



# The Leader

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Regular Board Meeting

June 27, 2022

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3nI9dUB>

### Christine Bibby Honoured with Patti McCleister Memorial Award

Christine Bibby, Grand Erie's Safe and Inclusive Schools Lead, was presented with the Patti McCleister Memorial Award on Monday evening, the highest honour bestowed upon a staff member. It is given annually to the Grand Erie employee who exemplifies outstanding leadership, inspires others, and is a driving force in realizing the board's vision to Learn, Lead and Inspire.

Many factors contribute to a student's ability to learn, succeed and thrive. Christine's various leadership roles in Grand Erie over the years have enhanced our understanding of these factors, and ability to act on that understanding. She is being honoured with the Patti McCleister Memorial Award as her own career in Grand Erie concludes, leaving our board so much better off for the leadership and inspiration she's provided. In the words of Superintendent Wayne Baker, "Christine has always stressed that anything worthwhile must be sustainable; it's not dependent on any one individual. Grand Erie is a more inclusive place because of Christine Bibby and will continue to improve. That will be her legacy." Read the full story here: <https://bit.ly/3OUKkLv>



**Above:** Christine Bibby, Grand Erie's Safe and Inclusive Schools lead.



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### Student Showcase

Paris District High School's Senior Band performed Celtic Air and Dance. Thank you to students in the Senior Band for sharing their talents and lending inspiration, and to educator Roger Winter for leading the band through a successful year.

### Director's Report Highlights

#### Honouring Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day

This past month provided the opportunity to celebrate and honour the diverse experiences, achievements and contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. It is also an opportunity to learn about the histories, rights and realities that reflect where we are today. Thank you to the many schools and staff members who seized this opportunity, adding to students' knowledge and understanding of our collective responsibilities and action, and their own – not just this month, but every month of the year. Thank you to the Indigenous Education team for sharing the learning materials and resources to aid this important work.

A special thank-you to Robin Staats, Joe Tice and Suzie Miller for taking the lead on *Sharing Our Voices*, the annual student showcase to recognize and celebrant National Indigenous Peoples Day. A video of the event can be found here: <https://youtu.be/xtASfJIAAdY>





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### Special Thanks to Student Trustees

On behalf of the Senior Administration team and the Board of Trustees, thank you to outgoing Student Trustees Reilly Mitchell (who represented students in the Brantford and Brant County), Carson Kitchen (who represented students in Haldimand and Norfolk counties) and Sierra Green (who represented Indigenous students across Grand Erie) for their hard work and dedication in being the voice of their fellow students in this virtual space this year. In addition to their responsibilities as Student Trustees, which include hosting student senates and contributing to Board reports, each also took on additional priorities to communicate and needs and interests of a diverse student population. All the best as each of you continue on your leadership journeys!



**From top left:** Student Trustees Reilly Mitchell, Carson Kitchen and Sierra Green.

### Awards and Scholarship Recognition

Congratulations to the following Grand Erie graduates on receiving awards, honours and scholarships, and to all Grand Erie grads on the academic and personal achievements that have gone into their K-Grade 12 successes:

- **Gurnirmal Kaur**, North Park Collegiate and Vocational School - James Hillier Foundation Scholarship
- **Nansi Hassoun**, Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School - Schulich Leader Scholarship
- **Sierra Green**, McKinnon Park Secondary School - National Indigenous Scholarship at Western University
- **Lucas Balog**, Paris District High School - James Hillier Foundation Scholarship, Chancellor's Scholarship, W.W. King Scholarship
- **Evangelina McKenzie Ferreira**, Cayuga Secondary School – Krista Schaus Memorial Bursary
- **Chloe Duval**, Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School - James Bougner Foundation Scholarship
- **Emily Brown**, Delhi DSS - Indigenous Allyship Award



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### Gratitude to Students and Staff as 2021-22 School Year Ends

We've just come through another year that – once again – was filled with uncertainty, sudden changes and challenges both professional and personal. Each of you has risen to this highly unusual occasion, one which has become an ever-evolving “new normal.” Thanks to your tireless professionalism, dedication and well-honed instincts to do what’s right for our students, we have once again bridged a digital divide, found ways to manage without the usual supports such as lunch programs, extracurricular activities and sports, or access to mental health supports at school, and supported each other in the process. My deepest appreciation for all you have done, and all you continue to do. I am amazed each day by your willingness to do whatever it takes to support students.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees including Chair Gibson and our Student Trustees for your support, understanding, and most of all, belief in our work, especially during another year of many challenges.

To our graduates of 2022... Be proud of your accomplishments. May you always have new opportunities come your way, and may you be always successful in your life. Anything is possible – all you have to do is believe in yourself. Thank you to principals/vice principals, teachers, support staff, friends and most of all Grand Erie families for their care and guidance!

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### Additional Items

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

- May 30, 2022 (Regular Board)
- June 13, 2022 (Committee of the Whole Board)
- June 16, 2022 (Special Board)

**Trustees received the following reports:**

- Student Trustees’ Report
- Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report for 2021-22



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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.

#### Learning

- Grand Erie Student's Short Story Takes Top Prize: <https://bit.ly/3ynUsa8>
- Grand Erie Reads to Lead! Over \$26,000 Raised for Pediatric Care at the Brant Community Healthcare System: <https://bit.ly/39RlixW>

#### Well-Being

- Grand Erie Goes Green with EcoSchools for 13th Year: <https://bit.ly/3zUxdFG>

#### Belonging

- Honouring National Indigenous Peoples Day: <https://bit.ly/39CmYvb>