



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 23, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

A - 1 Opening

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session **(6:30 pm)**
 - (i) Personnel
 - (ii) Legal
 - (iii) Property
- (d) Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement
The Grand Erie District School Board recognizes Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as the longstanding peoples of this territory. We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples who reside within the Grand Erie District School Board. We are all stewards of these lands and waters where we now gather, learn and play, and commit to working together in the spirit of Reconciliation.
- (e) Call to Order
- (f) Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Agenda be approved."
- * (g) Memorials
 - (i) Luke Johnson (Trustee Thomas)
 - (ii) Erica Smith (Trustee Waldschmidt)
- (h) In-Camera Report
- (i) Learn Lead Inspire Awards (J. Roberto)
- (j) Student Showcase
- (k) Delegations

B - 1 Approval of the Minutes

- * (a) June 27, 2024 (Special Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated June 27, 2024, be approved."

C - 1 Committee Recommendations and Reports

- * (a) [Governance Committee Meeting](#) Report dated August 22, 2024
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Board approve the amendments to the Trustee Code of Conduct."
- * (b) [Finance Committee Meeting](#) Report dated September 9, 2024 (I)

D - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

E - 1 Report of the Director (J. Roberto) (I)

F - 1 Student Trustees' Report

G - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

- * (a) Major Construction Project Report (R. Wyszynski) (I)
- * (b) Summer Learning Report (K. Graham, L. Munro, L. Thompson, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White) (I)



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 23, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

H - 1 Other Business

- * (a) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated June 6, 2024 (I)
- * (b) Audit Committee Meeting Minutes dated June 13, 2024 (I)

I - 1 OPSBA Report (C. VanEvery-Albert) (I)

J - 1 Correspondence

- * (a) Lambton Kent District School Board dated June 19, 2024

K - 1 Adjournment

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned."



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, September 23, 2024
Education Centre Boardroom

7:15 p.m.

AGENDA

OCTOBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	01	02	03 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m.	04
07	08	09	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21 Policy and Program Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.	22	23	24 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee 3:30 p.m. Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee 6:30 p.m.	25
28 Regular Board 7:15 p.m.	29	30	31	

In Memoriam

Luke Johnson, a student
at Lakewood Elementary School

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Luke Johnson, a Grade 2 student at Lakewood Elementary School.

Luke was full of energy and life. He loved sports, particularly hockey and running. He had a heartwarming smile that he shared with everyone, especially his siblings, Hosanna and Pearce, and his loving parents, Jill and Dan. Jill, a beloved teacher at Waterford District High School, and Dan, an occasional teacher in Grand Erie, would like to thank the staff, students and families of Waterford District High School and Lakewood Elementary School for their support and love during this difficult time.

Our deepest condolences go out to Luke's family, friends, the Lakewood Elementary School and Waterford District High School communities and everyone connected to this loss.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Logan
Lakewood Elementary School

Presented at the Grand Erie District School Board's Regular Board Meeting
on September 23, 2024, by Trustee Thomas.

In Memoriam

Erica Smith, a student
at Paris District High School

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Erica Smith, a Grade 11 student at Paris District High School.

Erica was a beloved member of our school community, and she will be greatly missed.

Our deepest condolences go out to Erica's family, friends, the Paris District High School community and everyone connected to this loss.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Johnson
Paris District High School

Presented at the Grand Erie District School Board's Regular Board Meeting
on September 23, 2024, by Trustee Waldschmidt.



Special Board Meeting

Thursday, June 27, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Present: Chair: S. Gibson, Vice-Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, L. Whiton

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

Regrets: Trustees: G. Anderson, T. Sault, E. Thomas, Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

A - 1 **Opening (6:30 p.m.)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:32 p.m.)**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:26 p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorials** - Nil

(h) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT Property Item D-1-a be approved.

Carried

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT Property Item D-1-b be approved.

