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Brantford, Ontario  
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[granderie.ca/schools/ecole-confederation](http://granderie.ca/schools/ecole-confederation)

**Principal**

Andrea Smith

**Vice Principal**

Barkev Poladian

**Office Coordinators**

Andgela Vandeven

Khryssa Genery

## novembre—November 2021

Dear Confédération Families;

October proved to be a very busy month for our students, with tournaments for our soccer and softball teams, as well as the cross country meet. Congratulations to all of our athletes who did a great job representing our school!



November brings us to the midway point in term 1 of our school year. With that comes our progress report cards for students in Grades JK-8. The progress report card is designed to show a student's development of the learning skills and work habits during the fall of the school year, as well as a student's general progress in working towards the achievement of the curriculum expectations in all subjects. Progress reports will be sent home on November 5th. Parent/teacher conferences will occur during the evening of Nov. 11 and during the day on Nov 12. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all interviews will be hosted virtually (using Microsoft TEAMS) or by phone this year. Your child's teacher will be contacting families in their classes to arrange 10 minute appointments.

Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith  
Principal

M. B. Poladian  
Vice-Principal

**Dates to Remember**

Nov. 1-PJ Day, Chocolate Fundraiser Starts

Nov. 5-Progress reports go home

Nov. 11 (evening)-Parent/Teacher calls/virtual interviews

Nov. 12-PD Day, Parent/Teacher calls/virtual interviews (am)

Nov. 17-School Council Meeting

Nov. 22-Photo Retake Day, Chocolate Fundraiser Ends

Nov. 29-Stripes and Polka Dot Day

## Virtual Book Fair

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- \* Set the example. Let children see you read.
- \* Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.
- \* Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event includes a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our virtual Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Book Fair dates and more:

**Monday, November 8-Friday, November 12**  
**All purchases can be made online only, through the link below:**

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/fr/pages/5167327>

**All products will be shipped directly to school and then distributed to students.**  
**English and French Books are available.**



## Student Drop Off and Pick-Up

Thank you to everyone for their continued cooperation in keeping our students safe during drop off and pick up. If you are sending a family member who is not familiar with our routines, please remind them that there is no drop off on site between 8:45 and 9:15 daily, and no pick up on site between 3:15 and 3:45. The only exception to this is for those with an accessible parking pass or with a special parking pass that has been issued by the school. Please remember to wear a mask when in the caregiver area in front of the school.



## Remembrance Day

We will be recognizing Remembrance Day on Thursday, November 11th, using a virtual environment that will be broadcast in classrooms. Poppies will be available for students. A donation to the legion for this can be made through School Cash Online until Friday, November 12. A reminder that Grand Erie has implemented Credit Card payments with Kev's SchoolCash Online! Families are now able to pay for fundraisers, field trips, hot lunches, student activity and registration fees, etc., using their Credit Card. The login platform has not changed. Parents/guardians log on to the SchoolCash Online site and now have the option to choose between Credit Cards, eCheck and MyWallet.



## Menstrual Equity

Access to menstrual products can be a considerable barrier for students that cannot afford them. Confédération has identified providing menstrual products as an equity initiative to help support students. We are excited to share that free menstrual products are available to all students in our school. Students will be informed of the location of products in our school so that they are not required to ask for one from staff.



## Grand Erie's Mobile App

The mobile parent app includes several features including up-to-date information about school news, event calendars, transportation schedules, delays and cancellations as well as access to school and Board social media channels. With the app, parents have the option of which schools they wish to receive communication from by selecting one or more schools from the 'settings' icon. The app is free, and available by searching Grand Erie or GEDSB where you get your mobile apps.

What's in the app?

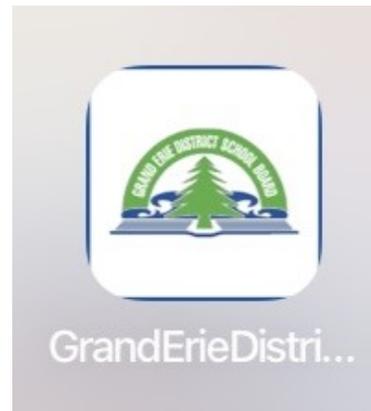
-Parent Portal link

-Bus Planner Alerts for bus delays and cancellations

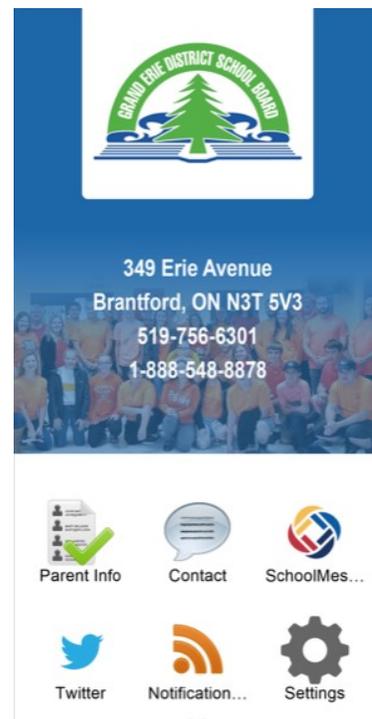
-School Messenger: Did you know if you login to the School Messenger app (inside the GEDSB app), you will receive text messages that go out from our main office School Messenger account?

