebook, 11% on Instagram
- Ramped up social activity, posting 140% more than 2023-24 across all channels
- Consistent messaging across all active platforms
- Developed a more diverse library of videos for social sharing

Goal: Be a responsive and collaborative partner for media

Achievement:

- 100% more positive media stories in local and regional media driven by team outreach compared to previous year (70+)
 - An additional 70 positive stories published without outreach
- Responded to >50 media inquiries
- Grew relationships with local media
- Supported school events, board initiatives, system priorities aligned with strategic plan
- Stories included Kindergarten registration awareness, secondary transitions, Indigenous Education initiatives, wellness initiatives, responsible management and much more

Belonging

Goal: Support awareness of indigenous Education resources and initiatives

Achievement:

- Redeveloping Self-Id resources

- Strong media coverage of Indigenous themed and focused events, including Truth and Reconciliation Day and Wellness Out Loud
- Extensive advertising for workshops and student events
- Developed multi-platform campaign for new course bundle
- Further developed Board's photo library with photo shoots of students and events (lacrosse match, United Indigenous Student Council event)

Goal: Support employee recruitment and retention

Achievement:

- Supported communication of job postings internally and externally
- Supported recruitment and retention through social media and staff profiles
- Developed material for recruitment

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: Trustees of Grand Erie District School Board
FROM: JoAnna Roberto, Ph.D. Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
RE: **Finance, Policy and Program, and Regular Board Meeting Schedule of Reports 2024-25**
DATE: June 24, 2024

Background

The attached schedule for the 2024-25 Finance, Policy and Program, and Regular Board Schedule of Reports will be presented throughout the year to align with the Multi-Year Strategic Plan, General Working By-law, and General Governance Policy.

The schedule of reports may be updated throughout the year as required.

Respectfully submitted,

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

September 9, 2024 - Finance Committee Meeting

Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP)
Approvals to Tender

September 23, 2024 - Board Meeting

Audit Committee Report
Capital Priorities
Finance Committee Report
Major Construction Project Updates
Summer Learning Report
Audit Committee Minutes – June 13
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes - June 6

October 21, 2024 - Policy & Program Meeting

Curriculum Updates
DELF Report
EQAO 2023-24 Results
French Immersion Secondary Report
Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan
Innovation Report
Leadership Programs and Services Report
Post Secondary Pathways Report
Report to the Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Six Nations of the Grand River
Report to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
School Culture and Well-being Programs and Services Report
Secondary Program Review Update

October 28, 2024 - Board Meeting

Annual Learning and Operating Plan 2023-24, 2024-25
Class Size Report
Governance Report
Policy & Program Committee Report
School(s) Naming Process
Strategic Communications Plan
Trustee Honoraria
Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes – May 23
Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes – May 23
Six Nations Advisory Committee Minutes – June 13
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – September 5

November 11, 2024 - Finance Committee Meeting

Facilities Renewal Report 2024-25
Rural and Northern Education Funding Spending Report
Year-End Report

November 25, 2023 - Board Meeting

Audit Committee Report
Finance Committee Report
Governance Policy #4 Section 5.7
Major Construction Project Report
Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2022-27 – Annual Update
Student Trustee Report
Trustee Expenses Report
Audit Committee Minutes – September 12
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – October 3
Student Senate Minutes – May 30

December 2, 2024 - Finance Committee Meeting

Revised Budget Estimates 2024-25

December 9, 2024 – Board Meeting

Borrowing Authorities
Committee Representation
Director's Annual Report
Finance Committee Report
School(s) Naming Update
Student Trustee Report

January 13, 2025 - Policy & Program Meeting

French Immersion Review Report
GELA Report
Health and Safety Annual Report
Indigenous Programs and Services Report
Program Pathways
Proposed School Year Calendar 2025-26
Safe and Inclusive Schools Report
Secondary Program - Bell Times
Secondary Transitions Updates
Specialized Services Programs and Services Report
Policies
Budget Development Process (BU-02)
Environmental & Climate Change Education and Stewardship Policy (SO-18)
Fundraising Policy (SO-01)
Student Concussion and Head Injury Policy (HS-10)

