



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, February 23, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-----|--|----------------------------|
| A-1 | Opening
Roll Call
Welcome to Open Session / Land AcknowledgementStatement | Chair Darling |
| B-1 | Dr. Jean Clinton | Chair Darling |
| C-1 | Minutes
(a) Approval of the Minutes | Chair Darling |
| D-1 | Director's Update | J. Roberto |
| E-1 | Updates from the Board Table Update | J. Bradford
L. Passmore |
| G-1 | PRO Grant Update | Chair Darling |
| H-1 | Learning Session
(a) Grand Erie's Inclusive Language Guide | P. Ashe |
| I-1 | School Highlights
(a) Updates from School Council Chair | Chair Darling |
| J-1 | Speaker Series Update | Chair Darling |
| K-1 | Future Meetings
April 27, 2023, May 25, 2023 | |



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Present: Committee Chair S. Darling, Director J. Roberto, Chair of the Board S. Gibson, Trustee T. Waldschmidt, K. Graham, L. Munro, Y. Brochu, B. Poladian, N. Waldschmidt, S. Nichol, J. Smith, J. Belbin, M. Mummery, J. Quesnel, T. Mole, F. Bridgewater, J. O'Neil, P. Kaur, L. Hennessey, M. Pearson, D. Sangster, B. Cowan, B. Smith, T. Marshall, A. Clark, A. Parking, M. Shewburg, B. Best.

Recorder: C. Dero

A - 1 **Opening**

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

Director Roberto opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and confirmed that Roll Call had been completed. Y. Brochu read the Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory.

B - 1 **GEPIC Slate of Members**

(a) **Election of Chair**

Director Roberto commended S. Nichol for her work as previous Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Chair and thanked her for her years of service.

Director Roberto called for nominations for the GEPIC Chair for 2022-23 school year.

N. Waldschmidt nominated S. Darling, who accepted the nomination. No further nominations were received. S. Darling was acclaimed as Chair.

J. Roberto congratulated S. Darling on her new role as GEPIC Chair for 2022-23 school year.

(b) **Terms of Reference**

Director Roberto outlined the components of the GEPIC Terms of Reference and explained that they must align with the Education Act (O. Reg. 612/00).

Director Roberto clarified that all Student Council representatives are invited to become GEPIC members and added that the wording in the Terms of Reference would be updated to reflect this more clearly.

The committee supported approving the Terms of Reference.

C - 1 **Minutes**

(a) **Approval of the Minutes - May 12, 2022**

Moved by: J. Belbin

Seconded by: J. Smith

THAT the March 12, 2022, Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes be approved.

Carried

(b) **Business Arising from the Minutes – Nil**



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D - 1 **Financial Report**

(a) **GEPIC Budget & PRO Grants for 2022-23**

Director Roberto reported that schools have each been allocated \$500 for Parent Involvement and \$200 for Student Council for the 2022-23 school.

Director Roberto shared examples of how the funds have been used in the past.

(b) **PRO Grants for 2022-23**

Director Roberto reported that the PRO Grant amount for the 2022-23 school year is \$38,000.

E - 1 **Director's Update**

Director Roberto, Superintendent Munro, and Superintendent Graham provided information about:

- Grand Erie's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and Annual Learning and Operating Plan
- Program K-12 Updates
- French Immersion Survey – families will receive the survey on November 4, 2022
- Grand Erie's Student Census will be conducted between November 7-25, 2022
- Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocol
- GEDSB Equity Action Plan
- Upcoming Boundary Reviews
- Facilities upgrades
- The Special Education Advisory Committee is looking for members.

Director Roberto encouraged committee members to provide feedback to Chair Darling if they would like additional information presented at future meetings, or information to bring back to their schools.

Y. Brochu and B. Poladian shared events and activities that elementary and secondary schools have been taking part in.

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

Trustee T. Waldschmidt and S. Gibson, Chair of the Board provided information about:

- Grand Erie has three new Student Trustees for 2022-23 school year, who will share student voice at the board table.
- Take Our Kids to Work Day on November 2, 2022, will include options for students to participate in virtual events.
- Lead Learn Inspire Award - Committee members are encouraged to nominate community members that they would like to recognize for their outstanding and long-standing contributions. A nomination form is available at granderie.ca.

G - 1 **Follow up on Speaker Series**

Superintendent Munro shared information about guest speakers who were suggested in the 2021-22 school year: Tanya Talaga, Dr. Robyn Hanley Dafoe, Jay Shetty, and Suzie Miller.



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Additional suggestions from committee members included: Paul Davies (cyber-security), Jamie McMillan (mental health), an expert in teaching parents how to talk to kids about sexual assault, and an expert in homophobia and LGBTQ issues.

H - 1 **Breakout Groups**

Committee members broke into groups, and returned to the meeting to share a summary of their discussions:

School Council Orientation Event

- Create a space for discussion to learn about other school councils do.
- Within an equity lens, how we are dealing with issues and what supports are in place.
- School cash online process
- How to work effectively with administrators

Parents/Caregivers engagement in School Council

- How to grow engagement in the school.
- Notifications about upcoming School Council meetings in newsletters, website, School Messenger, Facebook, Quarterly GEPIC flyer.
- Promotion of events

Sharing best practices for effective School Council/School Team

- See the School Council page at granderie.ca for tips and checklists
- Make sure everyone has a say
- Provide opportunities to explore policies
- OneNote for School Council

Committee members recognize that participation increases when meetings are offered virtually.

I - 1 **Future Meetings**

February 23, 2023, April 27, 2023, May 25, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.