



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

7:15 p.m.

AGENDA

A - 1 Opening

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) In-Camera Session (**6:30 pm**)
 - (i) Personnel
 - (ii) Legal
 - (iii) Property
- (d) Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement
The Grand Erie District School Board recognizes Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as the longstanding peoples of this territory. We honour, recognize, and respect these communities as well as all First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples who reside within the Grand Erie District School Board. We are all stewards of these lands and waters where we now gather, learn and play, and commit to working together in the spirit of Reconciliation.
- (e) Call to Order
- (f) Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Agenda be approved."
- * (g) Memorials
 - (i) Carie Ferrell (J. Bradford)
- (h) In-Camera Report
- (i) Learn Lead Inspire Award (J. Roberto)
- * (k) Delegation – Cordie Jagt

B - 1 Approval of Minutes

- * (a) December 11, 2023 (Annual Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Annual Board Meeting dated December 11, 2023, be approved."
- * (b) December 11, 2023 (Regular Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated December 11, 2023, be approved."
- * (c) December 18, 2023 (Special Board Meeting)
Recommended Motion:
"THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated December 18, 2023, be approved."

C - 1 Committee Recommendations and Reports

- * (a) [Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting](#) Report dated January 11, 2024
- * "THAT the appointment of Paul Found, Norfolk Association for Community Living, to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remainder of the Term 2022-2026 be approved."
- * (b) [Policy and Program Committee Meeting](#) Report dated January 15, 2024

D - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

E - 1 Report of the Director (J. Roberto) (I)

F - 1 Student Trustees' Report

G - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

- * (a) Major Construction Project Report (R. Wyszynski) (I)



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AGENDA

- * (b) Draft Proposed School Year Calendars 2024-25 (R. Vankerrebroeck)

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Board approve the draft Proposed School Year Calendars 2024-25."

- * (c) Approval to Tender Construction of Caledonia Elementary School (R. Wyszynski)

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Board approve the design of the New Caledonia Joint-Use Elementary School for release of Tender documents."

H - 1 Other Business

- * (a) Student Senate Meeting Minutes dated May 5, 2023 (I)
- * (b) Six Nations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated September 28, 2023 (I)
- * (c) Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated October 19, 2023 (I)
- * (d) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 16, 2023 (I)
- * (e) Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes dated December 14, 2023 (I)
- * (f) Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee dated October 26, 2023 (I)

I - 1 OPSBA Report (C. VanEvery-Albert) (I)

J - 1 Correspondence

- * (a) Superior-Greenstone District School Board dated November 23, 2023 (I)
- * (b) Halton Catholic District School Board dated January 9, 2024 (I)
- * (c) Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board dated January 15, 2024 (I)
- * (d) Bluewater District School Board dated January 16, 2024 (I)

K - 1 Adjournment

Recommended Motion:

"THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned."



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

7:15 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom

AGENDA

FEBRUARY

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

01

02

Special Education
Advisory Committee
6:00 p.m.

05

06

07

08

09

12

13

14

15

16

Finance
Committee
6:30 p.m.

Student Senate
10:00 am

19

20

21

22

23

Six Nations Advisory
Committee 1:00 p.m.

26

27

28

29

Regular Board
Meeting
7:15 p.m.

In Memoriam

Carie Ferrell
Woodman-Cainsville School

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Carie Ferrell.

Carie Ferrell was a dedicated Educational Assistant at Woodman-Cainsville School. She began her career with Grand Erie in 2003, and over the past two decades, supported countless students and staff members. Her kind heart and infectious laughter filled the halls of her school and classrooms. She was hard working, organized, and committed to doing whatever she could to make school a place where kids truly wanted to be. She will be lovingly remembered by the learners and staff members in the Woodman-Cainsville School community.

Our deepest condolences go out to Carie's family, friends, colleagues and everyone connected to this loss.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave McGaghran
Principal

Presented at the Grand Erie District School Board's Regular Board Meeting
on January 29, 2024, by Trustee Bradford

Delegate	Stacey Murray and Cordie Jagt																																										
Delegation Matter/Application	West Lynn Public School ("West Lynn") and Elgin Avenue Public School ("Elgin") amalgamation																																										
Date via Email	Saturday, January 29, 2024																																										
Speaking Notes	<p>We, Stacey Murray and Cordie Jagt, are residents of Simcoe, Ontario and parents of children attending West Lynn Public School. Ms. Murray has a child in Grade 1 and another who will be starting Junior Kindergarten in September 2024. Ms. Jagt has children in Grades 2, 3 and 6, having moved from Hamilton, Ontario during the pandemic due to housing affordability and improved lifestyle available in Norfolk County.</p> <p>We understand the decision to amalgamate West Lynn and Elgin, through renovations of Elgin, was outlined in the Long-Term Accommodation Plan 2023-28, released in September 2023 in line with the previous approval from Grand Erie in 2016. This decision was made 8 years ago and before the COVID-19 pandemic, which has significantly altered the growth in families who are moving to Norfolk County and surrounding areas.</p> <p>In addition, in reviewing the Long-Term Accommodation Plan, several data points appear to be incorrect:</p> <p>1) New Housing and Development</p> <p>In the "New Housing and Development" section on page 41, it indicates that over the growth period of 2021-2051, a total of 3,665 new housing units are expected to be developed in Norfolk Country, leading to a yield of 561 additional Elementary students:</p> <p><i>Source data is from the Development Charges background studies for the City of Brantford (2021), County of Brant (2019), Norfolk County (2018) and Haldimand County (2014).</i></p> <table><tr><th>Municipality</th><th>City of Brantford</th><th>County of Brant</th><th>Norfolk County</th><th>Haldimand County</th><th>Grand Erie</th></tr><tr><td>Growth Period</td><td>2021-2051</td><td>2021-2051</td><td>2021-2051</td><td>2021-2051</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Total Units</td><td>26,436</td><td>7,710</td><td>3,665</td><td>10,582</td><td>48,393</td></tr><tr><td>Population Increase</td><td>73,534</td><td>17,067</td><td>8,965</td><td>23,000</td><td>122,566</td></tr><tr><td>Units/Year</td><td>881</td><td>257</td><td>122</td><td>353</td><td>1,613</td></tr><tr><td>Elementary Yield</td><td>4,944</td><td>1,426</td><td>561</td><td>2,159</td><td>9,090</td></tr><tr><td>Secondary Yield</td><td>2,141</td><td>478</td><td>271</td><td>1,228</td><td>4,118</td></tr></table> <p>It should be noted that the chart above utilizes the 2018 Norfolk County study, when a 2021 study was available at the time of release. As such, the growth period is misrepresented as 2021-2051 when it is the 2006-2041 forecast that is now outdated.</p> <p>On page 54, the total housing units for Norfolk is indicated as 3,359, understated by 306 units (3,665-3,359 = 306) from page 41. This page uses</p>	Municipality	City of Brantford	County of Brant	Norfolk County	Haldimand County	Grand Erie	Growth Period	2021-2051	2021-2051	2021-2051	2021-2051		Total Units	26,436	7,710	3,665	10,582	48,393	Population Increase	73,534	17,067	8,965	23,000	122,566	Units/Year	881	257	122	353	1,613	Elementary Yield	4,944	1,426	561	2,159	9,090	Secondary Yield	2,141	478	271	1,228	4,118
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Elementary Yield	4,944	1,426	561	2,159	9,090																																						
Secondary Yield	2,141	478	271	1,228	4,118																																						