January 27, 2025 - Board Meeting

Major Construction Project Report
Policy & Program Committee Report
Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes – October 24
Six Nations Advisory Committee Minutes – Sept. 26

January 27, 2025 - Board Meeting – continued

Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – November 14
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – December 12

February 10, 2025 - Finance Committee Meeting

Boundary Report
Budget Information 2025-26
Energy Conservation Consumption Report 2023-24
Enrolment vs Capacity Report
Grand Erie Foundation Report
Paris District High School Track Fundraising Update
Pride of Place and Community Incentive Partnership Plan

February 24, 2025 - Board Meeting

Finance Committee Report
Grand Erie Foundation Report
Student Trustee Report
Student Trustee Selection Report
Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes – October 24
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – January 9
Student Senate Minutes – November 21

March 3, 2025 - Policy & Program Meeting

Equity Action Plan Update
Graduation Report
ITS Annual Report
Mental Health Strategy/Action Plan
Policies
Boundary Reviews Policy (FA-08)
Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (SO-14)

March 24, 2025 - Board Meeting

Audit Committee Report
Board Approved Transportation Review
Governance Report
Major Construction Project Report
Policy & Program Committee Report
Student Trustee Report
Audit Committee Minutes – November 7
Six Nations Advisory Committee Minutes – December 12
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – February 6

April 14, 2025 – Policy and Program Meeting

Curriculum Updates
Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan/Student Achievement Plan
Implications of Friday the 13 th , 2025-26 Report
Remote Learning Report

April 14, 2025 – Policy and Program Meeting - continued

Policies
Community Partnerships (SO-08)
Distribution of Materials in Schools (SO-04)
Field Trips and Excursions (SO-15)
Honouring Indigenous Knowledges, Histories, and Perspectives (PR-02)

April 28, 2025 - Board Meeting

Annual Learning Operation Plan Mid Term Update
Policy and Program Committee Report
Student Trustee Report
Trustee Expenses Report
Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes – January 30
Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes – December 12
Six Nations Advisory Committee Minutes – February 27
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – March 6
Student Senate Minutes – February 13

May 12, 2025 – Finance Committee Meeting

Budget Development 2025-26
Delhi District Secondary School Gymnasium Update
Quarterly Budget Update (Q2)

May 26, 2025 - Board Meeting

Finance Committee Report
Finance Committee, Policy and Program Committee and Regular Board Meeting Dates 2025-26
Major Construction Project Report
Student Trustee Report
Strategic Communication Plan Evaluation
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – April 17

June 9, 2025 - Finance Committee Meeting

Draft Board Budget 2025-26

June 23, 2025 - Board Meeting

Annual Review of the Special Education Plan
Audit Committee Report
Finance Committee Report
GEPIC Annual Report
Patti McCleister Award
Quarterly Budget Report (Q3)
Schedule of Reports 2025-26
Student Trustee Report
Audit Committee Meeting Minutes – March 6

June 23, 2025 - Board Meeting

Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes – March 27
Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes – March 27
Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – May 15
Student Senate Minutes – April 10



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Liana Thompson, Superintendent of Education
RE: **Annual Review of the Special Education Plan**
DATE: June 24, 2024

Recommended Action: Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
 THAT the Board approve the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan 2023-24, and the submission of the Special Education Report Components Checklist and the URL link to the Plan to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education by July 31, 2024.

Background

As per Regulation 306, each school board is required to maintain a Special Education Plan, to review it annually and to make amendments as appropriate. Each school board is also required to ensure that updated and comprehensive information regarding Special Education programs and services is made available to the community by the start of the school year.

Grand Erie's updated [Special Education Plan 2023-24](#) is available on Grand Erie's website.

Additional Information

Any changes to the plan were made in response to feedback from the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and parent/caregiver and community input.