Carried



Special Board Meeting

Thursday, June 27, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

(i) **Student Showcase** -Nil

(j) **Delegations** – Nil

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **June 24, 2024 (Regular Board Meeting)**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: D. Doyle

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated June 24, 2024, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 22, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams

REPORT

Present: Committee Chair: S. Gibson, Trustees: J. Bradford, B. Doyle, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Recording Secretary: C. Dero

Guests: J. Bell, General Legal Counsel

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. by Chair S. Gibson and roll call was completed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest.

(c) **Welcome /Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: B. Doyle

That the Governance Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Approval of the Minutes**

THAT the Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting, dated March 21, 2024, be approved.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from the Minutes/Previous Meeting** - Nil

E - 1 **New Business – Governance Items**

(a) **Amendments to the Borrowing By-law and Trustee Code of Conduct**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the amendments to the Trustee Code of Conduct be forwarded to the September 23, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval; and

THAT the amendments to the Borrowing By-law be forwarded to the November 25, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

F - 1 **Other Business** – Nil



C-1-a

Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 22, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams

REPORT

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: B. Doyle

That the Governance Committee meeting be adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Carried



Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 9, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

Present: Committee Chair: B. Doyle, Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, S. Gibson, L. Passmore, E. Thomas (MS Teams), T. Waldschmidt

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: J. Tozer (MS Teams), R. Wyszynski (MS Teams), Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken, Executive Assistant: C. Dero

Visiting Trustee: C.A. Sloat

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair B. Doyle at 6:30 p.m. and roll call was confirmed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **Welcome/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Committee Chair B. Doyle read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: S. Gibson

THAT the Finance Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **June 10, 2024**

Moved by: J. Bradford

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting dated June 10, 2024, be approved.

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes/Previous Meetings** – Nil

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Capital Priorities Project Funding Submission 2024-25**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, the land acquisition of a school site in Paris is yet to be determined.

(b) **Special Approvals Report**

Presented as printed.

The Board received two valid submissions that met the Tender requirements. Two additional prequalified Bidders expressed their interest in the project, but they were unable to submit their proposals on time.



C-1-b

Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 9, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

F - 1 **Other Business** – Nil

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Passmore

THAT the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** November 11, 2024



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer
RE: **Major Construction Project Report**
DATE: September 23, 2024

Background

As per Grand Erie District School Board’s (Grand Erie’s) Major Construction Policy (FA-01), the status of each active capital project will be provided in a bi-monthly report. As per policy, this report shall include budgeted and actual costs to date, details of project progress and schedule for completion. A funding strategy will be recommended should forecasted expenditures for a project exceed the budget established.

Status

Caledonia Joint-Use Elementary School

The project has received Ministry approval to proceed, and the tender has been released. The project team has awarded the general construction contract to Tambro Construction Ltd. and construction is underway. It is anticipated the school will welcome students for the first time in September 2025.

South-West Brantford Joint-Use Elementary School

The project has received Ministry approval to proceed, and the tender has been released. The project team has awarded the general construction contract to Aquicon Construction and construction is underway. Construction is expected to be completed by September 2026.

Banbury Heights

The project has received Ministry approval to proceed, and the tender has been released. The project team has awarded the general construction contract to TRP Construction and construction has begun.

All active project details are listed in Appendix A.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports all the indicators of Learn Lead Inspire.

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

Appendix A

Project	Type	Phase	Ministry Approval	Target Opening Date	Architect	Site Acquisition	Site Plan Approval (SPA)	Tender Awarded	General Contractor	Budget	Actual	Cost Forecast
Elgin Avenue Public School	Addition / Renovation	Pre-Tender	Aug 04, 2017	Sep 01, 2025	Salter Pilon Architecture	N/A	In progress.	No	TBD	\$ 6,180,145	\$ 222,020	\$ 6,180,145
South-West Brantford Elementary School	New School	Construction in Progress	Oct 20, 2020	Sep 01, 2026	ZAS Architects	In Progress	Approved.	Yes	Aquicon	\$ 37,276,746	\$ 1,600,365	\$ 37,276,746
Caledonia Joint-Use Elementary School	New School	Construction in Progress	Nov 23, 2021	Sep 01, 2025	Svedas Architects	Completed	Approved.	Yes	Tambro	\$ 18,935,580	\$ 307,412	\$ 18,935,580
Cobblestone Elementary School Child Care	Addition	Pre-Tender	Mar 25, 2021	Sep 01, 2026	Grguric Architects Inc.	N/A	Approved.	No	TBD	\$ 3,045,153	\$ 103,984	\$ 3,045,153
Banbury Heights School Child Care	Addition	Construction in Progress	Mar 25, 2021	Sep 01, 2025	Grguric Architects Inc.	N/A	Approved.	Yes	TRP Construction	\$ 3,109,266	\$ 237,802	\$ 3,109,266
Cobblestone Elementary School Addition	Addition	Design	Mar 27, 2024	Sep 01, 2026	Grguric Architects Inc.	N/A	In progress.	No	TBD	\$ 4,098,600	\$ -	\$ 4,098,600