data from the 2021 Norfolk County study and concerns regarding these values are described below.

Norfolk County Residential Growth by Community 2021-2051

Elementary Yield by Area	Units	Long Term Yield	Peak Yield	Sties at Long-Term	Sites at Peak Yield
Port Dover	1,620	300	616	0.6	1.2
Simcoe	787	146	299	0.3	0.6
Waterford	513	95	195	0.2	0.4
Port Rowan	256	47	97	0.1	0.2
Delhi	183	34	70	0.1	0.1
TOTAL	3,359	621	1,276	1.2	2.6

The unit breakdown by town on page 54 (ie 787 units for Simcoe) appears to be based on the “Residential Units in the Development Approval Process” (Figure 4-1) of the Norfolk County Comprehensive Review Growth Analysis (December 2021), prepared by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. This report indicated 787 units for Simcoe and a total of 3,368 units for Norfolk County.

However, to be consistent with how the data was calculated for the other cities (ie Brantford), the “Reference Population and Housing Growth Forecast” (Figure B-6) of the Norfolk County Comprehensive Review Growth Analysis (December 2021) should have been used:

	Timing	Single & Semi-Detached	Multiplexes	Apartments	Total New Residential Units	Gross Seasonal Units	Conversions	Net Seasonal Units	Total Units Including Permanent, Conversions and Seasonal
Simcoe	2016 - 2021	206	165	48	419	0	0	0	419
	2016 - 2026	318	467	71	855	0	0	0	855
	2016 - 2031	448	745	110	1,303	0	0	0	1,303
	2016 - 2036	623	966	164	1,753	0	0	0	1,753
	2016 - 2041	830	1,127	240	2,197	0	0	0	2,197
	2016 - 2046	1,034	1,228	342	2,603	0	0	0	2,603
	2016 - 2051	1,225	1,287	445	2,957	0	0	0	2,957
Waterford	2016 - 2021	41	43	13	97	0	0	0	97
	2016 - 2026	215	87	13	314	0	0	0	314
	2016 - 2031	384	128	17	529	0	0	0	529
	2016 - 2036	528	181	29	738	0	0	0	738
	2016 - 2041	650	236	60	946	0	0	0	946
	2016 - 2046	748	291	115	1,154	0	0	0	1,154
	2016 - 2051	819	349	194	1,362	0	0	0	1,362
Hamlet and Remaining Rural Area	2016 - 2021	241	58	0	299	59	63	-4	358
	2016 - 2026	358	58	0	416	116	120	-4	532
	2016 - 2031	470	58	0	528	173	177	-4	701
	2016 - 2036	558	58	0	616	230	234	-4	846
	2016 - 2041	635	58	0	693	287	291	-4	980
	2016 - 2046	688	58	0	746	344	348	-4	1,090
	2016 - 2051	723	58	0	781	401	405	-4	1,182
Norfolk County	2016 - 2021	816	356	104	1,276	59	63	-4	1,335
	2016 - 2026	1,654	764	158	2,576	119	123	-4	2,695
	2016 - 2031	2,503	1,152	246	3,901	179	183	-4	4,080
	2016 - 2036	3,326	1,533	392	5,251	239	243	-4	5,490
	2016 - 2041	4,116	1,876	630	6,621	299	303	-4	6,920
	2016 - 2046	4,841	2,169	946	7,956	359	363	-4	8,315
	2016 - 2051	5,473	2,439	1,334	9,246	419	423	-4	9,665

If the Reference Population and Housing Growth Forecast was used for Simcoe (consistent with the methodology for Brantford), the impacts on the chart on Page 54 of the Long-term Accommodation Plan would be as

follows 8,300 expected new units for Norfolk County (instead of 3,359) and for Simcoe specifically for 2021-2051, the expected growth of new units would have been 2,538 resulting in the following changes (projected based on our calculations):

Elementary Yield by Area	Units	Long-term Yield	Peak Yield	Sites at Long-term	Sites at Peak Yield
Simcoe - incorrect data	787	146	299	0.3	0.6
Simcoe - correct data	2538	470	964	1.0	1.9

With the correct data being considered, 1.0 additional schools long-term would be required or 1.9 schools at peak yield, which could not be accommodated by portables. It appears as though West Lynn would be required in these circumstances and the closure should be re-considered.

It should also be considered that this is based on 2021 data and the pandemic and housing affordability changes may have further increased the number of housing units forecasted in Simcoe since this time (i.e. we wish to note the large development on the corner of Decou Rd and Ireland Rd that has not yet commenced and it is not clear whether that development has been included in the above forecast).

2) School Capacity and Utilization

On page 67 of the Long-term Accommodation Plan, West Lynn total FTE as of Oct 31/22 indicated 226 students. However as of January 2024, West Lynn has approximately 264 students and this number is only expected to increase given the new developments within the West Lynn catchment area.

