

Board Meeting | June 28, 2021

All reports for this meeting can be found here: https://bit.ly/35YMwNy

Patti McCleister Award Recipient Has Led the Way Through Pandemic

Patti McCleister was Grand Erie's Training and Development Officer, a valuable team member and an inspiration to so many. She passed away in 2013 from cancer. The award given in her memory is the highest honour bestowed to a Grand Erie employee, and embodies McCleister's legacy of passion, creativity and commitment to leadership. The Patti McCleister Memorial Award is given annually to a Grand Erie employee who exemplifies outstanding leadership, inspires others, and is a driving force in realizing the board's strategic goals and vision.

This past year has been a year like no other, full of challenges, changes, and uncertainty. But Lena Latreille, this year's recipient of the Patti McCleister Memorial Award, rose to the challenge and led the way for Grand Erie. As the Division Manager of Operations, Health and Safety for the Board, she has been vital in





the planning, implementation and management of Grand Erie's pandemic response. Beyond that feat, she has also provided us with calm leadership and sound advice to lower the anxiety in our system as a whole during this unprecedented time in this Board's history. Latreille was presented with the award during the Board meeting, and was joined by Patti's husband Ted McCleister.

Student Recognition: Christian McCall, Delhi District Secondary School

A recent artistic achievement for Christian McCall, Grade 12 student at Delhi District Secondary School, has been approximately 500 million years in the making. McCall's long-time fascination with prehistoric lifeforms combined with a creative eye and artistic talent, has led to a unique commission from the Royal Ontario Museum. Earlier this spring, McCall was commissioned to complete an artistic rendering of two ancient sea-floor species who survived through a symbiotic relationship – evidence uncovered in a recent fossil discovery in British Columbia.





Student Recognition: Christian McCall, Delhi District Secondary School Continued...

The artistic reconstruction of the species he completed will accompany an exhibit at the ROM, and was included in a recent CBC news feature.

Christian has demonstrated a high level of skill in drawing, painting, and sculpture over the course of his secondary school career, and hopes to continue combing this talent with his love and knowledge of paleontology. His medium of choice has been digital painting, working from scratch on a tablet to develop accurate, scientific-based paleo art that is truly on a professional level. As his art teacher, Richard Delaney, points out, some people are fortunate to be artistically talented, but lack a muse to drive their creative abilities; Christian has both the skills and the muse.



Christian McCall

Student Trustees Recognized for Dedication in Representing Grand Erie Students

Senior Administration and Trustees thanked Student Trustees for all their hard work and dedication in representing their fellow students so well this past year. The outgoing Student Trustees include Zachary Garbaty, who completed a second term representing students in Brantford/ Brant; Ava Burtis, who represented students in Haldimand and Norfolk counties; and la'teieká:nereh Doxtador-Swamp, who represented Indigenous students across Grand Erie. In addition







Zachary Garbaty

la'teieká:nereh Doxtador-Swamp

Ava Burtis

to their responsibilities as Student Trustees, which include hosting student senates and contributing to Board reports, each also took on additional priorities to ensure students' voices were heard.

Director's Report Highlights

Kindergarten Ambassadors Join Director Roberto on Brant Life

Brant Life, a regular program on local Rogers TV, hosted a special segment to spread the word about Kindergarten registration. Joining Director Roberto were Rhythm and Armend from King George Public School, as well as Vice-Principal Dina Atanas. Special thanks to King George Public School for providing the expert insights on the Kindergarten experience! Check out the segment here.

Strategic Plan, 2021-26

Grand Erie District School Board's Multi-Year Plan was previously approved by Trustees for 2015-2020. Over the last five years, the

plan served to provide a focused direction for system growth and improvement for staff, students and programs at all levels of the organization. On February 16, 2021, a caucus session was held to review information and discussion ensued regarding the launch of the Grand Erie Strategic Plan renewal process for 2021-2026 followed by a Board report on February 22, 2021. On March 22, Trustees and Superintendents met to develop a new multi-year strategic plan to include a renewed mission, vision and priorities.



JoAnna Roberto, Director of Education

Strategic Plan, 2021-26 Continued...

The committee engaged in a feedback process, receiving approximately 700 responses from the Grand Erie community. Students, staff, families and community partners were invited to submit their input on how the board is doing, what could be improved, and feedback regarding key priorities for the future.

A final draft of the Indicator Statements and Goals for the plan was presented. Next steps include Annual Operating Plans, identifying strategic objectives and measuring outcomes, finalizing the plan and its launch, and a resource toolkit for August 2021.

Grand Erie Welcomes Jennifer Tozer to the Role of Superintendent

Grand Erie District School Board is pleased to announce Jennifer Tozer has been named Superintendent of Education, overseeing the Human Resources portfolio. Ms. Tozer joined the board earlier this year as its new Human Resources Manager.

Before joining Grand Erie, Tozer was the Manager of Human Resources with the Thames Valley District School Board where she was responsible for collective bargaining, labour relations, workplace investigations, pay equity and job evaluation maintenance. She has worked in public education with Thames Valley for approximately 17 years, holding a variety of roles within Human Resources.



Jennifer Tozer

Award Recognitions

Congratulations to the following students on receiving these awards, honours and scholarships:

- Nicole McSwain of Paris District High School is a recipient of the James Hillier Foundation scholarship
- Amberlee Morgan of Delhi District Secondary School is a recipient of the OPSBA award
- Brooklyn Ambis from McKinnon Park Secondary School is a recipient of the Canadian Leader's Award

Additional Items

Memorial: A moment of silence was observed in light of the recent news of the discovery of 751 unmarked graves of a former residential school in Saskatchewan.

Trustees also received the following reports:

- Request for School Name Change Ryerson Heights Elementary School
- Student Trustees' Report
- Committee of the Whole June 14, 2021
- Energy Conservation Consumption Report (previous school year 2019-20)
- Quarterly Budget Report
- Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report (Bylaw 8)
- Approval to Purchase Compugen HP Laptops
- Contract Award Masonry Project at Pauline Johnson Collegiate & VS
- Strategic Plan Report/Presentation

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

- Director Roberto's Year-End Message: https://bit.ly/3jnJOsA
- Director's Message: Congratulations Class of 2021: https://bit.ly/3x7duyj
- Superintendent Scott Sincerbox Announces Retirement: https://bit.ly/3y6Tv2Z
- Superintendent Martins' Next Move: Retirement: https://bit.ly/3heo3ZM
- Grand Erie Announces Secondary Learning Model for 2021-22: https://bit.ly/3vXjJDn

WELL-BEING

- Resources for All Those Impacted by the Tragic Discovery in Kamloops, BC: https://bit.ly/3vWvN84
- Resources for All Impacted by the Recent Events in London, ON: https://bit.ly/35UG36e
- Grand Erie District School Board to Assess Student Climate in Schools: https://bit.ly/3quZ093

COMMUNITY

• Statement on the Tragic Discovery in Saskatchewan: https://bit.ly/2TdCoxz