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board

FROM: K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
L. Munro, Superintendent of Curriculum & Student Achievement
L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education
R. Vankerrebroeck, Superintendent of Education
J. White, Superintendent of Education

RE: **Summer Learning Report**

DATE: September 23, 2024

Background

The Grand Erie District School Board (Grand Erie) continues to offer rich and engaging summer learning opportunities for students and staff. Building on past success, several innovative programs were offered for Grand Erie students to enhance their language, mathematics and technology skills, earn credits, make new connections and prepare for a smooth transition into the next school year.

Program Highlights

Summer Institute

The Summer Institute supports employee professional development. The Summer Institute was open to all Grand Erie employees. Sessions were reflective of the goals and priorities of the 2023-24 Annual Learning and Operating Plan. There were 21 sessions run by Grand Erie staff and external facilitators with 240 participants across all employee sectors. Session feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Summer Additional Qualifications

This summer, 157 Grand Erie educators successfully completed Additional Qualifications courses. 21 educators took First Nations, Métis and Inuit People, 53 educators took Math Part 1, 2 or 3, 42 educators completed Reading Part 1, 2 or 3, 23 completed Special Education Part 1, 2 or 3, 12 educators completed Kindergarten Part 1 or 2 and 6 other additional qualifications were taken in a variety of curriculum areas.

Camp SAIL

Camp SAIL hosted 125 students from Grades 2 to 4 across five (5) sites throughout Grand Erie (Agnes Hodge, Cobblestone, River Heights, Thompson Creek and Waterford Elementary Schools). Program Coordinators, Site Coordinators, Educators, Child and Youth Workers, Communicative Disorders Assistants, Educational Assistants, and Administrators worked together to make camp a success this year.

Students were provided an opportunity to review resources and learn new math and literacy strategies over three weeks. Educators attended training and received resources to support program success. Educators worked diligently to program with individual needs in mind, while engaging students in games, activities, and theme days to provide an engaging, educational summer camp environment.

With a targeted focus on Early Language (phonological awareness) and Early Mathematics, 70% of students demonstrated some or significant growth in phonemic awareness and 60% of students demonstrated some or significant growth in early mathematics skills.

Learen enn Spalen Summer Camp

Learen enn Spalen returned to Houghton Public School this summer. Over nine days in late August, an average of 11 participated in this learning opportunity. The students spent mornings strengthening numeracy and literacy skills with the support of a teacher and educational assistant. The learning included a wide range of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) activities using an exploratory, hands-on learning approach. Over the course of the program, students not only were able to strengthen their academic and thinking skills, but transition back into a routine to prepare them for the upcoming school year.

Secondary Summer School (Credit Bearing)

With 72 secondary summer school courses to choose from, Grand Erie received more applicants than previous years. Opportunities for reach ahead courses provided students entering high school an opportunity to receive a credit in Introduction to Business (BTTIO), Civics (CHV2O), or Careers (GLC2O). All courses were offered online through Brightspace. This provided flexibility for students and led to incredible success rates.