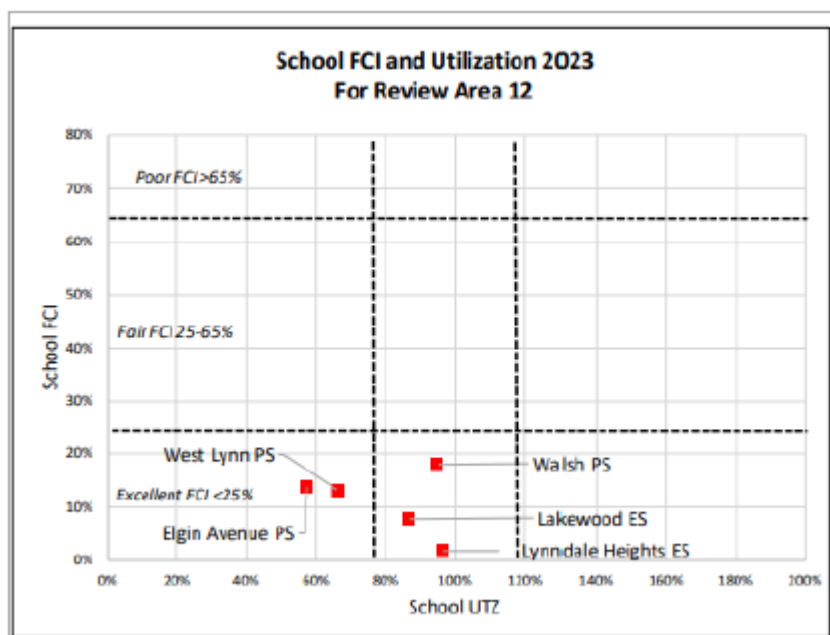
In the “Summary of Enrolment Projections 2023-2033 by Review Area” on page 64 of the Long-term Accommodation Plan, West Lynn was projected to have 223 students in 2023, 228 by 2024 and 233 by 2025. However already in 2023, we already have 264, with expected growth in the next few years.

We understand enrolment was based on summer enrolments, but an increase occurred in September, after the plan was released.

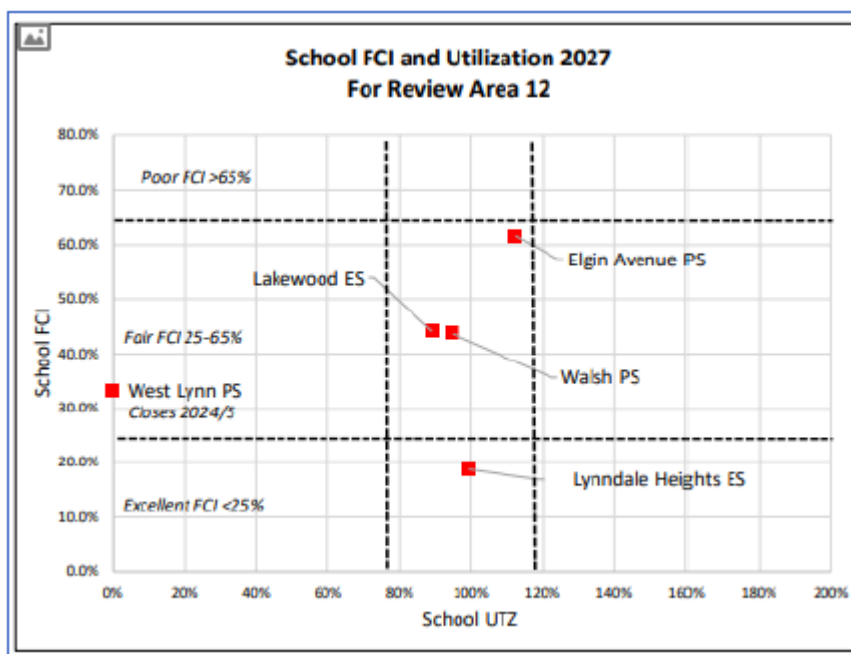
3) School Facility Condition

We understand from page 69 of the Long-Term Accommodation Plan that the Facility Condition Index (FCI) “measures the comparative cost between a facility’s total required renewal and repair needs and the cost of replacing the school facility in total.”

For 2023, West Lynn and Elgin both have an excellent FCI with less than 25% each:



The forecasted FCI for Elgin in 2027 (just 2 years after renovations and amalgamating with West Lynn) is 60% (on the borderline of a poor FCI) and school utilization is sitting close to 120%:



Being close to 120% capacity was based on understated forecasts. As outlined above, the current projections are higher based on higher % of forecasted growth in new housing units and higher than estimated enrolment numbers. This would suggest that we will be in an even worse spot in 2027 than indicated above (higher FCI and higher utilization).

Conclusion and Next Steps:

Based on our review, the data presented suggests that both West Lynn and Elgin should remain open with minor renovations, in order to address the forecasted growth in elementary students and keep the FCI at both schools at an acceptable level.

We request that the long-term accommodation plan be re-considered to address the following:

- 1) We evaluate the data projections as outlined in our report.
- 2) Consider a plan of action if utilization of the amalgamated Elgin goes above 120% and FCI increases beyond 65%.
- 3) We consider the closure of West Lynn given the data presented here.

City of Brantford Residential Growth by Community 2021-2051

Elementary Yield by Area	Units	Long Term Yield	Peak Yield	Sties at Long-Term	Sites at Peak Yield
Tutela Heights	1,230	228	467	0.5	0.9
Northern Boundary Lands	7,688	1,422	2,921	2.8	5.8
Other Growth Areas	17,518	3,241	6,657	6.5	13.3
TOTAL	26,436	4,891	10,046	10	20

Source: Grand Erie District School Board Long-Term Accommodation Plan 2023-28, Page 42

APPENDIX A
TABLE 16

CITY OF BRANTFORD
TUTELA HEIGHTS BOUNDARY EXPANSION LANDS
FORECAST OF TOTAL HOUSING BY TYPE

Mid-Year	Singles & Semis	Rows	Apartments	Total New HH
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	16	5	0	21
2023	20	10	0	30
2024	30	10	0	40
2025	40	15	0	55
2026	50	20	10	80
2027	40	15	4	59
2028	30	15	3	48
2029	25	12	2	39
2030	25	12	2	39
2031	25	12	2	39
2032	25	12	2	39
2033	25	12	2	39
2034	25	12	2	39
2035	25	12	2	39
2036	25	12	2	39
2037	25	12	2	39
2038	25	12	2	39
2039	25	12	2	39
2040	25	12	2	39
2041	25	12	2	39
2042	25	12	2	39
2043	25	12	2	39
2044	25	12	2	39
2045	25	12	2	39
2046	25	12	2	39
2047	25	12	2	39
2048	25	12	2	39
2049	25	12	2	39
2050	25	12	2	39
2051	25	12	2	39
Growth 2021 - 2051	201	388	83	1,230

