



The
Blackboard

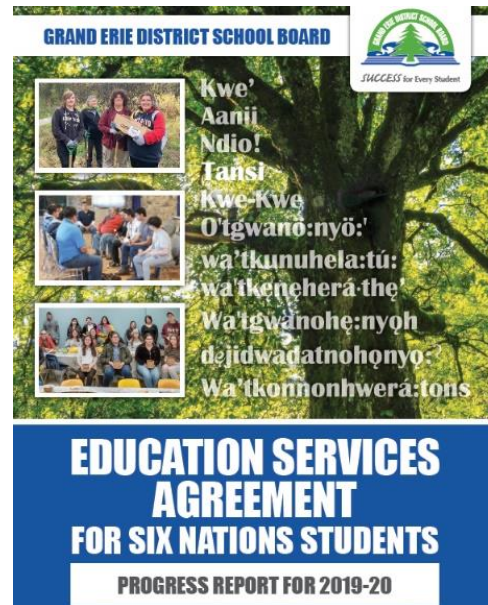
Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Board Room

Regular Board Meeting | November 23, 2020

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2UL6mpR>

Report to Indigenous Services Canada and Six Nations of the Grand River

Trustees were presented with Grand Erie's Report to Indigenous Services Canada and Six Nations of the Grand River on Monday night. The report highlights the work completed during the 2019-20 school year, specifically related to the progress of Six Nations students and the team that emerges from the Education Services Agreement, including: the Native Advisory Committee, the Native Trustee, the Native Advisor, and the Native Education Counselling staff. This report supports the Achievement indicator of [Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan](#) and the following statements: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff. We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes." To view the report, see pages 77-100 here: <https://bit.ly/2UL6mpR>.



Camp SAIL Report

For the past decade, CODE (Council of Ontario Directors of Education) has provided leadership for a summer literacy and numeracy learning program. The SLP (Summer Learning Program) focuses on literacy and numeracy and includes specific supports for Indigenous students and English Language Learners. The program supports students in Kindergarten to Grade 5 who are experiencing achievement gaps and/or social and economic challenges that may impact their success in school. The primary goal of the program is to support students in acquiring the essential Ontario curriculum literacy and/or numeracy expectations, sustain/increase individual skill development, engage parents, and develop student self-confidence. Participating school boards receive funding from CODE for the program, with 30 hours of literacy and/or numeracy instruction expected over a three-week period. In 2020, Grand Erie ran its Camp SAIL (Summer Adventures in Learning) program virtually. In total, 15 classes were offered at 10 schools, with staff supporting 116 students and families in Grades 3-7. To review the report, see pages 45-47 here: <https://bit.ly/2UL6mpR>. This report supports the Achievement indicator of [Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan](#) through the following statement: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff."



JoAnna Roberto,
Director of Education

Director's Report

JoAnna Roberto, Director of Education, shared the following items with Trustees on Monday during her report to the Board:

- **Rock Your Mocs 2020:** Last week (November 15-20), staff and students were encouraged to wear their moccasins to school or work. What started out as a small initiative, has become a time for movement throughout Turtle Island as Indigenous people of all walks of life showcase their bead work and craftsmanship by wearing a pair of moccasins. This social media campaign was created to celebrate the diverse culture of Native Americans and other Indigenous people in North and South America.

- **Hagersville Indigenous Outdoor Playground:** In March 2020, Mississaugas of the Credit

First Nation approached the Board to install a playground near the EarlyON entrance into Hagersville Secondary. The structure involved the incorporation of wood components, including large diameter logs, wood log climbers and vertical play posts. Canoe sculptures were also included to not only provide a complementary play experience, but to also offer an ancestral narrative specific to Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Over the summer, staff from both organizations worked together to plan, coordinate and construct these beautiful structures (pictured right).



- **New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) Professional Development:** In partnership with Queen's University, Grand Erie is providing a menu of AQ course offerings to support NTIP educators (first and second-year permanent contract teachers). Courses will be offered virtually and include a wide range of topics, including: First Nations, Metis, and Inuit People, French as a Second Language, Inclusive Classrooms, Integration of Information and Computer Technology in Instruction, Mathematics – Primary and Junior, Reading Special Education, and Classroom Management.
- **We Remember:** Each year, at the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we observe Remembrance Day across Canada. Every year we gather to observe a moment of silence to mark the sacrifice of so many. On behalf of the Grand Erie District School Board, we are sending a special thank you to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 164 in Hagersville, and in particular Sergeant-at-Arms George Roach, who recited *In Flanders Field* for Grand Erie to play on Remembrance Day at the Education Centre for staff.
- **CareerLink:** On behalf of the Board, a thank you to Chair Greg Anderson, Trustees Carol Ann Sloat and Dave Dean for the opportunity to connect with Will Bouma, MPP for Brantford-Brant, and Minister of Education Stephen Lecce. They all attended the announcement regarding Ontario's renewed commitment to Grand Erie's CareerLink program. The government extended the lease agreement between Grand Erie and Laurier Brantford, which supports students and the broader community.



Major Construction Update

Trustees were given a status update on the major construction projects underway in Grand Erie. These projects include: the child care renovation at Hagersville Secondary School (pictured right) and the child care addition at Central Public School in Brantford. This report supports the Environment indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan. To review the report, see pages 51-56 here: <https://bit.ly/2UL6mpR>.



Additional Items

Memorial: A memorial statement was read to honour Grand Erie staff member Christina Oldershaw. Chris, or "Miss O" as she was lovingly referred to by her colleagues and students, died October 28. Miss O was an institution at Tollgate Technological Skills Centre, where she worked with students as an Educational Assistant for more than a decade. She was a kind and caring soul who wanted nothing but the best for her students. Chris would never give up trying to find ways to help her students or the staff she worked with. Even when students moved on in their journeys, Miss O would check in to see how they were doing and offer support. She was dedicated to her students well beyond what the job called for.

Approval of minutes: Trustees approved the minutes of the following meetings:

- October 26, 2020 – Regular Board
- November 9, 2020 – Committee of the Whole
- November 9, 2020 – Special Board Meeting
- November 16, 2020 – Special Board Meeting

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Elementary Class Size Report
- Committee of the Whole – November 9, 2020
- Enrolment Update
- Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Membership 2020-21
- Organizational Board Meeting – Set Date, Time & Place
- 2019-20 Indigenous Education Board Action Plan – Outcomes
- Workforce Report
- Community Use of Schools Rate
- Bylaw 28 – Trustee Code of Conduct Ad-hoc Committee
- Summary of Accounts – October 2020
- Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – October 15, 2020
- Safe and Inclusive Schools Committee Minutes (Draft) – October 15, 2020
- Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) – October 21, 2020
- Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Minutes (Draft) – October 22, 2020
- Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) – November 3, 2020
- Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk Committee Minutes – November 3, 2020
- Native Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) – November 3, 2020
- Privacy and Information Management Committee Minutes (Draft) – November 12, 2020
- OPSBA Report

Multi-Year Plan Stories

In 2016, Grand Erie approved a new strategic direction to guide the work that the school board is doing. At the centre of this Multi-Year Plan is *Success for Every Student*. Grand Erie will achieve *Success for Every Student* through a focus on students and staff in a culture of high expectations. The six indicators that support the Multi-Year Plan are: Achievement, Community, Environment, Equity, Technology and Well-Being.

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

Achievement

- Grand Erie Reaches Local Agreement with Designated Early Childhood Educators
 - <https://bit.ly/36WB0ll>

SUCCESS for Every Student