



The Blackboard

Grand Erie District School Board's Highlights from the Boardroom

Regular Board Meeting | June 24, 2019

All reports for this meeting can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2X0tjZI>

Student Recognition Awards Program

The recognition program is Grand Erie's way of honouring and celebrating students who have excelled in academics, arts, athletics or community involvement. On Monday, Avaia Bergan, a Grade 6 student from Caledonia Centennial Public School, was presented with a certificate from Trustee Christina Speers (right) and Director of Education Brenda Blancher (left). The Student Recognition Awards program 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."



AVAIA BERGAN – CALEDONIA CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL – ATHLETICS

Soaring to achievement is not just a metaphor for Avaia Bergan, a Grade 6 student at Caledonia Centennial Public School. Avaia is used to balancing high academic standards with a rigorous athletic training schedule to remain competitive in the sport of Trampoline, a gymnastics discipline characterized by precise technique and perfect body control while moving through the air. This past spring, she reached new heights: a personal best that also landed her in first place provincially in her age division. When not training, Avaia is an exemplary student who carries herself with grace and humility as she continues to grow both academically and as an elite athlete.





2019-20 Board Budget Approved

Trustees approved Grand Erie's 2019-20 Operating and Capital Budgets on Monday night. For more details, see the Board's media release here: <https://bit.ly/2FHK8hx>. Grand Erie will now submit its 2019-20 budget to the Ministry of Education. The budget was developed as outlined in Board Policy F2 (Budget Development Process) and in consultation with program and service area staff. To review the 2019-20 Budget Approval Report, see pages 34-39 here: <https://bit.ly/2X0tjZl>. This report supports all of the indicators in Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan.

2018-19 Student Trustees Honoured

Board Chair Greg Anderson recognized Student Trustees Jayden Hsiao, Alexandra Hauser and Ashley Cattrysse for their contributions and hard work during the 2018-19 school year. Hsiao (far left in photo), a Grade 12 student at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, served as Grand Erie's student voice for the North. Hauser (second from right in photo), a Grade 11 student from McKinnon Park Secondary School, was Grand Erie's student voice for the South. Cattrysse (far right in photo), a Grade 12 student at Waterford District High School, was the voice for all Grand Erie Indigenous students. All three provided important input and insights during their one-year terms. They also hosted the annual Education Week Gala at the Sanderson Centre in May 2019. In the fall, Hsiao will head to the University of Waterloo to pursue a degree in Systems Design Engineering. Cattrysse will return to Waterford District in September. Hauser will be back in the Boardroom in 2019-20 for her second term as a Student Trustee for the South.



Grand Erie Students Earn Hillier and Salverda Scholarships



Three Grand Erie students were presented with significant scholarships earlier this month. Jacob Meleka, a student at North Park Collegiate and Vocational School (second from left) and Stewart McLellan, a student from Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School (far left) were the 2019 recipients of the James Hillier Foundation's annual scholarships. As a result, both will have up to \$20,000 over four years for their undergraduate studies. Additionally, Waterford District High School's Jordyn Carmichael (right) was the 2019 recipient of the Wanda and Scott Salverda Memorial Award, which provides up to \$10,000 over four years for undergraduate studies.



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) Annual Report

The 2018-19 school year was a busy one for GEPIC. The committee re-elected Sarah Nichol as Chair in the fall. It hosted two successful events: the annual School Council Start-Up (October 18, 2018) and the spring GEPIC event (April 16, 2019) *Social Networking and Online Safety: What Parents Need to Know* featuring guest speaker Paul Davis. GEPIC also supported 32 Grand Erie Schools through its Parent Involvement Grants. In total, 23 GEPIC grants were awarded in 2018-19, for an overall investment of \$7,500 in parent engagement initiatives and activities. This report

supports the Community indicator of Grand Erie's Multi-Year Plan through the following goal: "Facilitate opportunities for the use of strategies to encourage and support family involvement in our schools and learning at home." To read the report, see pages 51-52 here: <https://bit.ly/2X0tjZl>.

Upcoming Events:

Several upcoming events were highlighted:

- Wednesday, June 26 – GELA Graduation – Sanderson Centre – 7 p.m.
- Thursday, June 27 – Last Day of School for Grand Erie Elementary and Secondary students
- Thursday, June 27 – McKinnon Park Secondary School Commencement – 7 p.m.

Additional Items

Memorial: A memorial statement was read to honour Logan Parker, a Grade 1 student from West Lynn Public School who died May 21. Logan touched the hearts of his teachers and classmates. His short life was filled with many health challenges, yet he was always eager to attend school and had such a positive spirit. He loved to learn and had great pride in every achievement.

Delegations: A delegation was received from Andre Gulabsingh of the Haldimand Huskies Basketball Club in relation to the Board's Community Use of Schools program.

Approval of minutes: Trustees approved the minutes of the May 27, 2019 (Regular Board), June 10, 2019 (Committee of the Whole) and June 10, 2019 (Special Board) meetings.

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Annual Review of the Special Education Plan – Amendments to Standard 1 and Special Education Report Components Checklist
- Director's Report
- Student Trustees Report
- Committee of the Whole – June 10, 2019
- Quarterly Budget Report
- Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan
- Special Education Advisory Committee Membership
- Summary of Accounts – May 2019
- Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – May 16, 2019
- Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee Minutes – May 16, 2019
- Safe and Inclusive School Committee Minutes (Draft) – May 23, 2019
- Student Transportation Services Brant Haldimand Norfolk Committee Minutes (Draft) – May 28, 2019
- Native Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) – June 4, 2019
- Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes (Draft) – June 12, 2019
- Audit Committee Minutes (Draft) – June 18, 2019

Multi-Year Plan Stories

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

- On the Job With... Courtney Smith, Early Childhood Educator
 - <https://bit.ly/31KbkFl>

Community

- Learning Calls Us to Action at Burford District Elementary School
 - <https://bit.ly/2R2bxPl>

Environment

- Grand Erie Goes Green as 38 Schools Earn EcoSchools Certification
 - <https://bit.ly/2Y2U640>

Equity

- Grand Erie Shows its Pride
 - <https://bit.ly/2Flex4W>
- Grand Erie Focused on *Walking Together* During Annual Sharing Our Voices Event for National Indigenous Peoples Day
 - <https://bit.ly/2L1xwVX>

Technology

- Walk-in Wednesdays Empower Teachers with Tech
 - <https://bit.ly/2Xk6EXw>