Source: Henson Consulting, 2021

APPENDIX A
TABLE 13

CITY OF BRANTFORD
NORTHERN BOUNDARY EXPANSION LANDS
FORECAST OF GROWTH IN HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE

Mid-Year	Singles & Semis	Rows	Apartments	Total New HH
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	30	15	3	48
2023	124	63	10	197
2024	186	95	16	297
2025	217	111	20	348
2026	249	128	22	399
2027	218	112	19	349
2028	187	96	17	300
2029	153	83	14	250
2030	153	83	14	250
2031	153	83	14	250
2032	153	83	14	250
2033	153	83	14	250
2034	153	83	14	250
2035	153	83	14	250
2036	153	83	14	250
2037	153	83	14	250
2038	153	83	14	250
2039	153	83	14	250
2040	153	83	14	250
2041	153	83	14	250
2042	153	83	14	250
2043	153	83	14	250
2044	153	83	14	250
2045	153	83	14	250
2046	153	83	14	250
2047	153	83	14	250
2048	153	83	14	250
2049	153	83	14	250
2050	153	83	14	250
2051	153	83	14	250
Growth 2021 - 2051	4,722	2,530	433	7,688

Source: Henson Consulting, 2021

APPENDIX A
TABLE 10

CITY OF BRANTFORD
CITY-WIDE EXCLUDING ASDC AREAS
FORECAST OF TOTAL HOUSING BY TYPE

Mid-Year	Singles & Semis	Rows	Apartments	Total New HH
2021	151	142	64	356
2022	270	191	141	603
2023	176	149	136	461
2024	108	128	132	368
2025	70	118	130	318
2026	32	108	121	260
2027	201	130	149	481
2028	250	108	154	563
2029	297	187	181	665
2030	354	200	184	738
2031	312	215	187	714
2032	311	160	152	623
2033	318	170	155	643
2034	326	180	157	663
2035	334	190	160	684
2036	342	201	162	705
2037	294	162	165	621
2038	301	170	168	639
2039	308	178	171	657
2040	314	187	174	675
2041	321	195	177	693
2042	242	135	145	522
2043	246	141	148	535
2044	251	146	150	547
2045	256	152	152	560
2046	261	157	153	571
2047	244	137	148	529
2048	249	142	150	541
2049	254	147	152	553
2050	258	152	154	564
2051	264	157	156	576
Growth 2021 - 2051	7,889	4,988	4,668	17,518

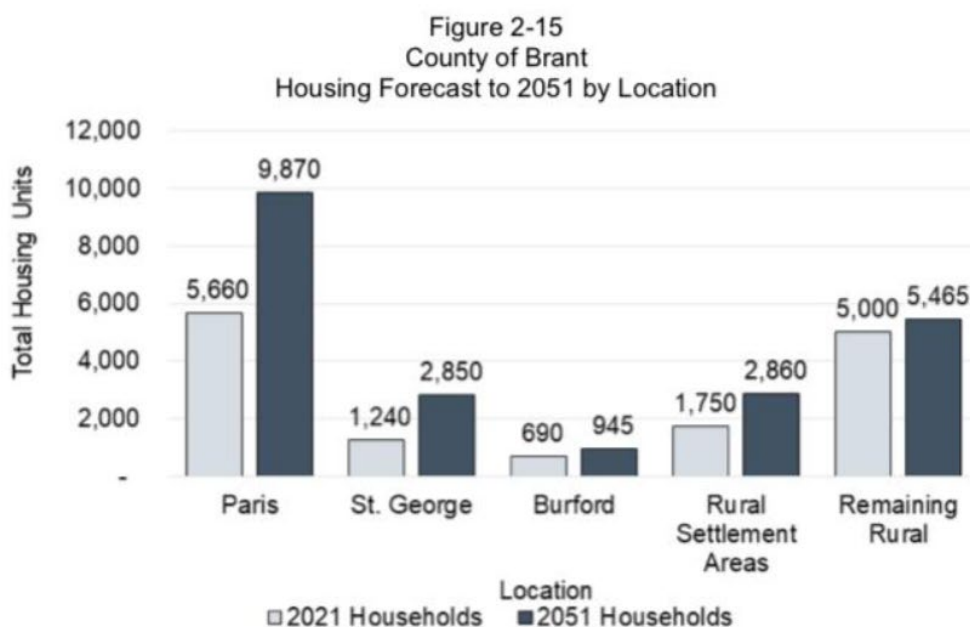
Source: Henson Consulting, 2021

Source: Brantford Development Charges Background Study August 23, 2021, Appendix A

County of Brant Residential Growth by Community

Elementary Yield by Area	Units	Long Term Yield	Peak Yield	Sties at Long-Term	Sites at Peak Yield
Paris	4,240	784	1611	1.6	3.2
St. George	1,610	298	612	0.6	1.2
Burford	255	47	97	0.1	0.2
Rural Settlement	1,140	211	433	0.4	0.9
Rural Areas	465	86	177	0.2	0.4
TOTAL	7,710	1,426	2,930	2.9	5.9

Source: Grand Erie District School Board Long-Term Accommodation Plan 2023-28, page 47



Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2023.

Source: Brant County MCR Addendum May 23 2023, figure 2-15, page 2-29

Haldimand County Residential Growth by Community 2021-2051

Elementary Yield by Area	Units	Long Term Yield	Peak Yield	Sties at Long-Term	Sites at Peak Yield
Caledonia	6,928	1,413	2,633	2.8	5.3
Cayuga	688	140	261	0.3	0.5
Dunnville	850	173	323	0.3	0.6
Hagersville	1,794	366	682	0.7	1.4
Jarvis	239	49	91	0.1	0.2
Nanticoke	15,000	3,060	5,700	6.1	11.4
Townsend	83	17	32	0.0	0.1
TOTAL	25,582	5,219	9,721	10.4	19.4

Source: Grand Erie District School Board Long-Term Accommodation Plan 2023-28, page 50

