

Media Release

For Immediate Release November 26, 2020

Tom Waldschmidt Appointed Grand Erie Trustee Following Completion of Vacant Trustee Process

Brantford, Ont. – Grand Erie District School Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Tom Waldschmidt as Trustee, representing Brant County and Norfolk County (Wards 3 and 7). The appointment will last until the remainder of the current electoral term (November 2022) and follows an application process that began last month.

"We're delighted to welcome Tom back to Grand Erie," said Board Chair Greg Anderson. "We also want to thank each of the impressive candidates who applied to become our new trustee. I think the number of interested candidates for this vacancy shows the value our community places on what Grand Erie does and how critical public education is."

Waldschmidt, a Fire Prevention Officer with the County of Brant, is a former Grand Erie Trustee. He represented Brant County and Norfolk County (Wards 3 and 7) from 2014-18. During this time, he held the following board positions: Vice-Chair of the Board, Committee of the Whole Chair and Committee of the Whole Vice-Chair. Before serving as a Trustee, Waldschmidt was a parent council member at both Paris Central and Paris District High School. He was, and continues to be, an active member of the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC).

"I'm honoured to be selected by the Board of Trustees, and to represent my community once again," said Waldschmidt. "I look forward to returning to the boardroom, serving alongside colleagues I greatly admire, in the best interests of students and staff in Grand Erie."

Waldschmidt was selected by the Board following interviews with eight candidates on November 25. He will make his first appearance as Trustee on Monday, December 7 at the Board Nomination Meeting.

"Trustees are a key link between the communities they serve and the school board," said Anderson. "Tom will be a great advocate for families in Brant and Norfolk. He is a compassionate, knowledgeable and trusted leader who understands the diverse needs of our students and staff as well as the value of public education."

Grand Erie District School Board represents more than 18,000 students in 58 elementary schools and 7,700 students in 14 secondary schools within the City of Brantford and the Counties of Brant, Haldimand, and Norfolk as well as secondary students from Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. With a dedicated staff of more than 2,500, Grand Erie remains committed to its goal of <u>Success for Every Student</u>.

Contact:

Kimberly Newhouse Manager of Communications and Community Relations Grand Erie District School Board 349 Erie Avenue, Brantford, Ontario, N3T 5V3 Office: 519-756-6301 ext. 281147 | Cell: 519-732-8540 www.granderie.ca