



54 Ewing Drive
Brantford, Ontario
N3R 5H8

519-751-2891
granderie.ca/confederation

Principal

Andrea Smith

Vice Principal

Laura Hearn

Office Coordinators

Michele Edmondson
(Currently on leave, Sue
Lefebvre is covering during
this absence.)

Angela Vandeven

janvier—January 2018

Dear Confédération Families;

Bonne année! Welcome back to the 2018 portion of our school year. We hope that everyone had an enjoyable break and has returned rested and ready to get back to work.

January will draw us to the end of the first academic term. Students in will be receiving their report cards on February 15. This report card will reflect your child's achievement of the curriculum expectations, as well as his/her development in the learning skills and work habits from September until the end of January. The report card also includes a tear-off section where students and parents can reflect on student areas of strength, set goals, and identify strategies to meet those goals. This reporting period does not include a formal parent-teacher interview process, however, if you wish to discuss your child's progress, please indicate so on the tear off section of the report card and return it to the school.

Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith
Principal

Mme L. Hearn
Vice-Principal



Jan. 8 -Feb. 9-Kindergarten Registration
Jan. 17– School Council Meeting in the Library, 6:00 pm
Jan. 19 -will be "Decade Day". Dress up like your're from the 50s, 60s, 70s, or 80s
Jan. 22-PD Day-No school for students
Jan. 23-Gr. 4 Skating (Beccari & Croucher)

February skating dates:

Feb. 6-Wilson, V. Gasparotto, St. Onge, Boshell
Feb. 7-all Gr. 1 classes
Feb. 14-Schmitz, Senecal, Banting, Giancola
Feb. 15-Wilson, V. Gasparotto, St. Onge, Boshell
Feb. 20-Beccari, Croucher
Feb. 21-Schmitz, Senecal, Banting, Giancola
Feb. 22-Pettigrew, Mullings, Snell, S. Gasparotto (am), Gr. 1 classes (pm)



Save the date....Carnaval on Feb. 16th in the evening at Branlyn!

Kindergarten Registration

Grand Erie schools are exciting, enriching places for young learners to receive an education. Here, they learn to explore the world around them, solve problems, and make new friends.

Grand Erie's Kindergarten programs help students get off to the best possible start. Children are challenged and encouraged to do their very best and build relationships with caring teachers who are with them every step of the way.

Families new to Grand Erie's French Immersion program and those who currently have a child in the program must register by no later than February 9, 2018 at 4 p.m.

Overview of the French Immersion Registration Process

- A cap for Junior and Senior Kindergarten as well as Grade 1 is in effect for French Immersion at all sites
 - There are limited spaces available for students entering the program
 - Students who currently have siblings in the program are guaranteed a spot. Registration, however, is still required
 - No out-of-area requests will be permitted
 - A randomized selection process will be used for new families to grant access into Grand Erie's French Immersion program
- Families will receive confirmation of placement in the French Immersion program or information on the wait list process no later than February 26, 2018.
- For more information, please speak with me or visit www.granderie.ca.

Contact Angela or Sue in the main office (519-751-2891) to schedule an appointment and learn what is needed to register your child for September 2018 .

School Council

Thanks to all who participated in the Fundscrip fundraiser. Congratulations to Hilary Hinds, who won the \$100 Wal-Mart gift card for signing up by Dec. 1. Next school council meeting will be on **January 11 at 6:00** pm in the library. Child minding is available. Volunteers are always needed to help out, and any amount of time is appreciated. Committee members will be needed to help with Carnival in February.

Information and Updates

There are several ways for families to keep up to date with information about our school:

1. Visit our website :

granderie.ca/confederation



2. Sign up for École Confédération's **REMIND** account.:
 - 1) go to your texts
 - 2) enter in the "TO" line: **226-799-0230**
 - 3) type **@confedcour** in the message box
 - 4) send

REMIND is completely blind, we don't see your contact info and you don't see ours. Cancel at any time.

Follow us on Twitter: @EcoleConfedGE

Nut Aware School

Please remember that we are a nut-aware school. No peanut, nut or shellfish products will be allowed for snacks or lunches. **Please note...**

There's a peanut-free soy nut butter product on the market that says it's a peanut butter substitute and safe for schools. Grand Erie District School Board requests that parents and staff refrain from bringing this product into our peanut-free schools.

If it's peanut-free then what's the big deal? This product looks, smells, and tastes like peanut butter. The concern is that some children may think it is okay to bring peanut butter sandwiches in their lunches when they see their classmates eating the soy product. We simply cannot run the risk of any student or staff member being exposed to peanuts as this may cause an allergic reaction. The safety and health of our students and staff must come first.

For more information on the Board's Anaphylaxis (allergic reactions) Procedure SO115, please visit www.granderie.ca. Thank you for your co-operation.

Student Pick Up

From 3:15-3:45 pm daily, our parking lot is used as a bus loading zone for our 9 buses. There is **NO PARKING on site for student pick up during this time.**



There are two accessible parking spots that are available for those with permits only. Cars parked in these spots without a permit risk receiving a parking ticket that could include a monetary fine.