Table 12 Net New Housing Units Required by Planning Area and Density Type, 2021-2050					
Urban Area	Planning Area	Low-Density Units	Medium-Density Units	High-Density Units	Total Units
Caledonia	BUA	244	183	1,034	1,460
	DGA	3,641	1,613	213	5,468
	Total	3,885	1,795	1,247	6,928
Cayuga	BUA	24	18	103	145
	DGA	362	160	21	544
	Total	386	179	124	689
Dunnville	BUA	30	22	127	179
	DGA	447	198	26	672
	Total	477	221	153	851
Hagersville	BUA	63	47	268	378
	DGA	943	418	55	1,416
	Total	1,006	465	323	1,794
Jarvis	BUA	8	6	36	51
	DGA	126	56	7	189
	Total	135	62	43	240
Townsend	BUA	3	2	12	17
	DGA	44	19	3	66
	Total	47	2	15	83
Urban Areas Total	BUA	373	279	1,580	2,231
	DGA	5,564	2,464	326	8,354
	Total	5,937	2,743	1,906	10,585
Rural Area	Total	572	-	-	572
County Total	Total Units	6,509	2,743	1,906	11,157
Source: Matt Reniers and Associates based on information obtained from Haldimand County Building Division					
Note: Numbers may not add up precisely due to rounding					

Source: Haldimand County: Growth Strategy Report June 2021, Table 12, page 49



Annual Board Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Present: Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, B. Doyle, S. Gibson, L. Passmore, T. Sault, E. Thomas, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, D. Smouter, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

Regrets: Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Director Roberto, as Secretary of the Board, at 6:02 p.m.

(b) **Roll Call**

Director Roberto confirmed that roll call had been completed.

(c) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Director Roberto read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Selection of Slate of Officers for 2024**

(a) **Appointment by the Director of Education and Secretary of the Board of the Scrutineers**

L. Munro and P. Ashe were appointed Scrutineers.

(b) **Method of Nominating**

Nominations for the election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the 2024 Board, the Chair and the OPSBA Director and Alternate Director for 2024 were made by email submission.

(c) **Nominations for Board Chair**

Trustee Doyle nominated Trustee Gibson who accepted the nomination. Trustee Sloat self-nominated.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT nominations for the position of Chair of the Board 2024 be closed.

Carried

Ballots were distributed, collected, and tabulated.

Trustee Gibson was declared elected as Chair of the Board 2024.

Chair Gibson assumed the Chair.



Annual Board Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

(d) **Nominations for Board Vice-Chair**

Trustee Gibson nominated Trustee Doyle who accepted the nomination.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: L. Passmore

THAT nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board 2024 be closed.

Carried

Trustee Doyle was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the 2024 Board.

(e) **Nominations for OPSBA Director/Voting Delegate**

Chair Gibson nominated Trustee VanEvery-Albert who accepted the nomination.

Trustee Sloat self-nominated.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the nominations for the position of OPSBA Director/Voting Delegate 2024 be closed.

Carried

Ballots were distributed, collected, and tabulated.

Trustee VanEvery-Albert was declared elected as OPSBA Director/Voting Delegate the 2024 Board.

(f) **Nominations for OPSBA Alternate Director/Alternate Voting Delegate**

Chair Gibson nominated Trustee Bradford who accepted the nomination.

Trustee Sloat self-nominated.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT nominations for the position of OPSBA Alternate Director/Alternate Voting Delegate 2024 be closed.

Carried

Ballots were distributed, collected, and tabulated.

Trustee Bradford was declared elected as OPSBA Alternate Director/Alternate Voting Delegate of the 2024 Board.

(g) **Motion to Destroy the Ballots**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: T. Sault

THAT the Scrutineers be directed to destroy the ballots collected during the 2024 Board elections.

Carried



Annual Board Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

C - 1 **Presentation to the 2023 Board Chair and Vice-Chair**

On behalf of the Board, Director Roberto presented Chair Gibson and Vice-Chair Doyle with gifts of appreciation for their service as Board Chair and Vice-Chair in 2023.

D - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Annual Board meeting be adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

Present: Chair S. Gibson, Vice-Chair B. Doyle Trustees: G. Anderson, J. Bradford, R. Collver, L. Passmore, E. Thomas, T. Sault, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton; Student Trustees: M. Baker K. Gayowsky, A. Skye

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, D. Smouter, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerbroeck, J. White, R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

A - 1 **Opening (6:33 pm)**

(a) **Roll Call**

Chair Gibson confirmed roll call.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

(c) **In-Camera Session (6:34 pm)**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: T. Sault

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Gibson read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Regular Board meeting to order at 7:34p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorials**

(i) **Leonard Plant**

The memorial of Leonard Plant was read by Trustee Anderson.

(ii) **Dominik Short-Empey**

The memorial of Dominik Short-Empey was read by Trustee Thomas.

(h) **In-Camera Report**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

That Item B-1-b be approved.

Carried



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

(i) **Student Showcase – Simcoe Composite School**

Special guests, Jeremy Theobald (Construction Technology teacher) and Turner F. (a Grade 11 student) at Simcoe Composite School, joined the meeting via MS teams to describe the process of making the wooden coasters.

Student Trustee Maggie Baker and fellow classmates Madison M. and Sidhi R. performed musical interludes.

(j) **Delegations – Nil**

Chair's Address

Chair Gibson shared her gratitude to staff, Trustees, and the students of Grand Erie.

B - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **November 27, 2023 (Regular Board)**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, dated November 27, 2023, be approved.

Carried

(b) **December 4, 2023 (Special Board Meeting)**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated December 4, 2023, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Committee Recommendations and Reports**

(a) **Finance Committee Meeting Report dated December 4, 2023**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: L. Passmore

Seconded by: J. Bradford

THAT the Board approve the Revised Budget Estimates 2023-24.

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings – Nil**

E - 1 **Report of the Director**

Director Roberto highlighted the following:

- Future Grade 9 nights
- GREAT Conference
- Student Senate
- Lakewood Santa Sale and Port Rowan Harvest Dinner
- Best Start Network
- Learning Together: School Mental Health Ontario
- Senior Leadership Team learning



Regular Board Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

F - 1 Student Trustees' Report

(a) Student Senate Report

Presented as printed.

G - 1 New Business - Action / Information Items

(a) Borrowing Authorities

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: T. Sault

THAT the Board approve the Borrowing Authorities.

Carried

(b) Reporting of Wrongdoing

Presented as printed.

