



# The Leader

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

November 8, 2021

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3C4yk30>

#### Balanced School Year Pilot Project

On October 5, 2020, Trustees directed staff to create Terms of Reference for a committee that would make recommendations concerning a Balanced Year Calendar in November 2021. In its Terms of Reference, the first responsibility of the committee was “to identify one Grand Erie elementary school at which to establish a Balanced Year pilot.” Following consultations with stakeholders including a series of town hall meetings and surveys of parents/guardians at schools identified as potential sites to pilot the project, a report was presented as information. As a result, the committee did not support the implementation of the Balanced Year Calendar pilot in 2022-23. The committee suggests reconsidering this pilot for a new elementary school.



To view the report, see pages 3 – 6 here: <https://bit.ly/3C4yk30>

#### Consolidated Financial Statements

On Monday, Trustees recommended for approval the consolidated financial statements and auditor’s report for the year ended August 31, 2021, and passed a motion to recommend their approval at the meeting of the Audit Committee held November 2, 2021. To view the consolidated financial statements and auditor’s report, see pages 8 – 44 here: <https://bit.ly/3C4yk30>



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### Accessibility Plan Annual Progress Report

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) 2005 and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation 2011 require Boards of Education to prepare an accessibility plan that outlines strategies to identify, eliminate and prevent barriers to accessibility for persons with disabilities. Progress toward meeting the goals in the plan must be reported annually. Grand Erie program staff in all portfolios continue to support educators to working to understand and implement universal design for learning as well as responsive instruction and assessment strategies to achieve the full participation of all students, both face-to-face and in virtual models of learning. This report supports Grand Erie's Mission: Together we build a culture of learning, well-being and belonging to inspire each learner. To view the report, see pages 51 – 64 here: <https://bit.ly/3C4yk30>

### Director's Report Highlights

#### Spectators at Secondary Sporting Events

Grand Erie has updated its **secondary sports protocol** to welcome a limited number of spectators for indoor sports. According to the new protocol, which came into effect on November 8, spectators at indoor sports must:

- Have an appropriately signed and dated paper ticket issued by the school through the athletes (two paper tickets will be provided to each athlete using a templated provided to each school, signed and dated by the coach of each team)
- Be fully vaccinated
- Wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose, and chin
- Be seated at least two metres from any person outside their household



**JoAnna Roberto**  
Director of Education



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### Remembrance Day Observances

November 8 is a day to commemorate the contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis veterans who fought for Canada in the World Wars, the Korean War and later conflicts. In observing this day, we recognize the significant achievements and sacrifices made by the thousands of Indigenous peoples who served this country, and without enjoying the same rights as their peers.



On November 11, we will observe a moment of silence to honour the courage and sacrifice of Canadians who have served and continue to serve Canada during times of war and conflict. You can pay tribute to our veterans and active service members by wearing a poppy and observing a moment of silence at 11 a.m. wherever you are.

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### Accessibility Awareness

December 3 marks International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Grand Erie's partnership with the Rick Hansen Foundation brings a unique opportunity to shine a light on the Belonging and Well-Being of people with disabilities in our classrooms, schools, and communities. Between November 29 and December 10, educator teams and their students are invited to take part in one of 12 scheduled presentations and question-and-answer sessions with Rick Hansen Foundation ambassadors.

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### Upcoming Days of Significance

Rock Your Mocs on **November 15** provides a chance to honour the traditions of Indigenous peoples and celebrate cultural pride by wearing moccasins at school or the office on that day.

Louis Riel Day is held every year on **November 16**, the anniversary of Riel's execution in 1885. Although Louis Riel Day commemorates one of the great tragedies in Canadian history, it is also a day to celebrate Métis people and culture.



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### Additional Items

**Trustees also received the following reports:**

- Health and Safety Annual Report 2020-21

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

- F2 Budget Development Process
- SO-08 Community Partnerships

**The following Policies and Procedures were recommended for approval:**

- F7 Reporting of Wrongdoing
- SO-10 Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- SO-11 Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour

**The following Procedures were shared as information:**

- F107 Reporting of Wrongdoing
- FT101 Smoke-Free Environment
- HR120 Communicable Diseases
- SO-134 Website Requirements
- HR102 Working with Blood-Borne Infections, Precautions and Practices



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### Multi-Year Plan Stories

In 2021, 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 the vision to Learn, Lead and Inspire, and a mission to build a culture Learning, Well-Being and Belonging for each learner.

The following stories showcase some of the most recent stories related to the Multi-Year Plan.

#### Well-Being

- Grand Erie launches menstrual equity campaign in schools across district: <https://www.granderie.ca/board/news/grand-erie-launches-menstrual-equity-campaign-schools-across-district>

#### Belonging

- Indigenous Allyship award recognizes strength and resilience on path to graduation: <https://www.granderie.ca/board/news/indigenous-allyship-award-recognizes-strength-and-resilience-path-graduation>