The Special Education Plan 2023-24 was presented for review at the May 2, 2024 SEAC meeting and approved at the June 6, 2024 meeting.

Moved by: L. DeJong

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT SEAC recommends the Board approve the 2023-24 Special Education Plan for submission to the Ministry and uploading to the board's website.

CARRIED

Next Steps

The Special Education Report Components Checklist will be completed and submitted, along with the URL to access the updated plan, to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education by July 31, 2024.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Learning indicator of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: we will build a culture of learning to nurture curiosity and opportunity for each learner.

Respectfully submitted,

Liana Thompson
 Superintendent of Education



Audit Committee

Thursday, March 7, 2024

4:30 PM

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Members: Chair – T. Waldschmidt (Trustee), J. Bradford (Trustee), R. Collver (Trustee), E. Hodgins (Volunteer), A. Thakker (Volunteer)
Management: J. Roberto (Director), R. Wyszynski (Superintendent of Business), C. Smith (Manager of Business Services)
KPMG (Internal Auditors): S. Bedi
Millards (External Auditors): M. McNally

Recording Secretary: L. Howells, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Business

A - 1 Opening

(a) Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Waldschmidt at 4:31 p.m.

(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nil

(c) Land Acknowledgement Statement

Committee Chair Waldschmidt read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

(d) Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)

Presented as printed

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: E. Hodgins

THAT the Audit Committee agenda be approved, as amended.

Carried

B - 1 Consent Agenda

Presented as printed

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Audit Committee approve the March 7, 2024, Consent Agenda:

(a) Minutes of the Audit Committee dated November 2, 2023.

(b) Receive the Consolidated Due Diligence report.

(c) Receive the Revised Budget Estimates 2023-24.

Carried

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

Nil

D - 1 Internal Audit

(a) Math Achievement Assessment – Status Update

S. Bedi, from KPMG, provided a brief update on the status on the Math Achievement Assessment noting the scope was to review of the development of the action plan and to better understand how the significant commitment of resources will impact the outcomes. Final report will be presented at the June 13, 2024, Audit Committee meeting.

In response to questions, S. Bedi clarified that the assessment is focused on the allocated funds from the Ministry for math facilitators that coach educators and noted



Audit Committee

Thursday, March 7, 2024

4:30 PM

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

that the board allocated additional funds to provide professional development across the system. Director Roberto provided further details noting every educator through Grade 1 to 8 will receive professional development in the area of math and that Grand Erie Grade 3 and 6 educators, in the priority schools, receive monthly professional development. For Grade 9, the professional development includes educators, student success and guidance staff.

(b) **2024-25 Internal Audit Plan**

S. Bedi, from KPMG, provided an update on the streamlined risk assessment process to gather input and noted this model allows for the potential horizontal audits for common topic and risks. S. Bedi noted the 2024-25 Internal Audit will be focused on an assessment of risks facing school boards, information contained in the 2023-24 Internal Audit Plan and any significant changes to the risks within Grand Erie.

E - 1 **External Audit**

(a) **Appointment of the External Auditor**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: A. Thakker

THAT the appointment of Millards Chartered Professional Accountants as external auditors for the 2023-24 financial year be forwarded to the March 25, 2024, Regular Board Meeting for approval.

Carried

F - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **Budget Overview 2024-25**

Superintendent Wyszynski provided an update on the 2024-25 Budget process and timelines.

In response to question regarding Bill 124, Superintendent Wyszynski responded that any impacts should come through Grant for Student Needs as compensation is a centrally bargained item now.

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Hodgins

THAT the Audit Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Carried

H - 1 **Next Meeting:** Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. (in person)



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, March 28, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Committee Chair S. Darling, Trustee: T. Sault, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White. Committee Members: S. Casey, D. Dean, S, G. Stead, S, B. DeMille, B. Arthur, E. Huxley, R. Jakaitis, J. Smith.

