



The Leader

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

April 11, 2022

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3rgP2tD>

French Immersion Review

Beginning this June, in an effort to further enhance French Immersion programming for Grand Erie students, a review of the current program will be conducted by a French Immersion Ad Hoc committee.

Facilitated by the Superintendent of Program K-12, with the responsibility for the oversight of the K-12 French Immersion program, the Ad Hoc committee will meet for a minimum of two meetings between June and October 2022. Focus groups will be created to provide feedback to the committee regarding entry points, the randomized selection process, capacity pressures, automatic sibling placements procedure, and student transition and retention from elementary to secondary programs. Findings and recommendations will be presented to the Senior Executive team for further review and a final report will be presented to the Board of Trustees later in 2022.

Ryerson Heights School Renaming Update

In June 2021, Grand Erie's Board of Trustees approved the request for renaming Ryerson Heights Elementary School. Moving forward to break the connection between the legacy of Egerton Ryerson and Grand Erie's vision and mission, and in accordance with Policy FT3 Naming of Schools, the process sought community input for a 60-day period ending January 17, 2022. A total of 250 submissions were considered by the Renaming Committee, and on March 29, the Renaming Committee proposed three new names for consideration by Trustees:

- Edith Monture Elementary School
- Pleasant Ridge Elementary School
- Tom Longboat Elementary School



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Ryerson Heights School Renaming Update Contd...

Pending confirmation at the next full Board meeting, Trustees selected **Edith Monture Elementary School** as the new name. The new name will be circulated to all stakeholder groups. This report supports the Belonging indicator of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: we build a culture of belonging to support an equitable, inclusive, and responsive environment for each learner. To view the full report, see pages 9 – 10: <https://bit.ly/3rgP2tD>

Director's Report Highlights

Grand Erie Secondary Students Recognized for Outstanding Achievements

The past couple of weeks has seen a number of secondary students achieving significant recognition for success across a range of disciplines.

At this year's qualifying competition for **Skills Ontario**, Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School student Krystal Theoret earned a silver in Culinary Arts. Krystal will be moving on to the Provincial competition in May.

At this year's Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair, North Park Collegiate and Vocational School's Gurnimal Kaur took home eight individual awards and more than \$4,000 in prize money for her project that programmed and tested an intelligent chatbot to detect instances of emotional stress in online platform users. Her project was one of a small number to be selected for the Canada-wide Science and Engineering Fair.



Above: Krystal Theoret.



Above: Gurnimal Kaur.



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Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School's Kara Sickle's photograph entitled *Flying Unicorn*, an image of an airborne motorcycle stunt rider, was awarded the Canadian Grand Prize in the Josten Photo Contest.

Congratulations to each of these students on these very Impressive achievements!



Above: Flying Unicorn by Kara Sickle.

EA Appreciation Day, April 6

As we celebrated Educational Assistant Appreciation Day across Grand Erie last week, here is just one example of how that rolled out in our schools. Lakewood Elementary School recognized its EAs on social media as an integral part of the Lakewood tEAM which includes Ms. Brandon, Mrs. Long, Ms. Winter, Mr. Schelock, Ms. Chessel, Mrs. Lighthouse and Ms. Ingham supporting our students' learning, belonging and well-being every day.



River Heights teacher making an Impact

Taylor Webb, a grade 5 French Immersion teacher was recognized by Knowledgehook as an Impact Influencer. Taylor is a new contract teacher this year and participating in the New Teacher Induction Program.

He is passionate, dedicated and hard-working, always thinking of ways to connect with his students and to connect learning with the real world. [Check out Taylor's story.](#)





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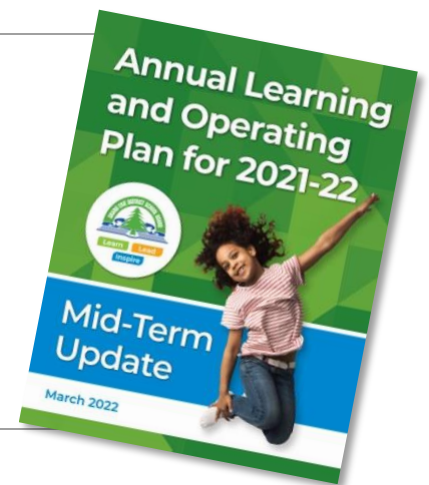
Additional funding for tutoring supports

Grand Erie recently received Ministry funds for tutoring supports. Currently, staff are generating an effective plan that will have an impact on student learning and educator literacy and mathematics instruction. Spring plans will include providing students with opportunities to work with staff in small groups, before and after school. Looking ahead to the summer, we hope to offer innovative K-12 camp programs which will have students applying literacy and numeracy skills in creative projects in media arts, STEM and other fields.

Annual Learning and Operating Plan

Please note an update to the original document shared in the last edition of The Leader. We are confirming our Grade 10 credit accumulation, indicated at 12 credits - further highlighting some excellent progress made in supporting students.

Check out the [Mid-Term Update](#).



Additional Items

The following Policies and Procedures will be sent out for comment:

- Visual Identify (SO-25, SO-XXX)
- Boundary Review (FT-08 & FT-XXX)
- Employee Use of Board-Owned Property and Equipment (FT-114)
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) (HR-112)
- Principal/Vice-Principal Performance Appraisal (HR-124)

The following Policies were recommended for approval:

- Service Provision for Students Special Education Needs (P01)



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Additional Items Contd...

Trustees also received the following reports as information:

- Request to Attend a School Outside the Home School Area (SO-121)
- Principal/Vice Principal Selection Process (HR-6)

The following Policies and Procedures were rescinded:

- Special Education Guiding Principles (P1)

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 Plan.

Well-Being

- Mental Health Initiatives at Grand Erie Secondary Schools Raise Awareness and Support Well-Being:
<https://www.granderie.ca/board/news/mental-health-initiatives-grand-erie-secondary-schools-raise-awareness-and-support-well-being>

Belonging

- Unlearning at North Ward Public School:
<https://www.granderie.ca/board/news/unlearning-north-ward-public-school>