(c) Committee Representation

Manager Ireland-Aitken distributed the Committee Representation report.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Board approve the Committee Representation 2023-24.

Carried

(d) Director's Annual Report 2022-23

Presented as printed.

H - 1 Other Business - Nil

I - 1 OPSBA Report

Trustee VanEvery-Albert encouraged trustees to register for the Public Education Symposium. The Central West Region meeting in the spring will be hosted by Grand Erie.

J - 1 Correspondence - Nil

K - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Special Board Meeting

Monday, December 18, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair S. Gibson, Vice-Chair B. Doyle, Trustees: J. Bradford, R. Collver (MS Teams), L. Passmore (MS Teams), T. Sault, E. Thomas (MS Teams), C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, E. Whiton (MS Teams)
- Administration:** Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham (MS Teams), L. Munro (MS Teams), L. Thompson (MS Teams), J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, R. Wyszynski, Executive Assistant: C. Dero (MS Teams), Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken
- Guests:** M. Zega, Legal Counsel, J. Bell, General Legal Counsel (MS Teams)
- Regrets:** Trustee G. Anderson, Student Trustees: M. Baker, K. Gayowsky, T. Zebroski

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gibson at 5:34 p.m.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** – Nil

(c) **In-Camera Session (5:33 p.m.)**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Board move In-Camera.

Carried

(d) **Welcome to Open Session/Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e) **Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the Board meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

(f) **Additions/Deletions/Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: C. VanEvery-Albert

THAT the Agenda be approved.

Carried

(g) **Memorials** - Nil

(h) **In-Camera Report**

Manager Ireland-Aitken reported the Board decided and confirmed in-camera the following resolution:

THAT the Board bar Trustee Sloat from attending all meetings of the Board including In-Camera meetings, Special Board meetings, the Annual meeting and Caucus



Special Board Meeting

Monday, December 18, 2023

Education Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

meetings for December 2023, January, and February 2024, and furthermore bar Trustee Sloat from attending and sitting in all committees effective April 1 to the end of November 30, 2024, inclusive of July and August, and that she receives a public censure and only receives public materials. For further clarity attending means Trustee Sloat not attend in person, virtually, or by any other means.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: B. Doyle

Recorded Vote:

Vice-Chair Doyle – yes

Trustee VanEvery-Albert – yes

Trustee Waldschmidt – yes

Trustee Passmore – yes

Trustee Whiton – yes

Trustee Collver – no

Trustee Thomas – yes

Trustee Bradford – yes

Trustee Sault – yes

Chair Gibson – yes

Carried

The motion confirmed the December 4, 2023 decision of Board.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT Item B-1-b be approved.

Carried

Moved by: B. Doyle
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt
THAT Item B-1-c be approved.

Carried

B - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: J. Bradford
Seconded by: T. Sault
THAT the Special Board meeting be adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Carried

Chair S. Gibson

Director of Education and Secretary of the Board J. Roberto



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday January 11, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

REPORT

- Present:** Chair L. DeJong, Vice-Chair K. Jones, Trustees: T. Waldschmidt, L. Whiton, Community Representatives: B. Bruce, K. Kelly, W. Rose
Organizations: L. Boswell, C. Gilman, C. Stefanelli, R. Vriend
- Administration:** Director J. Roberto, Superintendent L. Thompson, Principal Leader
Specialized Services: J. Senior, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar
- Regrets:** Community Representative L. Nydam
- Absent:** Organizations: T. Buchanan
- Guests:** Superintendents: L. Munro, R. Vankerbroeck, R. Wyszynski, Grand Erie
Literacy Coach A. Randell

A - 1 Opening

(a) **Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Superintendent Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

(b) **Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder**

Recording Secretary J. Valstar confirmed roll call.

(c) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Add C-1 (d): Approval of new SEAC member by the Board of trustees

Moved by: W. Rose

Seconded by: L. DeJong

THAT the January 11, 2023 Agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B - 1 Timed Items

(a) **Thank you – Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC 2023**

Superintendent Thompson thanked Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones for their service as Chair and Vice-Chair for 2023.

(b) **Election – Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC 2024**

L. DeJong was acclaimed as Chair of SEAC 2024. K. Jones was acclaimed as Vice-Chair of SEAC 2024.

C - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

(a) **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes dated December 14, 2023 be approved.

Carried



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday January 11, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

REPORT

(b) **Letter to the Ministry on supporting students with mental health challenges**

To be discussed further at the next meeting.

(c) **Video Spotlight – Grand Erie’s Anit-Racism video series**

Presented

(d) **Approval of new SEAC member by Board of trustees**

Moved by: W. Rose

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the appointment of Paul Found, Norfolk Association for Community Living, to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remainder of the Term 2022-2026 be forwarded to the January 29, 2024 Regular Board meeting for approval.

Carried

D - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Financial Update 2023-24**

Superintendent Wyszynski gave an update on Grand Erie’s finances for the 2023-24 school year.

(b) **2024-25 School Year Calendar**

Superintendent Vankerrebroeck presented a draft of the 2024-25 school calendars for elementary and secondary schools in Grand Erie.

E - 1 **Other Business**

(a) **A Day in the Life of the Literacy Coach**

Literacy Coach A. Randell presented the role of the Literacy Coach to SEAC members.

F - 1 **Standing Items**

Policies Out for Comment - Nil

(a) **Trustee Updates**

Trustee Waldschmidt congratulated Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones on their appointments to SEAC for 2024.

(b) **Chair/Vice Chair Update**

Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones shared their respective updates.

G - 1 **Information Items – Nil**

H - 1 **Community Updates**

(a) **Fire Safety**

Trustee Waldschmidt reminded SEAC members of fire safety precautions to take in the winter.

I - 1 **Correspondence**

(a) Letter from Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board on SIP funding



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday January 11, 2024

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

REPORT

J - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**

- (a) A Day in the Life of a Math Coach
- (b) Video Spotlight – Inclusion by Design in Grand Erie
- (c) Follow up on destreaming in Grand Erie
- (d) Video Spotlight - Anti-racism video series
- (e) Early Reading Strategy
- (f) Follow up on TVDSB letter for discussion about SEAC sending a letter of support regarding students struggling with mental health challenges.
- (g) Restorative practices in Grand Erie

K - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday February 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. MS Teams

L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt
Seconded by: L. Whiton
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:02 p.m.
Carried



Policy and Program Committee

Monday, January 15, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

Present: Committee Chair: S. Gibson, Trustees: R. Collver (MS Teams), B. Doyle, T. Sault, C. VanEvery-Albert, T. Waldschmidt, L. Whiton (MS Teams)

Administration: Director: J. Roberto, Superintendents: P. Ashe, K. Graham, L. Munro, L. Thompson, J. Tozer, R. Vankerrebroeck, J. White (MS Teams), R. Wyszynski (MS Teams), Executive Assistant: C Dero, Recording Secretary: K. Ireland-Aitken

A - 1 **Opening**

(a) **Roll Call**

Roll call was completed.