Regrets: Trustee L. Passmore

Recorder: E. Roberts

A - 1 **Opening**

Roll Call / Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement

Superintendent White opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call was confirmed at 7:35 p.m. following the guest presentation. Superintendent White welcomed members and participants and read The Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Indigenous Astronomy as told by the Haudenosaunee: Filling your Spirit with Stardust and Astronomical Knowledge – Samantha Doxtator**

Samantha Doxtator provided an informative presentation on Indigenous/Haudenosaunee perspectives on astronomical connections to creation stories, innovation, perseverance and life cycles on Earth.

C - 1 **Minutes**

(a) **Approval of the Minutes – January 25, 2024**

Moved by: J. Smith

Seconded by: B. DeMille

THAT the January 25, 2024, Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes be approved.

Carried

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

D - 1 **System Updates**

Superintendent White shared information regarding:

- Kickstart to Kindergarten
- Learn, Lead and Inspire in Action and #Learning at Grand Erie school highlights
- GEMAAP – The Coaching Cycle (Mathematics coaching and learning) in schools
- The Right Fit (Transition from Elementary to Secondary program) geared for Indigenous students
- Upcoming events and days of significance



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, March 28, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

E - 1 Updates from the Board

Trustee Sault shared information about:

- Student Recognition – Learn Lead Inspire Award recipient Emmerson Craig, Kindergarten student at St. George German PS
- Capital Projects - construction update

F – 1 School Highlights

(a) Updates from School Council Chairs

- Successful fundraising projects at Banbury Heights PS were noted

(b) Updates from School Principals

- Restorative practice approaches for students and early reading training for elementary educators were highlighted.
- Activities in Secondary schools included: a Polar Plunge with OPP at Cayuga Secondary, a student mural art project at Hagersville Secondary, and Basketball sports team success at Simcoe Composite.
- OSSLT testing preparation and GEMAAP math coaching initiatives for secondary educators were shared.

G – 1 Pro Funding Update

Twenty-seven applications were submitted and received Pro Funding for projects and opportunities promoting and support parent/caregiver involvement. The total funding contributed to these projects is \$22,520. Approved projects included a variety of family events focusing on math learning, cultural diversity events, and activities supporting student well-being and belonging. (including guest speakers and parent outreach events)

H – 1 Learning/Information

(a) Solar Eclipse

Information regarding the eclipse was shared. Protective glasses donated from McMaster University will be provided to all Grand Erie students.

(b) Curriculum Updates were provided on the following:

- Mathematics Foundations and STEM education in Grade 1
- Grade 7 & 8 History - inclusion of learning about Black Communities from the 18th to 20th centuries, and history of Black Canadians
- Destreamed Grade 9 Geography
- Grade 9 & 10 Business Studies – financial considerations around Entrepreneurship
- Grade 9 and 10 Technology updates to the curriculum to further explore engineering design knowledge and skills

(c) School Climate Survey



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, March 28, 2024

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Grand Erie will again be conducting a survey to assess the school climate for students. Students in Grades 4-12 will be asked to participate in this voluntary electronic survey. The timelines for communication and completion schedule for elementary and secondary students was shared.

I-1 Spring Event Update

Guest speaker: Dr. Jean Clinton will provide an in-person presentation on the Power of Connection: Helping Students Thrive Through Challenging Times at the April 25, 2024 GEPIC annual event being held at Waterford District High School in the gymnasium starting at 6 p.m. Information booths with resources related to services offered by a variety of Grand Erie departments will be exhibited. All Grand Erie parents/caregivers are invited to attend. The flyer promoting the event will be posted on Grand Erie's website and circulated to all school communities.

J-1 Future Meetings

May 23, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 18, 2024

1:00 p.m.

