



The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BOARD MEETING | MAY 14, 2018

All reports for this meeting can be found here: bit.ly/2I7S6DQ

Grand Erie's First Indigenous Student Trustee Named

Trustees welcomed the newest Student Trustees to the boardroom on Monday evening. As part of Grand Erie's Student Senate Meeting (April 26, 2018), members selected their 2018-19 representatives. For the first time in Grand Erie history, there will be three Student Trustees next year – one representing the south, one representing the north, and the first one representing



Indigenous students. Alexandra Hauser, a Grade 10 student from McKinnon Park Secondary School was elected to represent the south. Jayden Hsiao, a Grade 11 student from Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School – and brother of 2017-18 Student Trustee Jeriann Hsiao – was elected to represent the north. Allan St. Pierre, a Grade 12 student from Tollgate Technological Skills Centre was elected as the first Indigenous Student Trustee. All three will begin their terms in August 2018. St. Pierre is familiar with the boardroom as he was Grand Erie's Student Recognition recipient in October 2017 as a result of his community involvement. To review the minutes from the April Student Senate Meeting or the 2018-19 Student Trustee Selection Report, see pages 55-59 here: bit.ly/2I7S6DQ. This report supports the Achievement indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan and Success for Every Student through the following statement: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff." This report also supports the Equity indicator and the following statement: "We will promote practices that help students, families and staff feel safe, welcomed and included."

Allocation of Educational Assistants for 2018-19

In Grand Erie, two of the guiding principles in Special Education state: resources are provided to support students to become independent in reaching their educational goals; and, the classroom teacher and early childhood educator are the primary support for all students in school.

Educational Assistants are assigned to schools to help students with special needs. They are assigned to schools, not individual students. Educational Assistants support students who display needs in the following areas: medical/physical, safety/supervision and Autism/communication.

Grand Erie's goal is to provide the supports and resources necessary to ensure Success for Every Student. The criteria for allocation of Educational Assistants in Grand Erie is: 2.0 for each Special Incident Portion student, 2.0 for each self-contained classroom for Developmentally Delayed, Autism, Multi-Handicapped or Strategies class that is at capacity, and 1.0 for each self-contained classroom for Mild Intellectual Disability, Mix Exceptionalities or On Track program that is at capacity. For Grand Erie in 2018-19, that means the allocation of 303 Educational Assistants. To view the full report, see pages 7-10 here: bit.ly/2I7S6DQ. This report supports Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through both the Achievement and Well-Being indicators. It meets the following Achievement goal: "We will increase understanding of effective literacy and numeracy instruction that is differentiated to meet student need." It also supports the following Well-Being goal: "We will create and promote enabling environments where all students can participate fully in their education."

Fairview Avenue Public School/ Grandview Central Public School Transition Committee Report

Trustees received a report from the Fairview Avenue Public School/Grandview Central Public School Transition Committee. The report notes the successful Open Houses held by each school on April 21, 2018. The Open Houses served as the official celebrations of both schools before they close on June 30. In September 2018, students from both Fairview Avenue and Grandview Central will join together at the new elementary school being built in Dunnville. The new school, under construction (above), will feature child and family programming spaces as well as child care.



The Transition Committee report also included three proposed names for the new elementary school. The names were selected from a total of 65 submissions collected during the past 60 days. The three recommended names were: Grand River Elementary School, Mapleview Elementary School and Willow River Elementary School. Grand River was submitted based on the geographic location to the river and because the Committee liked the harmony that the name had with the other Dunnville-area school, which is named after a body of water (Thompson Creek Elementary School). Mapleview was submitted to acknowledge a new beginning and to honour the past. 'Maple' is taken from Maple Creek and 'view' comes from both schools that are closing as each one has 'view' in its name. Willow River was submitted for its link to the Grand River. Willow River is the name given to the Grand River by some First Nations peoples in the area because of the many willow trees in the watershed. Trustees were told that the Transition Committee's preference for the new school name is Mapleview Elementary School. Based on the information

provided, Trustees are recommending for approval at the next Board Meeting (May 28, 2018), the name of Mapleview Elementary School for the new Dunnville school. To review the complete report, see pages 75-77 here: bit.ly/2I7S6DQ. This report supports the Achievement indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year plan and the following statement: "We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes." It also supports the Environment indicator and the goal of making the best use of space in schools.



Elgin Avenue Public School Transition Committee Report

Trustees received a report from the Elgin Avenue Public School Transition Committee. The report outlines five recommendations to assist students at both Elgin Avenue and Lynndale Heights Public School next year. During the 2018-19 school year, Elgin Avenue students will be temporarily moved to Lynndale Heights while the school undergoes extensive renovations. Elgin Avenue

will re-open in 2019-20 following the construction. The Transition Committee's recommendations include: the requirement of additional washroom facilities at Lynndale Heights, the movement of Elgin Avenue classroom technology to Lynndale Heights, the transportation (four buses) of Elgin Avenue students to travel to Lynndale Heights, and the pairing of parent engagement and compensatory education funding for both schools in 2018-19. Renovations and redevelopment at Elgin Avenue include: daycare facilities, a new gymnasium and learning commons as well as additional classroom space to accommodate students from West Lynn Public School. Students at West Lynn will move to Elgin Avenue in 2019-20 following the closure of their school in June 2019. This report supports the Achievement indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year plan and the following statement: "We will monitor, measure and reflect on our outcomes." It also supports the Environment indicator and the goal of making the best use of the space in schools. To review the report, see pages 79-80 here: bit.ly/2I7S6DQ.

Compensatory Education Report

School Boards receive additional funding through the Learning Opportunities Grant to support student needs. This funding is linked to census data and socio-economic indicators or risks that can present barriers for these students when attending school. In order to receive funding, Boards must have a way of identifying schools based on compensatory education funding needs. During the past two years, Grand Erie has developed its Higher Improvement Performance in Schools (HIP) Strategy. This strategy provides a focus on Achievement, Equity, Community and Well-Being in schools identified through a compensatory education lens. School administrators in HIP schools are provided with opportunities for professional learning to assist them in supporting students who

come from economically-disadvantaged backgrounds. Elementary HIP schools also have staffing parameters placed on them to ensure lower class sizes. The Compensatory Education report, which was received by Trustees, outlines the variables used to identify HIP Schools. Beginning in September 2018, there will be five HIP secondary schools and 10 HIP elementary schools in Grand Erie. To review the variables used, or to find out which schools were selected as HIP schools, see pages 11-17 here: bit.ly/2I7S6DQ. This report supports the Achievement and Equity indicators of Grand Erie's Multi-Year plan. It supports Achievement through the following statement: "We will set high expectations for our students and staff." It also supports Equity through the following statement: "We will promote practices that help students, families and staff feel safe, welcomed and included."

Final Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines

On April 27, 2018, the Ministry of Education released its Revised Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines following a lengthy review. As a result, Grand Erie will review its own Pupil Accommodation Review policy to ensure the two align. Find the Ministry of Education's Revised Pupil Accommodation Guidelines here: <http://bit.ly/2Bp3tT6>.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Trustees received the following reports as information:

- Revised 2017-18 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule
- 2018-19 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule
- Education Services Agreement – Six Nations of the Grand River
- Reverse Education Services Agreement – Six Nations Polytechnic
- MISA Update
- Learner Intervention Tracking for Excellence (LITE) – Referrals for Professional Services
- Community Planning and Facility Partnerships – Annual Facility Status Report (FT11)
- OPSBA Report

The following Policy was recommended for approval:

- SO3 Electronic Communication and Social Media Guidelines Policy