



*Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Board Room*

## Committee of the Whole Meeting | September 9, 2019

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2kwuP3H>

### Student Census Data Report

The results are in from Grand Erie District School Board's first student census, a survey of students in Grades 4-12 conducted last spring. The data collected will be used to better understand student needs, remove barriers to inclusion, and effectively plan programming and supports for all students. The confidential and voluntary student census was completed in class, and asked students about themselves and their experiences both inside and outside of school. Grand Erie's participation rate was 83 per cent. The census initiative follows Ontario's

Education Equity Action Plan, the province's strategy for identifying and eliminating discriminatory practices, barriers, and biases from schools and classrooms, and is a critical step to ensuring equity and addressing the factors affecting it. The census was supported by Grand Erie's Board of Trustees, Senior Management, and a host of community groups and organizations. This initiative supports the Equity indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan, *Success for Every Student*, through the following statement: "We will promote practices that help students, families and staff feel safe, welcomed and included." To review the report, see pages 27-41 here: <https://bit.ly/2kwuP3H>.



Grand Erie's Student Census

### Capital Priorities Project Funding Submission

This summer, the Ministry of Education launched its Capital Priorities Program, calling on school boards across Ontario to submit business cases for urgent pupil accommodation needs. Business cases must be submitted by September 30, 2019, with projects completed by no later than the 2023-24 school year. Based on Grand Erie's Long Term Accommodation Plan, and with approval from Trustees, the Board will submit two priorities. The first priority is a new school for the Southwest Brantford area to relieve enrolment pressures and the use of portable classrooms at Walter Gretzky Elementary and Ryerson Heights Elementary School. The proposed school includes partnerships with the City of Brantford and the Brantford Public Library. The secondary priority is a new joint elementary school for Caledonia. The proposed school is a co-build with the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board and will serve the new Avalon (McClung Road) development. The proposed school is based on the model created at Walter Gretzky Elementary/St. Basil Elementary in Brantford. To review the full report, see pages 17-18 here: <https://bit.ly/2kwuP3H>. This report supports Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the Environment indicator and the following goal: "Make the best use of the space in schools."

## Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Annual Report

While most students will attend, and successfully complete secondary school, a small number of students are at risk of leaving school early for a variety of reasons. The Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) program provides Grand Erie students (aged 14-17) who have significant attendance difficulties with an alternative learning experience. The SAL program provides individualized learning plans, allowing students to progress towards obtaining their Ontario Secondary School Diploma or other educational/life goals. Once approved for SAL, each student's plan consists of at least one of the following activities: credit courses (regular day school, e-Learning, cooperative education or credit recovery), part-time or full-time employment, volunteering, counselling, earning a certificate or participating in training for a specific job, developing job-search skills or other course/workshops.



On Monday, Trustees received an update report on the SAL program for 2018-19. The information presented demonstrates continued success for Grand Erie students in SAL. This is a direct result of the combined efforts of families, students, school administrators, student success team members, attendance counsellors and community agencies who all assist in the creation of individualized SAL plans for students. To review the full report, see pages 23-26 here: <https://bit.ly/2kwuP3H>. This report supports Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the Achievement indicator and the following statements: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff. We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes."

## Additional Items

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### Trustees also received the following reports:

- Secondary Athletics Report
- Response to Haldimand Huskies Basketball Delegation
- Director's Report
- Schedule of Pre-Budget Consultation and Budget Review Meetings
- Request for an Ad Hoc Committee – Crisis Communications Plan Working Group
- Contract Award: Leased Devices
- Enrolment Update
- Traumatic Event Response Protocols
- OPSBA Report

### The following Bylaws and Policies were recommended for approval:

- Bylaw 17 Communication with the Board
- HR8 Workplace Violence

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

- F1 Exclusive Suppliers: Food Services & Vending Machines in Schools
- F3 Capital Related Funding and Community Donations
- HR9 Hiring, Supervision and Placement of a Family Member
- SO6 Student Suspensions

- SO109 Availability and Use of Naloxone in Schools
- SO116 Pupils Return from Absence
- SO117 Parental Request for Temporary Excuse from Attendance at School

## Multi-Year Plan Stories

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In 2016, 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 *Success for Every Student*. Grand Erie will achieve *Success for Every Student* through a focus on students and staff in a culture of high expectations. The six indicators that support the Multi-Year Plan are: Achievement, Community, Environment, Equity, Technology and Well-Being.

The following stories showcase some of the most recent stories related to the Multi-Year Plan.

### Achievement

- The Great Grand Erie Road Trip: Director Blancher Kicks Off 2019-20 with an Adventure on the First Day of School
  - <https://bit.ly/2lUIBOW>
- Ain't No Mountain High Enough for this Grand Erie Administrator
  - <https://bit.ly/2HC8kTf>
- A Message from Director of Education Brenda Blancher
  - <https://bit.ly/2Lj1FhE>
- Grand Erie Ready to Welcome Students Back on September 3
  - <https://bit.ly/2HAbG9b>

*Success for Every Student*