McKinnon Park Secondary School, Indigenous Portable

MINUTES

- Chair:** C. VanEvery-Albert, Trustee
- Community Representative(s):** A. Powless-Bomberry, Six Nations Elected Council Representative
- Trustees:** E. Thomas, Trustee
- Grand Erie Staff:** K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
J. Laight, Six Nations Indigenous Advisor
D. Powless, Community Liaison Worker
J. Roberto, Director of Education
D. VanEvery, Indigenous Education Counsellor
C. Vyse, Indigenous Education Counsellor
- Grand Erie Staff (Resources):** Nil.
- Organizations/ Agencies:** Nil.
- Regrets:** S. Graham, Six Nations Federal Schools Representative
A. Skye, Indigenous Student Trustee
- Absent:** T. Anderson, Indigenous Services Canada Director of Education responsible for Six Nations Federal Schools
Amanda General, Kawenní:io/Gawení:yo Private School
Caroline VanEvery-Albert, Everlasting Tree School
- Guest:** Nil.
- Recording Secretary:** D. Fletcher, Executive Assistant

- A - 1 **Opening**
 - (a) **Ohen: ton Karihwatehkwen**
Six Nations Indigenous Advisor J. Laight provided opening greetings.
 - (b) **Land Acknowledgment Statement**
Superintendent Graham read the Land Acknowledgment statement.
 - (c) **Introduction & Roll Call**
Introductions and Roll call were completed.
 - (d) **Approval of Agenda**
The agenda was approved by consensus.
 - (e) **Student Showcase**
McKinnon Park Secondary School student shared the collaborative student voice and highlighted their excitement and anticipation of Lacrosse Programs starting at the school.
 - (f) **Student Senate Update**
The Indigenous Student Trustee Report was reported on behalf of Student Trustee Skye. A highlight included the last United Indigenous Student Council meeting of the year will be held on May 17, 2024 at Hagersville Secondary School.
- B - 1 **ESA Staff Roundtable**
 - (a) **Introductions and Updates from each school**



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 18, 2024

1:00 p.m.

McKinnon Park Secondary School, Indigenous Portable

MINUTES

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor, J. Laight shared some current initiatives: Student Support meetings, Jordan's Principle support, United Indigenous Student Council, planning of the NBE PD Session, NTIP Training, and March 28 Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Event featuring Samantha Doxtator.

Indigenous Education Counsellor C. Vyse shared some of the following initiatives/events that she is supporting students with at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, McKinnon Park Secondary School and Pauline Johnson Collegiate & Vocational School: Cultural Mentor - social signing, ribbon skirt activity and peer study group, NPAAM Indigenous Youth Employment & Training Meet & Greet, STEAM hosting social, grade 7 tour, RIGHT FIT and recognizing March as Indigenous languages Month, Quill workshop and water day at Waterloo.

Indigenous Education Counsellor D. VanEvery shared some of the following initiatives/events that she is supporting students with at Hagersville Secondary School/NewStart Program: Grade 12 students e-Learning Opt-Outs and obtaining community hours, May 11 - Plant sale/Auto show, Grade 9 students Parent meetings, Grade 7 student tours lead by Indigenous leaders, Right Fit, Photoshoot to update promotional items and Summer School planning/Adult Ed GELA.

Community Liaison Worker D. Powless shared that he has been working on a number on attendance referrals for the Big 6 schools through development of re-engagement strategies (creation of a video). He reported increased success at Nations/NewStart and Turning Point. Academic improvements have been seen through timetable changes and working with Guidance Counsellors/Mental Health Counsellors/Indigenous Education Counsellor. He is involved with the development and coaching of the Lacrosse Program in Grand Erie.

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

D - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Approval of Minutes – February 22, 2024**

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor J. Laight moved THAT the minutes of the Six Nations Advisory Committee held on February 22, 2024 be approved. The minutes were approved.

Carried

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Indigenous Awards**

An Award is being established in honour of Phil VanEvery-Albert. It will be granted to a graduating student who has an interest in computer education in post-secondary education.

F - 1 **Information Items**

(a) **Six Nations Annual General Meeting Planning Update**

Information booths will be confirmed and may include eLearning, Alternative Education, Learning on the Land, Summer School, MLL, and Adult Ed.

