



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, October 27, 2022

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

- A-1 **Opening**
 - Roll Call J. Roberto
 - Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement S. Gibson
- B-1 **GEPIC Slate of Members**
 - (a) Election of Chair (MS Form for voting) J. Roberto
 - (b) Terms of Reference
- C-1 **Minutes**
 - (a) Approval of the Minutes Chair
 - (c) Business Arising from the Minutes
- D-1 **Financial Report** J. Roberto
 - (a) GEPIC Budget
 - (b) PRO Grants for 2022-23
- E-1 **Director's Update** J. Roberto
- F-1 **Updates from the Board Table Director's Update**
 - S. Gibson
 - T. Waldschmidt
- G-1 **Follow up on Speaker Series** L. Munro
- H-1 **Breakout Groups**
 - (a) School Council Orientation Event K. Graham
 - (b) Parents/Caregivers engagement in School Council L. Munro/
 - (c) Sharing best practices for effective School Council/ School Team B. Poladian/
collaborations. Y. Brochu
- I-1 **Future Meetings** * virtual
 - February 23, 2023, April 27, 2023, May 25, 2023



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Terms of Reference

Grand Erie Parent Involvement (GEPIC) Committee Terms of Reference <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/R00612>

1.0 Statement of Purpose and Responsibility

1.1 The purpose of a Parent Involvement Committee is to support, encourage and enhance engagement at the board level to improve student achievement and well-being.

A parent/caregiver involvement committee of a board shall achieve its purpose by:

- (i) sharing effective practices to help engage all parents/caregivers in their children's learning,
- (ii) identifying and reduce barriers to parent/caregiver engagement at the system level,
- (iii) providing information and advice to the board on parent/caregiver engagement, and
- (iv) communicating with and supporting school councils of schools of the board.

2.0 Committee of the Composition

2.1 The GEPIC committee shall be composed of:

- (i) School Council Chair
 - Parent/caregiver member(s) must pupil enrolled in a school of the Board.
- (ii) A parent/caregiver to be recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee
- (iii) A parent/caregiver to be recommended by the Native Advisory Committee /Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.
- (iv) Community members (a maximum of three)
- (v) The Director of Education/Designate
- (vi) Two Trustees
- (vii) Manager of Communications and Community Relations or Superintendents of Education
- (viii) Two Principals and/or Vice Principal(s) – elementary and secondary
- (ix) Optional GEPIC members may include: one elementary teacher, one secondary teacher, one non-teaching board employee.

3.0 Committee Operating Procedures and Scope:

3.1 The GEPIC Committee will:

- (i) share effective practices to help engage all parents/caregivers in their children's learning,



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Terms of Reference

- (ii) identify and reduce barriers to parent/caregiver engagement at the system level,
- (iii) provide information and advice to the board on parent/caregiver engagement.
- (iv) communicate with and support school councils of schools.
- (v) determine, in consultation with the Director of Education, how ministry funding, if any, for parent/caregiver engagement initiatives is to be allocated
- (i) operate using a consensus model or entitled to vote– by parent/caregiver and community representative members
- (ii) select a Chair/Co-Chair(s) by the committee and must be a parent/ caregiver representative. The Chair/ Co-Chair(s) will be selected at the first meeting of each school year.
- (iii) Staff representatives will provide information, support and direction as requested by the committee. In addition, staff liaisons will facilitate the work of the committee as requested.
- (iv) GEPIC may solicit and take into consideration the advice of school councils and parents/caregivers of students enrolled in schools of the board regarding matters under consideration by the committee.

4.0 Role of the Board:

- 4.1 Appoint two Trustee members.
- 4.2 Support the work of the committee.
- 4.3 The board may solicit and take into consideration the advice of GEPIC regarding matters that relate to improving student achievement, well-being and belonging and respond to any recommendations from GEPIC.

5.0 Meetings

- 5.1 GEPIC shall meet a minimum of four times in each school year.
- 5.2 A GEPIC meeting cannot be held unless,
 - (i) a majority of the members present at the meeting are parent/ caregiver members.
 - (ii) the director of education, or the person designated under subsection 46(1), is present
 - (iii) the member of the board who sits on the committee, or the person designated under subsection 46(2), is present.
- 5.3 All meetings of GEPIC shall be open to the public and shall be held at a location that is accessible to the public or virtually to include a livestream.

6.0 Reporting

- 6.1 A report on the work of the committee shall be presented at GEPIC annually.
- 6.2 Minutes will be taken at all meetings and available on the website and included in Board meeting packages received as information.



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, May 12, 2022

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Committee Chair S. Nichol, Chair of the Board S. Gibson, K. Graham, L. Munro, Y. Brochu, B. Poladian. R. Staats, N. Waldschmidt, K. Edgar, J. Smith, S. Darling, J. Maillet, J. Belbin, M. Mummery, J. Quesnel

Regrets: Director Roberto, Trustee T. Waldschmidt

Recorder: C. Dero

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call / Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Superintendent Munro opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with an Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory.

B - 1 **Minutes**

(a) **Member approval of the Minutes - March 3, 2022**

Moved by: J. Smith

Seconded by: N. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the March 3, 2022 Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes.

Carried

C - 1 **Debrief Guest Speakers**

(a) **Speaker Series with Dr. Singh and Dr. Gordon**

Chair Nichol shared feedback that was received from participants of the recent GEPIC Speaker Series event with Dr. Singh and Dr. Gordon. The feedback included suggestions for future guest speaker topics.

Discussions took place on how to increase participation and viewership during future guest speaker events.

D - 1 **Updates from the Board Table**

S. Gibson, Chair of the Board provided information about:

- One Stop Grad Shop
- 2022-23 School Year Calendars have been approved
- National Volunteer Week
- Education Week and Mental Health Week took place from May 2-6, 2022

E - 1 **Director's Update**

(a) Superintendent Munro and Superintendent Graham presented the Director's Update on behalf of Director Roberto, and extended thanks and appreciation to Chair Nichol for the significant impact she has had on Grand Erie as Chair of the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee.



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Superintendent Munro and Superintendent Graham shared information about:

- Ministry Funding for Tutor Supports
- Elementary EQAO Preparation and Built-in Tools
- Updated Elementary Science Curriculum
- New Secondary Grade 9 Science Curriculum
- Revised Grade 10 Civics & Citizenship Course
- New Grade 9 Science Course
- Project Search
- Graduation Rates

F - 1 **GEPIC Chair's Update**

Learning K-12 – Grade 8-9 transition discussions

Chair Nichol thanked the committee for a great year and indicated that she will not be running for Chair again next year.

Chair Nichol explained that members in attendance would be placed into breakout rooms to take part group discussion about Grade 8-9 transitions.

G - 1 **Group Discussion**

Groups returned to the meeting and shared some of their ideas with respect to the following questions:

- Identify some unique features or experiences you see in your child's secondary schools that works well? Why does your child attend a Grand Erie School?
- How can we create early transition experiences for students and families?
- What suggestions do parents/guardians have for a pre-September transition experience for your child's grade 9 entry?
- How do we create safe, welcoming, and inclusive secondary schools so all students can see themselves represented in their secondary school?

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.