

Media Release

For Immediate Release January 22, 2021

Remote Learning for Grand Erie Students Extended to February 10

Brantford Ont. – The Ministry of Education has confirmed that Grand Erie elementary and secondary students will continue with remote learning until at least February 10.

The decision follows a statement released earlier this week by Minister of Education Stephen Lecce and impacts Grand Erie students and staff who were scheduled to return to in-class instruction on January 25.

"It's challenging for our students and staff to not be in school together," said JoAnna Roberto, Director of Education. "They are missing each other and those daily interactions and activities that make our school communities so special. While remote learning is not ideal, every day we are seeing the incredible creativity of our educators and students shine through. We are witnessing the power of their resolve to carry on together and seeing how their relationships extend beyond our school buildings."

Other news confirmed by the Ministry of Education:

- Masks are now mandatory for students in Grades 1-3. This means that all Grand Erie students, from Grades 1-12, are required to wear masks when in school.
- In-class instruction will continue for some Special Education students with complex needs.
- There are enhanced screening protocols for all staff as well as secondary school students. More information will be provided to Grand Erie staff, students and families on these new protocols soon.

For the latest COVID-19 information, visit <u>www.granderie.ca</u> or follow the Board on Twitter (<u>@GEDSB</u>). Families can also contact Grand Erie via email (<u>info@granderie.ca</u>) or phone (519-756-6301 or Toll Free: 1-888-548-8878).

Grand Erie District School Board represents nearly 18,000 students in 58 elementary schools and more than 7,500 students in 14 secondary schools within the city of Brantford and the counties of Brant, Haldimand, and Norfolk as well as students from Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

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