(b) **Education Services Agreement Update**

The next meeting is scheduled on May 3, 2024.

(c) **Indigenous Language Update**

Classes are at maximum; focus will continue to offer more languages in schools.

(d) **Grand Erie-Kanienkehaka Circle Update - Nil.**



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 18, 2024

1:00 p.m.

McKinnon Park Secondary School, Indigenous Portable

MINUTES

(e) **Meeting Dates**

The following are the remaining meeting dates scheduled for 2023-24:

- May 16, 2024 (Six Nations Annual General Meeting (2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.))
- June 13, 2024 (*In person)

(f) **Land-based Learning Course Bundle**

Programming and course design are being developed to support the bundle.

G - 1 **Next Meeting:**

Six Nations Annual General Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2024 - 2:00 p.m. to 6:00p.m. (Informal) Event

H - 1 **Closing Address & Adjournment**

Six Nations Indigenous Advisor, J. Laight gave the closing address.

Chair VanEvery-Albert adjourned the meeting at 3: 27 p.m.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday May 2, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

Present: Chair L. DeJong, Vice-Chair K. Jones, Trustees: T. Waldschmidt, L. Whiton, Community Representatives: B. Bruce, K. Kelly, L. Nydam, Organizations: L. Boswell, P. Found, C. Gilman, C. Stefanelli, R. Vriends

Administration: Superintendent L. Thompson, Principal Leader Specialized Services: J. Senior, Specialized Services Supervisor: P. Bagchee, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: E. Roberts

Guests: A. Mashinter

Absent with regrets: T. Buchanan, J. Valstar

A - 1 Opening

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

Chair DeJong called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

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

Recording Secretary E. Roberts confirmed roll call.

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

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the May 2, 2024 agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

B - 1 Timed Items

(a) **Lansdowne Self-Care Independence & Learning for Life (SCILL) Camp**

A. Mashinter of Lansdowne Children's Centre gave an overview of the SCILL Camp being offered through Lansdowne.

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

(a) **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: L. Nydam

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes dated April 4, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried

(b) **Video Spotlight – Inclusion by Design in Grand Erie**

Video was shared

D - 1 New Business

(a) **SEAC Meeting Dates 2024-25**

Proposed dates for the 2024-25 SEAC meetings were shared. It was decided that the meeting will follow the same format as the 2023-24 meetings, with in person meetings in September, October, May, and June, and virtual meetings November through April.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday May 2, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

- (b) **Grand Erie’s Special Education Plan 2023-24**
Superintendent Thompson presented the draft of the Special Education Plan 2023-24. SEAC members will have from May 6th to May 17th to review the document and provide feedback.
- (c) **Specialized Services Classroom Programs 2024-25**
Superintendent Thompson provided an overview and answered questions about Grand Erie’s Special Education model for the 2024-25 school year.
- E - 1 **Other Business**
 - (a) **Grand Erie’s Annual Learning and Operating Plan – Mid Term Update**
Superintendent Thompson gave the mid-term update of Grand Erie’s Learning and Operating Plan.
 - (b) **Resignation – SEAC member**
The resignation of SEAC member Wendy Rose was announced.
- F - 1 **Standing Items**
 - (a) **Policies Out for Comment** - Nil
 - (b) **Trustee Update**
Trustee Waldschmidt shared an update, including information about Mental Health, Safety and Wellness Education Week. Trustee Whiton offered her congratulations to all upcoming graduates in Grand Erie.
 - (c) **Chair/Vice Chair Update**
Chair DeJong shared some information on upcoming community events.
 - (d) **Annual Update – GEPIC**
Trustee Waldschmidt gave a recap of the GEPIC event, Power of Connection, that was held at Waterford District High School on April 25th, 2024. Vice Chair K Jones attended to share information about SEAC.
- G - 1 **Information Items**
 - (a) **Virtual Caregiver Night**
Reminder of the Virtual Caregiver Information night Tuesday May 7th that was previously shared with SEAC members.
- H - 1 **Community Updates**
Chair DeJong shared information about the Community Professionals Networking Forum coming up June 4 at the Boys & Girls Club.
- I - 1 **Correspondence**
 - (a) **Family Math Newsletters**
 - (b) **Letter from Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board’s SEAC to the Ministry of Education**
- J - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday May 2, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