Final Summary Data		
	#	%
Total Credits	4993	
Successful Credits	4385	88

Focus on Youth

This program supports students who face challenges to employment and/or engagement in school, to acquire and be successful in their first job. Students were employed for six weeks and received twenty hours of pre-employment training which included certification in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), with Automated External Defibrillator (AED), First Aid, working with youth, as well as skills such as how to conduct yourself in a work environment and how to deal with conflict. Throughout the six weeks:

- 38 completed the program
- 27 students earned a co-operative education credit
- Inclusion of students from Safe and Inclusive Schools programming continued
- Addition of two (2) new community partners for student employment

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) Skilled Trades Camps

Almost 200 participants were enrolled in 10 OYAP Skilled Trades Camps this summer with a focus on welding, construction, small engines and hospitality. All camps were designed to build student confidence and self-esteem while students actively learned new skills. Camps were designed to promote student awareness and interest in pursuing skilled trades opportunities in their secondary and postsecondary education. Camps were hosted over five (5) designated weeks across three (3) secondary schools throughout the district and were open to Grand Erie and Six Nations students. Participants ranged from entering Grade 7 to Grade 9.

Specialized Services Summer Programs

Specialized Services Summer Programs focus on returning to a classroom setting, and include intentional teaching of routines, structure, thoughtful classroom design and time to make and build relationships with staff and peers. Specialized Services provided in-person programs for students from kindergarten through to Grade 6 to build relationships and familiarize themselves with their school.

Programs were designed with a focus on inclusive practices and engaged students through smaller educator-to-student ratios, activities and lessons that were universally designed to meet students at their entry points for learning, and to support their transition back to school with confidence and excitement.

Programs Offered and Uptake:

<p>This is my School Focus – Primary students, transition support, 18 programs offered; 72 students participated</p>	<p>It All Adds Up to Me Focus – Junior age students, math skills, perseverance and resilience 9 programs offered; 80 students participated</p>
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School Culture and Well-Being Summer Programs

For the first time, Grand Erie families had the opportunity to receive summer mental health supports through Outreach, in the form of food hampers and wellness check-ins. Through this program, 203 families received food hampers, 139 of these families also received wellness check-ins. In total, 294 Grand Erie students received outreach supports this summer.

Land-based learning program was offered to Six Nations and Mississauga of the Credit First Nation students. Students worked with members of the community and the Indigenous Education Team throughout the summer, land-based learning and mental health supports that they had been receiving during the school year. To support positive attendance and student engagement, during the last weeks of school, Grand Erie Attendance Counsellors worked with 160 students to support enrollment and attendance for first day of school.

Next Steps

Summer learning programs continue to be an integral part of Grand Erie’s education service to the district. All departments who offered summer learning opportunities this year will review and incorporate stakeholder feedback in their planning for 2025 summer learning programs.

Grand Erie’s Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Achievement and Well-Being indicators of Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

- K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
- L. Munro, Superintendent of Curriculum & Student Achievement
- L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education
- R. Vankerbroeck, Superintendent of Education
- J. White, Superintendent of Education



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday June 6, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair L. DeJong, Trustees: T. Waldschmidt, L. Whiton, Community Representatives: B. Bruce, K. Kelly, Organizations: T. Buchanan, L. Boswell, P. Found, C. Gilman, R. Vriends
- Administration:** Superintendent L. Thompson, Principal Leader Specialized Services: J. Senior, Specialized Services Supervisor: P. Bagchee, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar
- Guests:** Superintendent L. Munro, Grand Erie: K. Dalton, E. Haan, A. McColeman, V. McColeman, Z. McColeman, A. Racette, N. Racette, A. Walker
- Absent with regrets:** Vice-Chair Jones, Community Representatives: L. Nydam, Organizations: C. Stefanelli

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair DeJong called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) **Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder**

Recording Secretary J. Valstar confirmed roll call.

(c) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Move B-1 (b) to first item followed by B-1 (a)

Moved by: T. Buchanan

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the June 6, 2024 agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B - 1 **Timed Items**

(a) **Grand Erie's Math Achievement Action Plan Update (GE-MAAP)**

Superintendent Munro gave an update on Grand Erie's GE-MAAP.

(b) **Project SEARCH Presentation**

Principal Leader J. Senior introduced some of the Project SEARCH graduates, and their teacher, who spoke about their experience with Project SEARCH.

