



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

## Committee of the Whole Meeting | February 8, 2021

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3q7nUKQ>

### Draft 2021-22 Proposed School Year Calendars

Trustees recommended for approval the Draft Proposed School Year Calendar for the 2021-22 school year (Elementary and Secondary). The draft calendars were prepared by the Grand Erie School Year Calendar committee and were developed in collaboration with the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic School Board. The 2021-22 School Year Calendar includes 194 instructional days and seven Professional Activity (PA) days.

2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR  
Brant/Brantford/Haldimand Elementary

	1st Week				2nd Week				3rd Week				4th Week				5th Week												
	AM	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
September								6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24							
October																													
November																													
December																													
January																													
February																													
March																													
April																													
May																													
June																													

The 2021-22 school year will start before Labour Day for staff. Students will begin school on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. There is one school year calendar for Brant, Brantford and Haldimand students, and one calendar for Norfolk students. The only difference between the two calendars is the October PA day – Norfolk students will have their PA day on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 (coinciding with Young Canada Day at the Norfolk Fair), while Brant, Brantford and Haldimand students will have their October PA day on Friday, October 8, 2021.

2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR  
Norfolk Secondary

	1st Week				2nd Week				3rd Week				4th Week				5th Week												
	AM	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
September								6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24							
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March																													
April																													
May																													
June																													

Once formally approved by the Ministry of Education later this year, the calendars will be shared with all stakeholder groups. To review the report, see pages 19-24 here: <https://bit.ly/3q7nUKQ>.

### Pride of Place and Community Partnership Incentive Plan Report

On Monday, Trustees recommended for approval the projects identified in the 2020-21 Pride of Place (POP) and Community Partnership Incentive Plan (CPIP) report. POP allocations address facility features that contribute to a more welcoming and safer environment for students, staff and the school community. Projects for 2020-21 have been prioritized and reviewed by Facility Services staff as set out in Policy FT13 Pride of Place and Community Partnership Incentive Programs.

Proposed CPIP projects must meet the normal qualifications for work that is undertaken by the annual Facility Renewal Grant (FRG) budget process. CPIP supports school-based projects by matching funds raised by the community with a contribution from Grand Erie District School Board. Funds are used to match money raised by a school from outside sources (i.e., donations or school fundraising) for qualifying buildings or grounds projects estimated to a maximum of

\$10,000 per school. Understandably, due to COVID-19 restrictions, there were fewer CPIP applications received this year – a direct result of reduced fundraising in schools. Additionally, some projects have carried forward from previous years due to COVID-19 restrictions.

This report supports the Environment indicator of [Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan](#) and the goal to “ensure that students and staff have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and work” To review the report, see pages 5-18 here: <https://bit.ly/3q7nUKQ>.

## Director's Report

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

- **February is Black History Month.** This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and their communities who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous nation it is today. The theme for Black History Month is: ["The Future is Now"](#) and it provides a chance to celebrate and acknowledge the transformative work that Black Canadians and their communities are doing.
  - Throughout Black History Month, Grand Erie's Safe and Inclusive School's team will be sharing resources with educators that have been developed by the Board's Equity Champions.
- **February 14 is [Have a Heart Day](#) for First Nations children.** This day invites people of all ages to support culturally based equity for First Nations children by sending letters and Valentine's Day cards to the Prime Minister, hosting an awareness raising event in their school or community, or by spreading the word through social media.
- **February 15 is Family Day.** All schools and Board facility sites will be closed to observe this provincial holiday.
- **Student Trustee Elections:** applications were due February 5. Student Trustee elections are set to take place on February 18. Student Trustees for the 2021-22 school year will be announced following these elections.
- **[COVID-19 Self-Screening Tool](#) and daily verifications:**
  - Grand Erie staff will be required daily, when entering a board building, to complete the COVID-19 self-screening tool and provide a verification which is sent to their immediate supervisor for review and tracking.
  - Beginning February 9, all secondary students will receive an email to their Grand Erie student account. The email will require students to complete and verify the COVID-19 self-screening tool daily. When attendance is taken, students will share verbally with their in-class learning teacher that they have completed and passed the COVID-19 self-screening.
- **Ministry of Education News:**
  - Amendments have been made to Ontario Regulation 298 (Operation of Schools) and Ontario Regulation 176/10 (Teachers Qualifications). These amendments work together to add a new Temporary Certification of Qualification and Registration that can be granted by the Ontario College of Teachers.
  - The new temporary certificate is intended to provide short-term staffing stabilization and relief for Ontario schools that are experiencing occasional teacher shortages due to COVID-19.
  - Teacher candidates can only be asked to act as an emergency occasional teacher when they are attending a designated practicum placement in the Faculty of Education program. Additionally, teacher candidates can only act as an emergency occasional teacher within the same school as their practicum placement, once the school has followed its regular protocols to fill a teacher vacancy and is unable to



locate a suitably qualified occasional teacher, in accordance with existing hiring norms and regulations.

## **Additional Items**

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Trustees also received the following reports:

- Mileage Renumeration Review
- Employee Assistance Program Annual Report (HR 112)
- OPSBA Report
- Correspondence: Letter of Support – Teacher Education Program at Wilfrid Laurier

The following Policies and Procedures will be sent out for comment:

- HR6 – Principal/Vice-Principal Selection Process
- HR7 – Replacement/Casual Principal and Vice-Principal Selection Process
- P2 – Honoring Indigenous Cultures and Traditions
- FT104 – Reporting Vandalism and Unusual Occurrence Incidents
- FT111 – School Initiated Facility Upgrades
- HR101 – Fragrance/Scent-Safe Workplace
- HR113 – Teacher Performance Appraisal
- HR122 – Cell Phones Mobile Devices
- SO102 – Student Admission/Registration (New)
- SO115 Guidelines for Student Exemption from Non-Medical or Cloth Masks and Face Shields
- SO133 – Signing Authority for Short-Term Agreements

The following Policies were recommended for approval:

- FT10 – Green Schools Construction
- FT11 – Community Planning and Facilities Partnerships
- SO2 – School Councils
- SO4 – Distribution of Materials in Schools

## **Multi-Year Plan Stories**

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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**

- Getting to Know Grand Erie: Jessie Kingma – Teacher, Waterford Public School
  - <https://bit.ly/39Ux4Vw>
- Grand Erie Students Return to In-Class Instruction on February 8
  - <https://bit.ly/3rqVLyv>
- Getting to Know Grand Erie: Pete Ashe – Principal, Banbury Heights Public School
  - <https://bit.ly/2YMMmFp>

## **Technology**

- Grand Erie at Home: The Secondary Classroom Goes Remote
  - <https://bit.ly/2LsF2vA>
- Grand Erie at Home: The Elementary Classroom Goes Remote
  - <https://bit.ly/2N2mMJD>

*Success for Every Student*