(b) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil

(c) **Welcome /Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair S. Gibson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

B - 1 **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: C. VanEvery-Albert

Seconded by: L. Whiton

THAT the Policy and Program Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **October 16, 2023**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Minutes of the Policy and Program Committee meeting dated October 16, 2023, be approved.

Carried

D - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes/Previous Meetings** - Nil

E - 1 **New Business - Program**

(a) **Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) 2022-23**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, it was noted that educators offer drop in opportunities to support students in e-Learning.

(b) **Remote Learning Report**

Presented as printed.

In response to a question, it was noted that remote learning was optional. Additionally, e-Learning completion rates in secondary align with in person learning.



Policy and Program Committee

Monday, January 15, 2024

Education Centre Boardroom

REPORT

- (c) **Specialized Services – Programs and Services Report**
Presented as printed.
- (d) **Waterford Public School – Grade 7 and 8 Relocation**
Presented as printed.
In response to a question, the committee meetings will be in-person.
- (e) **Elgin Avenue Public School and West Lynn Public School Temporary Transition**
Presented as printed.
- (f) **Safe and Inclusive Schools Report 2022-23 – Suspension, Expulsions and Exclusions**
Presented as printed.
It was noted that Grand Erie falls within the provincial data range for suspensions with no significant changes compared to the previous year. Additionally, the Alternative to Suspension Committee and Safe and Inclusive Schools team are focusing on self-regulation, staff training, Tier 1 and 2 supports and skill building to support schools.
- (g) **Mental Health Strategy Update**
Presented as printed.
In response to a question, it was noted that the recommendations from the audit report by KPMG, where possible, have been reviewed and referenced in the Mental Health Strategy.
- (h) **Equity Action Plan Update**
Presented as printed.
- (i) **Health and Safety Annual Report**
Presented as printed.
- F - 1 **New Business - Policy** - Nil
- G - 1 **Adjournment**
Moved by: T. Sault
Seconded by: B. Doyle
THAT the Policy and Program meeting be adjourned at 7:44 p.m.
Carried
- H - 1 **Next Meeting Date:** March 4, 2024



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer
RE: **Major Construction Project Report**
DATE: January 29, 2024

Background

As per Grand Erie District School Board's (Grand Erie's) Major Construction Policy (FA-01), the status of each active capital project will be provided in a bi-monthly report. As per policy, this report shall include budgeted and actual costs to date, details of project progress and schedule for completion. A funding strategy will be recommended should forecasted expenditures for a project exceed the budget established.

Status

South-West Brantford Joint-Use Elementary School

The project has been submitted to the Ministry of Education to obtain approval to proceed to tender.

An agreement to purchase the land, with the purpose to jointly own the parcel, is being developed and will be included in a proposed Agreement of Purchase and Sale, once ready.

Caledonia Joint-Use Elementary School

The project has been submitted to the Ministry of Education to obtain approval to proceed to tender.

Cobblestone Child Care Addition

The project has been submitted to the Ministry of Education to obtain approval to proceed to tender.

All active project details are listed in Appendix A.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Belonging indicator of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: we build a culture of belonging to support an equitable, inclusive, and responsive environment for each learner.

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

Appendix A

Project	Type	Phase	Ministry Approval	Target Opening Date	Architect	Site Acquisition	Site Plan Approval (SPA)	Tender Awarded	General Contractor	Budget	Actual	Cost Forecast
Elgin Avenue Public School	Addition / Renovation	Pre-Design	Aug 04, 2017	Sep 01, 2025	Salter Pilon Architecture	N/A	In progress	No	TBD	\$ 6,180,145	\$ 98,279	\$ 6,180,145
South-West Brantford Elementary School	New School	Design	Oct 20, 2020	Sep 01, 2025	ZAS Architects	In Progress	Conditional Site Plan Approval received (Jan 2024)	No	TBD	\$ 16,269,978	\$ 1,770,971	\$ 16,269,978
Caledonia Joint-Use Elementary School	New School	Design	Nov 23, 2021	Sep 01, 2025	Svedas Architects	Completed	SPA submitted (Nov 2023)	No	TBD	\$ 12,288,985	\$ 4,035	\$ 12,288,985
Cobblestone Elementary School Child Care	Addition	Design	Mar 25, 2021	Jan 01, 2025	Grguric Architects Inc.	N/A	In progress	No	TBD	\$ 2,224,868	\$ 100,940	\$ 2,224,868
Banbury Heights School Child Care	Addition	Design	Mar 25, 2021	Jan 01, 2025	Grguric Architects Inc.	N/A	In progress	No	TBD	\$ 2,182,082	\$ 120,748	\$ 2,182,082



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Regan Vankerrebroeck, Superintendent of Education
RE: **Draft Proposed School Year Calendars 2024-25**
DATE: January 29, 2024

Recommended Motion: Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
THAT the Board approve the draft Proposed School Year Calendars 2024-25.

Background

Regulation 304 "School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days", and Policy/Program Memorandum No. 151 set out the conditions governing and establishing school year calendars and outline the following criteria that must be met:

- The school year commences on or after September 1 and ends on or before June 30;
- The minimum number of school days required is 194;
- The minimum number of instructional days is 187;
- School boards must dedicate three PA days per school year to provincial education; priorities and may dedicate up to four additional PA days per school year; and
- A board may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days.

Professional activities are focused on ensuring equity of outcome and well-being for all students. The three mandatory PA days must be focused on teachers' professional learning with respect to the following current provincial education priorities as outlined in *Achieving Excellence A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario (2014)*:

- Achieving Excellence
- Ensuring Equity
- Promoting Well-Being
- Enhancing Public Confidence

Note: Boards have not yet received Ministry of Education direction on school year calendars for 2024-25, nor the topics of the Professional Activity days. Until notified to the contrary, Grand Erie will proceed on the presumption that Ministry direction will be confirmed late spring.