-School Cash online

-GEDSB website



We will continue to provide information to families using our School Messenger email and voicemail system.



## Changes to Transportation

### **A busing note...**

We have a high number of students who ride buses home each day. We are not able to permit students to ride a bus other than their assigned bus at any time (as per transportation procedure 028 and due to COVID-19 restrictions). If you have an emergency, please contact the office to discuss transportation options for your child/children.

If you are not using transportation services for an extended period of time (i.e. more than a month), families are requested to contact the school, the bus company, and GEDSB transportation office to have your child taken off the bus list.

GEDSB transportation: 519-751-7532

Sharp Bus Lines:  
519-751-3434 (Bus routes starting with 5)

First Student Bus Lines:  
519-442-2258 (Bus routes starting with 7)

**Parents are advised to contact Sharp Bus Lines, First Student, and/or GEDSB Transportation Department for all after hours issues and any concerns with buses and transportation schedules and routes.**

## School Council

Our second virtual school council meeting of the year was held on October 21. Thanks to those who were able to attend. Discussions continue about fundraising and hot lunch opportunities within the COVID guidelines established by GEDSB in conjunction with public health. We are launching our Purdy's Chocolate Fundraising Campaign Nov. 1-just in time for the holidays. See the digital flyers attached to the newsletter email or the paper flyer that was sent home with youngest and only students for more details.

Please see the attached flyers for our virtual fundraising campaigns with Mabel's Labels and Fundschrift gift cards.

The next virtual meeting will be Wed., Nov. 17. Please email [p-ces@granderie.ca](mailto:p-ces@granderie.ca) if you would like the link to join the virtual meeting. All are welcome.



## Police Checks

As we begin to see sports and trips re-start we are reaching out to caregivers for support as volunteers on excursions. All volunteers must have a valid police check on file. Police checks are valid for 3 years from the date of issue. Most of the police checks that are currently on file at the office have expired or will expire soon. It can take up to 3 weeks to receive an updated police check. If you are hoping to be able to volunteer on an excursion, you should consider pursuing a renewed police check early. Contact the main office if you would like a form sent home with your child that can be taken to the police station to begin the process for a new police check.

## Snack Program

Thanks to Brant Food for Thought for continuing to provide funding for our Snack Program.



We began our

snack program in October, following enhanced protocols:

- all items arrive at school pre-packaged
  - each class has their own designated snack bin that is delivered
  - classroom staff will distribute snack items to individual students in their classes
  - individual bins will be cleaned and delivered to the same class for each snack day
- Snacks are offered on Wednesday and Fridays. Each offering will include items from 3 different food groups, one being a fruit or vegetable each time.

If you would like to contribute to the snack program, donations can be made throughout the month of November on School Cash Online.

## Thanks For Giving

Thank you to all who contributed to the Thanks For Giving Food drive for the Brantford Food Bank. We were able to provide several large barrels of food to the local food bank.

## Inclement Weather and Transportation

Winter is just around the corner. In the event of inclement weather, there is the potential for transportation delays or cancellations and school closures.

### **Confédération bus routes:**

- 503 = Paris - zone 3 and 4
- 504 = St George - zone 3 and 4
- 505 = County Rd. 18, HWY 54 - zone 3 and 4
- 507 = Brantford only - zone 4
- 709 = Brantford only - zone 4
- 710 = Lynden Rd - zone 3 and 4
- 519 = Brantford only – zone 4
- 528 = Brantford only – zone 4
- 747 = Brantford only – zone 4

If transportation is cancelled for schools in Zone 4, École Confédération will be closed.

For those living in Brant County, buses 503, 504, 505, and 710 come from zone 3 before picking up students for Confédération. If Zone 3 is cancelled, there will be no pick up for students on these bus routes. The school will be open if zone 3 is cancelled and zone 4 is not cancelled.

### **Inclement Weather Information:**

- Information on Student Transportation Services can be found here: <http://www.stsbhn.ca/>
- If there are school or board facility closures, Grand Erie will post a notification by 6:30 a.m. on the Board's website here: [www.granderie.ca](http://www.granderie.ca)
- Information will be posted on Grand Erie's Twitter (@GEDSB)
- Closure information will also be shared with local media (i.e. radio, television)
- Find the Board's Inclement Weather Policy here: <https://bit.ly/2HoC1YX>
- Learn how Student Transportation Services makes its decision about inclement weather here: [bit.ly/2JIVSk9](https://bit.ly/2JIVSk9)

As established last year, on inclement weather days, asynchronous learning activities will be available through your child's Brightspace login.



In the event of a mid-day closure, the school telephone lines will be needed to work through our Emergency Phone Fan-Out to contact parents. Parents should note that it is very rare that the school will be closed half way through an instructional day.

On days of inclement weather, the staff of STSBHN and the bus companies, who provide service to our area, are actively reviewing current road conditions and future weather patterns in order to make a determination on delayed or cancelled transportation services. Information is collected from a number of sources and a decision is made and posted no later than 6:30 a.m.

