



The Leader

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Regular Meeting of the Board

March 27, 2023

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/42JqI4t>

Student Showcase: Putting the *Kind* in Kindergarten at St. George-German School

Inspired by the concept of the 'kindness boomerang' where one thoughtful action can set off a chain reaction of positivity, learners in educators Christine Sellar's and Shannon Wood's Kindergarten classroom at St. George-German School decided to launch an experiment. This February, students brainstormed ways to spread kindness throughout their community. The result was the Kindness Project.

The ideas they put into action included helping neighbours clear snow from walkways, bringing coffee to workers at a local animal hospital, and baking muffins to share with inspiring coaches, community volunteers and firefighters. Putting the *kind* in Kindergarten gained momentum, and spread throughout the school and the wider community, motivating others to do the same.



Above: The learners who made the Kindness Project a reality.



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Student Showcase: Putting the *Kind* in Kindergarten at St. George-German School Contd.

In recognition of the grassroots project, and the incredible community of parents/caregivers and school staff who assisted with it, Grand Erie presented the entire class with a Learn Lead Inspire honour. Congratulations to this group of learners for demonstrating the awesome impact of empathy, love, care and kindness.



Above: St. George-German School staff members Christine Sellar, Shannon Wood, Jim Cottam with Chair Susan Gibson and Director JoAnna Roberto at the board meeting Monday.

Student Trustees Expand Horizons at Ontario-wide Conference

Student trustees Maggie Baker and Tatyana Zebroski recently attended the Ontario Student Trustees Association Board Council Conference where they connected with fellow Ontario student trustees, heard from a variety of guest speakers on timely topics in education, and took part in professional development workshops to advance leadership in a number of important areas. Topics included supporting culturally relevant actions to empower Indigenous youth, supporting student mental health and well-being, and developing strong arguments with the input of student voice to impact change.



Maggie Baker



Tatyana Zebroski



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Director's Report Highlights

Additional Qualification Courses

With a renewed focus on teaching and learning, Grand Erie is once again highlighting Additional Qualification course offerings, open to all educators including new teachers. Through partnerships with various post-secondary organizations including Queen's University, Lakehead University, Wilfrid Laurier University and Six Nations Polytechnic, Grand Erie has been able to present additional learning opportunities. This spring, through partnering with Lakehead and Queen's, several options will be available, with many Grand Erie staff members facilitating courses to enable strong, relevant connections to content.



New Ontario Secondary School Diploma Graduation Requirement

The Ministry of Education is introducing a new Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) graduation requirement for students to earn a Grade 9 or 10 Technological Education credit, starting with the cohort of students entering Grade 9 in September 2024. Students will be required to earn at least one credit from the Grade 9 or 10 courses in the Technological Education curriculum, which covers a broad range of sectors, including construction, transportation, manufacturing, computer technology, and communication. A compulsory credit in Technological Education is intended to give students hands-on experience and early exposure to skilled trades and build on the learning in the recently revised elementary Science and Technology curriculum.



Ministry of Education



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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 Strategic Plan.

Learning

- [Grand Erie Students Tap into Tutoring for Learning Lift](#)

Well-Being

- [Battling Brothers Push Each Other to Provincial-Level Wrestling Competition](#)
- [Student-Initiated Swim Team Gives Classmate a Chance to Compete:](#)

Belonging

- [Art Soup Gets Creativity Cooking Once Again](#)
- [Student Trustees Ready to Lead the Way to Learning, Well-Being and Belonging](#)
- [Grand Erie Welcomes New Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC](#)