



# The Leader

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Regular Board Meeting

February 28, 2022

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

### Learn Lead Inspire Award Presentation

The Learn Lead Inspire award recognizes the students, staff members and volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to our school communities, aligning with the Board's mission to build a culture of learning, well-being and belonging.

This month, Grand Erie is proud to recognize **Jesse Hertel** from the Information Technology Services team. For years, Jesse



was a reassuring voice on the other end of the phone, walking Grand Erie staff through all manner of technical difficulties in his role as part of the ITS Help Desk. When the pandemic hit, and classrooms closed to in-person learning, technology became the crucial means to staying connected with our students and colleagues, and the only way to continue our work. Always with a friendly, approachable demeanor, Jesse led the way during these challenging times, solving problems, getting programs up and running, and ensuring staff had the vital technological capabilities they needed. Jesse recently moved into the role of Business Analyst with the ITS team, taking his vast knowledge, notable customer service and ability to support others into this new leadership role. Grand Erie extends congratulations to Jesse Hertel for exemplifying the board's vision to **learn**, **lead** and **inspire**.



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### Director's Report Highlights

#### Welcome Grand Erie's Future Student Trustees

Tatyana Zebroski, a student at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School was declared elected as Student Trustee for the North; Maggie Baker, a student at Simcoe Composite School was declared elected as Student Trustee for the South; and Aleena Skye, a student at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School was declared elected as the Indigenous Student Trustee for the 2022-23 year. Thank you to Superintendent Kevin Graham, Mr. Benner, Mr. Geerlings, Ms. Moniz and Mr. Tice for all of their support. We know our current Student Trustees will support them with the transition and guide them forward as they step into these important leadership roles.



#### GEPIC Event: Internet Safety for Children and Teens

The Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee GEPIC is thrilled to bring back cyber safety expert Paul Davis for a virtual event (March 3 at 6:30 pm) aimed at empowering parents and guardians in the digital age. Davis will share cyberbullying, texting, image sharing, digital trails, and social platforms including TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, and Facebook, with key information and safety advice to help parents help their children and youth navigate the online space.





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### Equity Focus Groups

Superintendent Wayne Baker and Safe and Inclusive Schools Lead Christine Bibby are conducting equity focus groups, working with Erik Lockhart, a facilitator from Queen's University. The groups are presented with three questions:

- What would an inclusive educational system look like?
- What challenges prevent us from achieving our vision for the board?
- What actions would address the challenges to our vision of an inclusive board?

The focus groups will include students, parents, teachers, non-teaching staff and administrators. In early spring, we will arrange an opportunity for trustees to participate as well. This work will align with Grand Erie's Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

### Kick-Start to Kindergarten

The transition to Kindergarten is a pivotal time for families. *Kick-Start to Kindergarten* is an event that is being piloted at four schools in Grand Erie this year with the goal of supporting new students and families. Grand Erie staff will partner with local community groups and Early Years professionals to provide an opportunity for children entering Kindergarten to participate in developmental screening. Families will have a chance to meet school staff and community partners as they start their Grand Erie journey. This year, events will be held at Bellview Public School, Cobblestone Elementary School, Delhi Public School and Jarvis Public School.

### Celebrating Pink Shirt Day

A shout-out to Boston Public School for their leadership, and kindness on Pink Shirt Day, and for representing all Grand Erie schools, students, and staff for their compassion and commitment to stamping out bullying in all its forms.





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### Six Nations Council Collaboration

On behalf of Grand Erie, Nia:wen (thank you) for the opportunity to present at General Council, and the experience of learning, leading and inspiring together. I'd like to recognize Superintendent Kevin Graham, Trustee Claudine VanEvery-Albert, Robin Staats, Principal Leader, Jeanie Martin, Six Nations Native Advisor-Teacher Consultant, and the Indigenous Education team for connecting our work, celebrating our successes, and planning next steps as we move forward together.

### We're Hiring! Thank you to HR

Thank you to the Human Resource department for its creativity, promotion and outreach to future Grand Erie staff. The experience of learning, well-being and belonging begins with this initial reach-out and has been overwhelmingly positive as new staff members begin their careers with Grand Erie.



### Additional Items

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

- January 24, 2022 (Regular Board)
- February 7, 2022 (Committee of the Whole Board)

**Trustees also received the following reports:**

- Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – December 9, 2021
- Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – January 20, 2022
- Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – January 12, 2022
- Safe and Inclusive Schools (SIS) Committee Minutes (Draft) – January 20, 2022
- Native Advisory Committee (NAC) Minutes (Draft) – January 27, 2022
- Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Minutes (Draft) – February 10, 2022
- Privacy and Information Management (PIM) Committee Minutes (Draft) – February 10, 2022



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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 story showcases some of the most recent stories related to the Multi-Year Plan.

### Belonging

- Young Entrepreneur Raises Funds for Bullying Prevention:  
<https://www.granderie.ca/board/news/young-entrepreneur-raises-funds-bullying-prevention>