As the decision to run, delay or cancel transportation is made in advance of services actually being provided, there may be some instances where variability exists in what was forecast versus what actually occurs. STSBHN and its member school boards want to provide options for the parents and students of our area and so, when it appears safe to do so, transportation services will be permitted to continue as usual. If, on an inclement weather day you feel that your child(ren) would be better off not taking the bus and either being transported into school by yourself or staying home altogether as a result of the road conditions at or near your home, STSBHN and the boards do understand and respect that this decision ultimately rests with you.



# Support Our Fundraiser!

Get personalized Holiday Address Labels & Stamps

Give your holiday cards  
a special touch this year!



Purchase your  
personalized holiday  
products at Mabel's Labels  
and you'll be supporting  
our fundraiser.

mabel's labels  
FUNDRAISING

Visit [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com)  
and choose our organization from the list!

Then shop for your labels and they'll ship directly to you!



Our Exclusive School Code

B3S8YP

Just in time for the holidays,

École Confédération Parent Council is hosting an online fundraiser for our school with **Fundscrip.**

Purchase gift cards from [www.fundscrip.com](http://www.fundscrip.com) and a percentage of your purchase value will be donated back to our school. All payments are done online and all gift cards will be delivered right to your home.

**How to register for an account:**

- 1) Go to [www.fundscrip.com](http://www.fundscrip.com)
- 2) Click on Support a Group (Top Right)
- 3) Enter our school code (top of this page)
- 4) Fill in your personal information.
- 5) Check your email and confirm your account.
- 6) Confirm your preferences.
- 7) Start shopping.

Français About Help News Contests Login

Start a Group

Support a Group

Payment options available include: electronic funds transfer, online banking, or credit card.

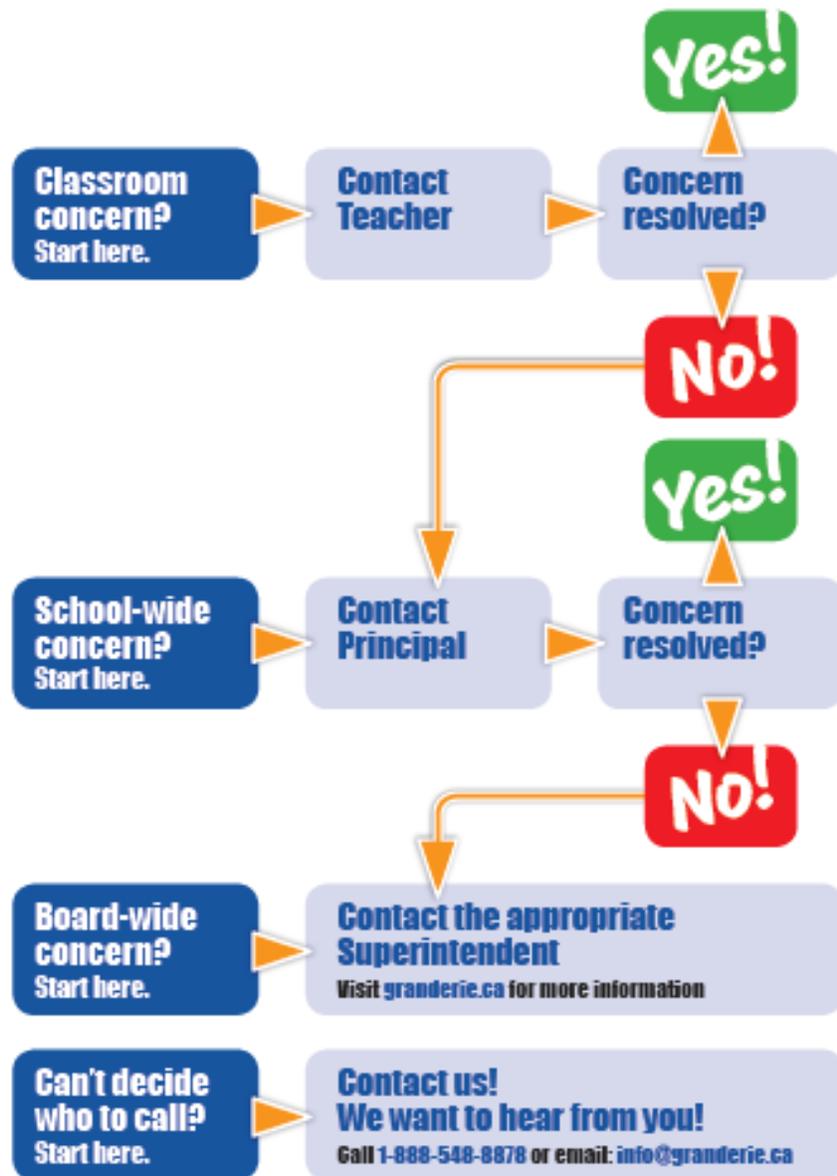
We thank you in advance for supporting our school. Happy shopping!

Sample Of Participating Retailers. Visit [www.fundscrip.com](http://www.fundscrip.com) for a complete listing





# How to Get Help with a Concern



**Your trustee can guide you through this process**