



MEDIA RELEASE

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Grand Erie Approves Budget to Support Success for Every Student

Brantford, ON – Guided by its vision of Success for Every Student, Grand Erie District School Board approved its 2017-18 operating budget in the amount of \$306.5 million.

“Trustees approved a balanced budget to reflect the vision and goals in our multi-year plan,” said David Dean, Chair of the Board. “We’re pleased to direct resources to support student achievement and deliver quality education.”

The 2017-18 operating budget has increased by 1.56 per cent from the previous year despite the projected enrolment of 25,956.9, down 248.4 students from the 2016-17 school year. The Ministry of Education included \$2,956,560 in additional funds to support obligations under labour extension agreements.

The Ministry of Education also increased the Renewed Math Strategy funding by \$56,868 to \$1,085,868. This is a welcome increase as Grand Erie continues its focus to improve achievement in mathematics. The strategy is designed to support mathematical learning from Kindergarten to Grade 12, including a focus on the strengths and needs of students with learning disabilities.

Grand Erie continues to implement energy reduction and conservation strategies to off-set the challenges associated with increasing facility operating costs in the face of reduced pupil accommodation. For example, Facilities Services has changed more than 69,000 light tubes to LED lighting, which equates to more than 1.1 million watts reduced. This represents nearly 100,000 kWh energy savings per school week, over 3,368,000 kWh saved this school year, and more than \$740,000 in annual energy savings.

“In addition to our investments in the areas of achievement and environment, additional supports will continue to be allocated in the areas of well-being, equity, technology and community,” said Brenda Blancher, Director of Education. “The six indicators of our multi-year plan will support Grand Erie’s vision of Success for Every Student.”

- 30 -

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