- (a) Grand Erie's SEAC – Terms of Reference review and updating
- (b) Ministry of Education Website – Review
- (c) Supporting students with special education needs during emergency procedures
- (d) A Day in the Life of an Educational Assistant
- (e) Overview of the Skill Building Classroom
- (f) Update and demonstration of Secondary Hub model

K - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday June 6, 2024 in the Board Room at the Education Centre with a Virtual option

L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: L. Whiton

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Carried



Student Senate Meeting

Thursday, April 25, 2024

10:10 a.m.

Brantford Collegiate Institute

MINUTES

Present: Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, Cayuga Secondary School, Delhi District Secondary School, Dunnville Secondary School, GELA, Hagersville Secondary School, McKinnon Park, Nations New Start, North Park Collegiate, Paris District High School, Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School, Simcoe Composite School, Tollgate Technological Skills Centre, Valley Heights Secondary School, Waterford District High School

Student Trustees: Maggie Baker (Representing South)
Keira Gayowsky (Representing North)
Aleena Skye (Representing Indigenous)

Administration: Superintendent Lisa Munro, Executive Assistant: Kerri Harrison

Recorder: Kerri Harrison

A - 1 Opening/Welcome

- (a) **Grand Erie Land Acknowledgement** – Student Trustee Gayowsky
- (b) **Opening Address** – Simon Yellow
- (c) **Welcome** – Superintendent Munro opened the meeting and welcomed Senators

B - 1 Approval of the Minutes – November 23, 2023

Moved by: I. Halsey
Seconded by: K. Davies

THAT the minutes of the Student Senate meeting, dated November 23, 2023, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 New Business

Student Trustee Skye and incoming Student Trustee Hill provided an outline of the purpose/structure of United Indigenous Student Council (UISC)

D - 1 Working Groups

Student Senators broke into working groups to discuss Mental Health, Student Voice, and Environment.

E - 1 Round Table Discussion

Student Senators summarized the working group discussion:

Mental Health and Well-Being Working Group:

- Reviewed updated Cafeteria pricing and potential innovative ways to support cost reductions for student lunch
- Voiced desire and suggestions to ensure staff are being made aware of mental health concerns, stressors, and workload especially time of year and be more aware/considerate
- Explored enhanced outreach to students with mental health resources and promote events
- Suggested developing a school-wide calendar to support organizing their time



Student Senate Meeting

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10:10 a.m.

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MINUTES

- Revisited to need to change the culture of using the term School Health nurse rather than Sexual Health Nurse

Student Voice Working Group:

- Looked at days of significance in May and ways to promote
- Ways to enhance the Why Grand Erie Campaign were discussed
- Discussed ways to enhance acknowledging students' pronouns in ways that made students feel they were in a safe and welcoming space
- Suggestions were provided for opportunities to gather student voice,

Environmental Working Group:

- Completed their project to ensure there are labels made for recycling bins to have a board wide labeling system to make recycling clearer
- Plastic water bottles in vending machines have been removed to better support the environment and Indigenous students within Grand Erie. Senators will share this move and the rationale with their schools

F – 1 **Keynote Speaker – Jeff Martin**

Student Senators had the opportunity to hear Jeff Martin uncover implicit bias, where they come from and how they affect the way we interact with each other. He highlighted that no matter how different we may look from each other, we are more alike than we are different. Jeff reminded us of our self-worth and value.

G – 1 **Closing Address** – Simon Yellow

Future dates:

- May 30, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.