



Media Release

For Immediate Release
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Grand Erie Goes Green as 38 Schools Earn EcoSchools Certification

Brantford Ont. – Grand Erie District School Board students and staff are doing their part to ensure a healthier future for the planet. More than half of the board’s 72 schools were rewarded for their environmental efforts in 2018-19 with 38 earning EcoSchools Certification.

“We’re extremely proud of what our EcoTeams have achieved this year,” said Katie Hashimoto, Supervisor of Energy and Environmental Conservation at the Board. “Fostering student leadership and becoming stronger environmental stewards is part of the EcoSchools certification process. What these schools are doing will have a lasting impact.”

As the world comes face-to-face with the realities of climate change, Grand Erie students are leading the way with big and small modifications that make a significant difference. From introducing recycling programs, encouraging waste-free lunches, energy conservation programs and school grounds greening projects, the EcoSchools program provides a framework for building environmentally responsible schools. The EcoTeams also take on the task of student-centred actions and goal setting.

Three Grand Erie schools earned Platinum EcoSchools certification, the highest level of recognition. They include Bellview Public School, École Confédération and Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School. Additionally, 14 schools were awarded gold certification, 14 earned silver, and seven collected bronze. In total, 31 elementary schools and seven secondary schools were honoured.

“Our hope is that the EcoSchools program will continue to grow and flourish within the board,” said Hashimoto. “It’s the dedication of these students who are changing attitudes and cultures within their schools, at home and in the community.”

The EcoSchools program connects to Grand Erie’s Multi-Year Plan, *Success for Every Student*, through the Environment indicator and the goal of “improving energy and environmental conservation at all sites.”

Platinum EcoSchools:

- Bellview Public School
- École Confédération
- Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School

Gold EcoSchools:

- Bloomsburg Public School
- Caledonia Centennial Public School
- Delhi Public School
- Jarvis Public School
- King George School
- Lansdowne-Costain Public School
- North Ward School
- Onondaga-Brant Public School
- Paris District High School
- Ryerson Heights Elementary School
- Walsh Public School
- Walter Gretzky Elementary School
- Waterford District High School
- West Lynn Public School

Silver EcoSchools:

- Boston Public School
- Centennial-Grand Woodlands School
- Central Public School
- École Dufferin
- Hagersville Elementary School
- Hagersville Secondary School
- Lakewood Elementary School
- Langton School
- Lynndale Heights Public School
- McKinnon Park Secondary School
- Rainham Central School
- River Heights School
- Teeterville Public School
- Thompson Creek Elementary School

Bronze EcoSchools:

- Burford District Elementary School
- Cayuga Secondary School
- Cedarland Public School
- Dunnville Secondary School
- Houghton Public School
- Oakland-Scotland Public School
- Paris Central Public School

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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