



The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING | NOVEMBER 13, 2017

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

Staff Video: Barb Guest, Secretary, Central Public School

Grand Erie District School Board staff are diverse. Each staff member brings their own unique abilities and personality to help achieve Success for Every Student – the focus of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan. This is Barb Guest's story: <http://bit.ly/2jpf2mj>. Watch for more staff stories throughout the 2017-18 school year.



Renewed Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2017-22

A new five-year Accessibility Plan was presented. The renewed plan builds on Grand Erie's previous Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2012-17), incorporating new and revised aspects of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation. The Renewed Multi-Year Accessibility Plan was vetted through Executive Council and Grand Erie's Accessibility Committee as well as presented to Grand Erie's Special Education Advisory Committee for input. The Renewed Multi-Year Accessibility Plan supports both the Equity and Environment indicators of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan and the goal of Success for Every Student. Progress updates on the Renewed Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will be presented annually at the November Committee of the Whole Meeting. To read the full plan, see pages 35-45 here: <http://bit.ly/2yYHbYe>.

Grand Erie's Graduation Rate Increases

For the second straight year, graduation rates for students at Grand Erie District School Board grew. Students in the 2011-12 cohort saw a 3.7 per cent increase in the four-year graduation rate, moving from 62.3 per cent in 2015 to 66 per cent in 2016. Grand Erie's five-year graduation rate also saw a boost, increasing 3.4 per cent as it moved from 74.2



per cent in 2015 to 77.6 percent in 2016. The increases can be attributed to a number of engagement strategies currently underway, including refinement of e-Learning offerings, specialized re-engagement teachers, responsiveness of Special High Skills Major and Dual Credit programming, and implementation of the Board's transition plan. This report supports the Achievement indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan and Success for Every Student. To read the full report, see pages 47-49 here: <http://bit.ly/2yYHbYe>.

Ministry of Education Announcements

- On November 3, Grand Erie learned that Ontario will be enhancing the Grade 10 career studies course to bring in mandatory learning on financial and digital literacy. Ontario will also expand hands-on learning opportunities to better prepare students to succeed in a rapidly changing economy. Every school board across the province will hire a new and dedicated coordinator, whose key role will be to expand learning opportunities with community partners, for all grades, courses and programs.
- On November 9, the Ministry of Education sent a memo with information on curriculum revisions and Indigenous Education-Focused Collaborative Inquiry. Revisions focus on strengthening the learning connected to Indigenous perspectives, cultures, histories and ways of knowing. This includes treaty education, the impacts of the residential school system, and the Indian Act. Draft curriculum revisions will be shared this fall for soft implementation, followed by full implementation in September 2018.

Upcoming Events and Activities

A number of upcoming events were noted, including:

- Louis Riel Day – Thursday, November 16
- PA Day for Elementary and Secondary students – Friday, November 17
- Caledonia Centennial's 50th Anniversary – Saturday, November 18
- Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week – begins Sunday, November 19

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Trustees received the following reports and information items:

- Response to the October 30, 2017 Delegation
- Trustee Honoraria (F4) – in non-municipal election years
- Trustees' Travel and PD Expenses (Bylaw 15)
- Data Report – Student Expulsion Report (SO7)
- Data Report – Student Suspension Report (SO6)
- Annual Update – Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, 2012-17
- Parenting and Family Literacy Centres Update
- Health and Safety Annual Report, 2016-17
- Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Membership, 2017-18
- French Immersion Capping Report

The following Bylaw was recommended for approval:

- BL25 Director's Performance Appraisal

The following Policies and Procedures will be shared with stakeholders for comment:

- SO27 Acceptable Use of Information Technology
- FT114 Employee Use of Board-Owned Property and Equipment
- FT119 Boundary Review

- HR112 Employee Assistance Program
- HR124 Principal/Vice Principal Performance Appraisal
- SO121 Request to Attend a School Outside the Home School Area