C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

(a) **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes dated May 2, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday June 6, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

- (b) **Grand Erie's Special Education Plan 2023-24**
Moved by: L. DeJong
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt
THAT SEAC recommends the Board approve the 2023-24 Special Education Plan for submission to the Ministry and uploading to the Board's website.
CARRIED

- D - 1 **New Business**
 - (a) **Grand Erie's SEAC Terms of Reference – review and updating of absence process**
Will be reviewed at the September 3 meeting.

 - (b) **Journey to Inclusion – SEAC Check-in**
SEAC members participated in an interactive activity to provide input into Grand Erie's journey to more inclusive practices.

 - (c) **Joint Advisory Partnership Committee**
SEAC members were provided an invitation to as a volunteer member on Grand Erie's Joint Advisory Partnership Committee.

- E - 1 **Other Business - Nil**

- F - 1 **Standing Items**
 - (a) **Policies Out for Comment - Nil**

 - (b) **Trustee Update**
Trustee Waldschmidt gave an update including the student showcase from the May board meeting, the sod turning for the new school in Caledonia, and approval for the new south west Brantford school build.

 - (c) **Chair/Vice Chair Update**
Chair DeJong thanks SEAC members for their contributions this past year, recognizing the impact that input from SEAC has had on Grand Erie's move towards inclusion.

- G - 1 **Information Items - Nil**

- H - 1 **Community Updates**

- I - 1 **Correspondence**
 - (a) Family Math Newsletters

 - (b) Letter in response to Grand Erie's letter in support of the letter to the Ministry from Thames Valley District School Board on supporting students with mental health concerns

 - (c) Letter from Conseil Scolaire Catholique Nouvelon re Guidelines on Children's Rehabilitation Services and Preschool Speech and Language Services



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday June 6, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Board Room / MS Teams

MINUTES

J - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**

- (a) Grand Erie's SEAC – Terms of Reference review and updating
- (b) Ministry of Education Website – Review
- (c) Supporting students with special education needs during emergency procedures
- (d) A Day in the Life of an Educational Assistant
- (e) Overview of the Skill Building Classroom
- (f) Update and demonstration of Secondary Hub model
- (g) Speech and Language provisions for school aged children in Grand Erie

K - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday September 5, 2024 in the Board Room at the Education Centre with a Virtual option

L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: C. Gilman
Seconded by: T. Buchanan
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Carried



Audit Committee

Thursday, June 13, 2024

4:30 PM

Board Room, Education Centre / MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Members: J. Bradford (Trustee), R. Collver (Trustee), B. Doyle (Trustee), E. Hodgins (Volunteer), A. Thakker (Volunteer)
Management: J. Roberto (Director), R. Wyszynski (Superintendent of Business), C. Smith (Manager of Business Services)
KPMG (Internal Auditors): S. Bedi (virtual)
Millards (External Auditors): M. McNally (virtual)

Regrets: T. Waldschmidt (Trustee)

Recording Secretary: L. Howells, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Business

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

Committee Chair Waldschmidt sent his regrets. Meeting was chaired by Trustee Bradford who called meeting to order at 4:41 p.m.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nil**

(c) **Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Trustee Bradford read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

(d) **Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)**

Presented as printed

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: A. Thakker

THAT the Audit Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

B - 1 **Consent Agenda**

Presented as printed

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: E. Hodgins

THAT the Audit Committee approve the June 13, 2024, Consent Agenda:

(a) Minutes of the Audit Committee dated March 7, 2024.

(b) Receive the Consolidated Due Diligence report.

(c) Q2 Financial Forecast.

Carried

C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

Nil



Audit Committee

Thursday, June 13, 2024

4:30 PM

Board Room, Education Centre / MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

D - 1 Internal Audit

(a) Math Achievement Assessment Update

S. Bedi, from KPMG, provided a brief update on the Math Achievement Assessment, noting this was an initial assessment. KPMG identified the priority areas that impact math achievement and outcomes, developed a student achievement framework, and deployed a dynamic audit approach that identified key risks. S. Bedi further noted that KPMG also issued a regional benchmarking survey which identified common challenges. The Audit Committee will receive the detailed report at the September meeting.