At all times, cars may not be parked under signage that marks a fire route. Cars parked in these spots risk receiving a parking ticket that could include a monetary fine. Be especially aware of fire route signs located in the front drive around curve and the sign posted along the sidewalk by the front entrance to the school.

All students that are picked up from school or walk will be dismissed through the gym doors. Caregivers may park on Coronation or Stodola streets, on the opposite side of Ewing Drive from the school. If you wish to meet your child at the school, please walk to the doors outside the gym. A crossing guard is stationed in front of the school to assist.

Thank you for your help in ensuring a safe dismissal for all of our students.

Student Absences or Lates

Please ensure that you call the school prior to 9:00 am if your child will be late or absent. Our voice mail system is available to receive messages 24 hours/7 days a week. School attendance for all students is tracked for absences and late arrivals. A Grand Erie District School Board attendance counselor works with our school to track student attendance. A letter is sent to individual parents when children have accumulated a significant number of absences and/or lates. Absences of 15 consecutive days can result in the removal of the student from the school's registration. In all other cases of attendance concerns, a notice is sent to parents from the school indicating the total number of lates and absences for a child prior to involvement with the Attendance Counsellor. Please note that if you are planning a family trip or have a reason to take your child out of school for 3 consecutive days or more, you are required to complete a "Request for Absence from School" form from the office (and signed by the principal) prior to the absence. This is a GEDSB policy.

Student's Council

Thanks to all who participated in our theme days and Candy Cane Grams during the month of December.

A Note From our Public Health Nurse

A Positive Start to a New Year

Each New Year brings with it New Year's resolutions and an opportunity to make positive changes in our lives. This year, think about how you can be a positive role model for your child and help them develop healthy attitudes and habits that will last a lifetime.

Focus on being active and eating well.

- Add physical activity into your daily plans. Make it a family event and let your children choose the activities that they would like to try.
- Encourage your children to turn off the TV and head outdoors to play instead.
- Include your kids in planning, shopping for, preparing and serving meals; visit www.familykitchen.ca for tips.
- Role model positive eating habits by eating meals together as a family. Visit www.eatrightontario.ca for more tips on creating a positive home eating environment.

School Skating Trips



All students from Gr. 1-7/8 will be participating in skating as a school excursion this year. In order to participate, students must have a pair of skates and a CSA approved skating helmet (not a bicycle helmet). A very limited number of helmets may be available for students to borrow.

Families are encouraged to make arrangements to have these items for their children. Consider borrowing from a friend or cousin. If you are not able to secure skates or a helmet for your child, please let your child's teacher know well in advance. It is sometimes possible for us to arrange for the use of skates if we have enough advance notice. If you have an extra pair to share, please let the teacher know.



Inclement Weather and Transportation

Winter is just around the corner. In the event of inclement weather, there is the potential for transportation delays or cancellations and school closures.

BUS # AND ZONE #

503 = Paris - ZONE 3 and 4
504 = St George - ZONE 3 and 4
505 = Ancaster, Hwy 2/53 - ZONE 3 and 4
507 = BRANTFORD ONLY - Zone 4
509 = BRANTFORD ONLY - Zone 4
510 = Lynden Rd - ZONE 3 and 4
519 = BRANTFORD ONLY – ZONE 4
528 = BRANTFORD ONLY – ZONE 4
543 = BRANTFORD ONLY – ZONE 4



If transportation is cancelled for schools in Zone 4, École Confédération will be CLOSED. WE ARE ZONE 4 (CITY OF BRANTFORD) AND ZONE 3 (FOR BRANT COUNTY STUDENTS).

IF ZONE 3 IS CANCELLED THERE WILL BE NO PICK UP FOR STUDENTS IN BRANTFORD ON BUSES. BUS 507, 509, 519, 528 AND 543, as these buses have pick up and drop off locations in zone 3.

Please listen to Radio Station CKPC (1380 AM and 92.1) or CHCH TV.

To see if buses are cancelled due to bad weather, or fog delay, you can go directly to the transportation website (www.stsbhn.ca) or link to the site from the school website (transportation tab) or the GEDSB website (transportation button on the home page). You will need to know your child's bus route number to see if their route has been cancelled.

You can also sign up for emails from the transportation department by logging in to their website and updating your account settings. Updates can also be received by following @STSBHN on Twitter.

In the event of a mid-day closure, the school telephone lines will be needed to work through our Emergency Phone Fan-Out to contact parents. Parents should note that it is very rare that the school will be closed half way through an instructional day.

On days of inclement weather, the staff of STSBHN and the bus companies, who provide service to our area, are actively reviewing current road conditions and future weather patterns in order to make a determination on delayed or cancelled transportation services. Information is collected from a number of sources and a decision is made and posted no later than 6:30 a.m.

As the decision to run, delay or cancel transportation is made in advance of services actually being provided, there may be some instances where variability exists in what was forecast versus what actually occurs. STSBHN and its member school boards want to provide options for the parents and students of our area and so, when it appears safe to do so, transportation services will be permitted to continue as usual.

If, on an inclement weather day you feel that your child(ren) would be better off not taking the bus and either being transported into school by yourself or staying home altogether as a result of the road conditions at or near your home, STSBHN and the boards do understand and respect that this decision ultimately rests with you.