



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

Regular Board Meeting | January 25, 2021

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3c2LkN7>

Major Construction Project Report

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 and the child care addition at Central Public School (pictured right) in Brantford. This report supports the Environment indicator of [Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan](#), *Success for Every Student*. To review the report, see pages 34-37 here: <https://bit.ly/3c2LkN7>.



Director's Report

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

- **Help Desk Support for Families:** Grand Erie is pleased to share that Help Desk staff support is now available for parents and guardians as an additional resource to support technology-related needs. For information, visit: <https://bit.ly/39ektvW>
- **Elementary Declaration Results:** the declaration survey for families to indicate a change in elementary learning models closed January 13. In total, there were 601 responses received with 415 requests to transition to in-class instruction, and 186 requests to transition to online learning. These results show a net increase of 229 students moving to in-class instruction. Elementary students will begin their new learning models on February 16.
- **Ministry of Education Updates:**
 - Masks are now mandatory for students in Grades 1-3. This means that Grand Erie students from Grades 1-12 are required to wear masks when in school
 - During the provincial lockdown, in-class instruction continues for some Special Education students with complex needs.
 - There are now enhanced screening protocols for education staff as well as secondary students. More information about these new protocols will be provided to Grand Erie students and families soon.
- **Elementary Math Curriculum:** supports and resources are available on the new curriculum and resource website: <https://bit.ly/3a6acBd>. Additional educator resources are available



in the **Supports for Virtual Learning** eCommunity on the Ministry's Virtual Learning Environment. Resources will be added throughout the school year. Educators can also register for live webinars here: <https://bit.ly/3ohBHN5>. In addition to the new math curriculum, webinar topics include anti-racism and anti-discrimination, mental health and well-being, and virtual teaching and learning.

- **#SharetheGood with School mental Health Ontario:** is a new bilingual campaign with the hope of igniting a widespread movement of positivity. For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/2LTD6wr>.

Quarterly Budget Report

Trustees were provided with an update on the budget for the first three months of the 2020-21 school year, ending November 30, 2020. The report outlines changes on the financial dashboard as well as revenue and expenditure details. To review the report, see pages 38-44 here: <https://bit.ly/3c2LkN7>. This report supports the Achievement indicator of [Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan](#) and the following statement: "We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes."

Other financial-related reports presented to Trustees and discussed on Monday night included:

- **Request for Early Years Capital Program Funding** (pages 45-46 here: <https://bit.ly/3c2LkN7>)
 - Priority 1: Child Care Addition at Cobblestone Elementary School in Paris.
 - Priority 2: Child Care Addition at Banbury Heights School in Brantford.
- **Facility Renewal Plan 2020-21 Update** (page 47 here: <https://bit.ly/3c2LkN7>)
 - Teacher Resource Centre roofing and Facility Services Building HVAC units.
- **Audio and Video Upgrade for the Boardroom** (pages 48-49 here: <https://bit.ly/3c2LkN7>)
 - Audio and video upgrades to the boardroom to improve the experience for community members attending board meetings virtually.
- **Indigenous Education System Supports** (pages 50-52 here: <https://bit.ly/3c2LkN7>)
 - Unspent 2019-20 funds in Section 18 of the Grand for Student Needs and how it will be allocated for 2020-21.

Additional Items

Memorial: A memorial statement was read to honour Cheryl Pineo (Valley Heights Secondary School) and Mike Watling (Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School).

Cheryl was a passionate educator who supported students and staff through her many roles including classroom teacher, learning resource teacher, acting department head, coach, and staff advisor for many clubs. Cheryl loved volleyball. She coached the Junior Team for many years, earning a couple of CWOSSA titles. She did everything she could to stay connected with the team this past year, even though she was not at school – a testament to her love and dedication to coaching and her students. Cheryl was a valuable member of Turning Point for part of her career. She did her best to ensure equity for all and will be fondly remembered as a strong advocate for disadvantaged and marginalized students.

Mike was a certified journeyman, with experiences in Canada, the United States, and abroad. He was BCI's Department Head of Technological Studies and Coordinator of the Manufacturing Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program. Mike used his manufacturing and welding skills to teach students how to fine tune their craft. He took pride in ensuring students were well prepared for the workforce. Many former students who ventured off to college or secured a job would send Mike an email expressing their gratitude and sharing stories about their success as a way of thanking him. Outside of the classroom, Mike helped coach football and hockey, and was always up for a conversation about any sport. At school events, Mike and his fellow "techies" were the chief cooks and BBQ guys.

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

- December 14, 2020 – Inaugural Board
- January 11, 2021 – Committee of the Whole

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Student Trustee Report – Student Senate
- Student Trustee Report – Menstrual Equity
- Committee of the Whole – January 11, 2021
- Summary of Accounts – December 2020
- Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) minutes – November 19, 2020
- Native Advisory Committee minutes – December 1, 2020
- Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee minutes – December 17, 2020
- Indigenous Education Advisory Committee – December 10, 2020
- Student Senate minutes – January 14, 2021

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

- Remote Learning for Grand Erie Students Extended to February 10
 - <https://bit.ly/2Mh3lql>
- Letter to Grand Erie Families from Director JoAnna Roberto
 - <https://bit.ly/3iCKFU0>
- Grand Erie Students Continue with Remote Learning
 - <https://bit.ly/2Y3BqTc>
- Grand Erie Welcomes April Smith to the Role of Superintendent
 - <https://bit.ly/3p9LUG3>
- Welcome, Class of 2035! Online Registration Now Open for Kindergarten this Fall
 - <https://bit.ly/2LVxhhS>

Technology

- Help Desk Support for Families
 - <https://bit.ly/2Y5el2B>

SUCCESS for Every Student