In response to question regarding 2024-25 Math Achievement Action Plan, Director Roberto noted the Superintendents are in the process of developing the 2024-25 professional development plan.

It was requested Superintendent Munro attend the September meeting to provide an update of the Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan (GEMAAP).

(b) 2024-25 Internal Audit Plan

S. Bedi provided a high-level overview of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024-25 which will be focused on Absenteeism Risk and Cost Mitigation

In response to question, S. Bedi provided clarification regarding the audit approach and stated the impact is financial and effects continuity of learning in the classroom.

Moved by: A. Thakker

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the 2024-25 Internal Audit Plan be forwarded to the June 24, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

E - 1 External Audit

(a) Review of Engagement and Audit Planning Letters

Millards was appointed auditors at the March 2023 Audit Committee meeting. M. McNally from Millards provided a high-level review of both letters.

In response to question, M. McNally noted no significant changes in the audit approach however, the focus areas shift on a year-to-year basis to limit audit predictability. M. McNally further stated that if changes are required during the preliminary review, Millards would be in contact with the Audit Committee.



Audit Committee

Thursday, June 13, 2024

4:30 PM

Board Room, Education Centre / MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

F - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **2024-25 Board Budget**

Superintendent Wyszynski provided a high-level review of the report that was presented at the June 10, 2024, Finance Committee Meeting.

In response to questions regarding how the board mitigates the risk, Superintendent Wyszynski respond the board takes a cautious approach when building the budget, through revised estimated that are completed in December and ensuring variable expenses are regularly monitored.

In response to question, Superintendent Wyszynski provided examples of how the budget aligns with Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: E. Hodgins

Seconded by: A. Thakker

THAT the Audit Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Carried

H - 1 **2024-25 Meeting Dates:**

- Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. (Virtual only)
- Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. (In person / Virtual)
- Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (Virtual only)
- Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. (In person / Virtual)



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June 19, 2024

Dear Minister Smith,

We, the Lambton Kent District School Board, are writing to you today regarding an important matter concerning the terminology used in the recently released 2024-25 Core Education Funding Technical Guide for School Boards. We recognize the terminology has been used historically, however the deep dive into the new funding formula triggered members of our community and surfaced these concerns.

As noted in the guide, the terms "Day School" and "Day School Students" are used throughout, particularly in reference to the funding allocations. However, we must recognize that these terms carry significant historical and cultural implications, especially for Indigenous communities across Canada.

Historically, "Day Schools" were institutions that played a role in the assimilation of Indigenous children, aimed at eradicating Indigenous languages and cultures. The use of this term in a contemporary educational funding context could inadvertently perpetuate associations with past injustices and ongoing challenges faced by Indigenous peoples today.

LKDSB is committed to Truth and Reconciliation, and we believe that this commitment necessitates a careful review of terminology that may hold different meanings or implications for Indigenous partners. Therefore, we respectfully request that the Ministry consider revising the term "Day School Renewal" and any related terminology in future publications and educational frameworks.

Furthermore, we encourage the Ministry to acknowledge and recognize that tuition-paying pupils within our school boards should be treated equally as pupils of the board, irrespective of their status or background. This inclusive approach not only aligns with principles of equity and fairness but also demonstrates a sincere commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation efforts within our educational system. The current funding formula uses the term "Other Pupils of the Board" for all tuition paying students. Tuition paying students include Indigenous students residing within First Nation communities and international education students. The use of the term "Other Pupils" excludes Indigenous students from feeling part of their school board and their schools and is contrary to the Truth and Reconciliation efforts of school boards.

In conclusion, we urge the Ministry of Education to take proactive steps in addressing these concerns, ensuring that our educational policies and practices are sensitive to the diverse histories and cultural perspectives of all communities we serve.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to your response and continued collaboration in fostering an inclusive and respectful educational environment for all.

Randy Campbell
 Board Chair
 Lambton Kent District School Board

John Howitt
 Director of Education
 Lambton Kent District School Board