Additional Information

The Grand Erie School Year Calendar Committee met to review and discuss proposed school year calendars that were circulated on January 9 and 23, 2024, for consideration by stakeholder groups. Committee members represented union groups, elementary and secondary Principals, Indigenous Education, and elementary and secondary parents/caregivers.

The proposed calendars presented to the committee for consideration were developed in collaboration with the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board.

The Grand Erie School Year Calendar Committee is recommending that the board continue to operate with two calendars in 2023-24, one elementary and one secondary.

The recommended Grand Erie calendars are in total alignment with those of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board.

Next Steps

Upon approval by the Trustees, the draft School Year Calendars will be forwarded to the Ministry of Education. Upon final approval by the Ministry, the calendars will be shared with all stakeholder groups.

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Learning indicator of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: we will build a culture of learning to nurture curiosity and opportunity for each learner.

Respectfully submitted,

Regan Vankerbroeck
Superintendent of Education

Ontario School Year Calendar 2024-2025



Ministry of Education

Calendar Title 103628173: Brant/Brantford/Haldimand and Norfolk Elementary				Calendar Description Elementary Calendar for Brant, Brantford, Haldimand and Norfolk				LEGEND <div><div>H</div> Statutory Holiday</div> <div><div>E</div> Scheduled Examination Day</div> <div><div>P</div> Board Directed PA Day</div> <div><div>P*</div> PA Day Devoted to Provincial Priorities*</div> <div><div>B</div> Board Designated Holiday</div> <div><div>/</div> Half Day</div>			
Board Name Grand Erie DSB		Date Created Nov 29, 2023		Panel Elementary		Calendar Type Modified		Calendar Status Draft			
Start of School Year Sep 03, 2024	End of School Year Jun 30, 2025	First Day Students Sep 03, 2024		Last Day Students Jun 30, 2025		Total PA Days 7		Total Instr. Days 187		Total Exam Days 0	

MONTH	First Week					Second Week					Third Week					Fourth Week					Fifth Week					PA Days	Instr. Days	Exam Days
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F			
August 2024				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	0	0
September 2024	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13 P*/P*	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30					1	19	0
October 2024		1	2	3	4	7	8 P*/P*	9	10	11	14 H	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		1	21	0
November 2024					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15 P	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	1	20	0
December 2024	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23 B	24 B	25 B	26 B	27 B	30 B	31 B				0	15	0
January 2025			1 B	2 B	3 B	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20 P	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31	1	19	0
February 2025	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17 H	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28						0	19	0
March 2025	3	4	5	6	7	10 B	11 B	12 B	13 B	14 B	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31					0	16	0
April 2025		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11 P*/P*	14	15	16	17	18 H	21 H	22	23	24	25	28	29	30			1	19	0
May 2025				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19 H	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	21	0
June 2025	2	3	4	5	6 P	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27 P	30 B					2	18	0
July 2025		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		0	0	0
TOTAL																										7	187	0

Ontario School Year Calendar 2024-2025

Calendar Title 103629650: Brant/Brantford/Haldimand and Norfolk Secondary			Calendar Description Secondary Calendar for Brant, Brantford, Haldimand and Norfolk				LEGEND <div><div>H</div> Statutory Holiday</div> <div><div>E</div> Scheduled Examination Day</div> <div><div>P</div> Board Directed PA Day</div> <div><div>P*</div> PA Day Devoted to Provincial Priorities*</div> <div><div>B</div> Board Designated Holiday</div> <div><div>/</div> Half Day</div>		
Board Name Grand Erie DSB		Date Created Nov 29, 2023	Panel Secondary	Calendar Type Modified	Calendar Status Draft				
Start of School Year Sep 03, 2024	End of School Year Jun 30, 2025	First Day Students Sep 03, 2024	Last Day Students Jun 30, 2025	Total PA Days 7	Total Instr. Days 177	Total Exam Days 10			

MONTH	First Week					Second Week					Third Week					Fourth Week					Fifth Week					PA Days	Instr. Days	Exam Days
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F			
August 2024				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	0	0
September 2024	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13 P*/P*	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30					1	19	0
October 2024		1	2	3	4	7	8 P*/P*	9	10	11	14 H	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		1	21	0
November 2024					1	4	5 E	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15 P	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	1	19	1
December 2024	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23 B	24 B	25 B	26 B	27 B	30 B	31 B				0	15	0
January 2025			1 B	2 B	3 B	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24 E	27 E	28 E	29 E	30 P	31 P	2	14	4
February 2025	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17 H	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28						0	19	0
March 2025	3	4	5	6	7	10 B	11 B	12 B	13 B	14 B	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31					0	16	0
April 2025		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10 E	11 P*/P*	14	15	16	17	18 H	21 H	22	23	24	25	28	29	30			1	18	1
May 2025				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	19 H	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	21	0
June 2025	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23 E	24 E	25 E	26 E	27 P	30 B					1	15	4
July 2025		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		0	0	0
TOTAL																										7	177	10



Grand Erie District School Board

TO: JoAnna Roberto, Ph. D., Director of Education & Secretary of the Board
FROM: Rafal Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer
RE: **Approval to Tender Construction of Caledonia Elementary School**
DATE: January 29, 2024

Recommended Motion: Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
THAT the Board approve the design of the New Caledonia Joint-Use Elementary School for release of tender documents.

Background

In November 2021, the Grand Erie District School Board (Grand Erie) received an announcement from the Ministry of Education indicating that it would receive capital funding for a new 441 pupil place elementary school along with a three-room childcare centre (1 infant, 1 toddler, 1 preschool) to address accommodation pressure in Caledonia. This will be a joint use school with Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic DSB, which will result in a facility of 746 pupil places.

In April 2023, Grand Erie received confirmation that the floor and site plan for a childcare centre license have been reviewed and approved in principle by the Ministry of Education pursuant to Section 14 of O. Reg. 137/15 under the *Child Care and Early Years Act*, 2014.

In January 2024, the Ministry of Education provided the board with an Approval to Proceed (ATP) to tender the project.

Project Scope:

The new build, which will include approximately 76,000 square feet of constructed space, will include the following construction scope for Grand Erie:

- 3 Kindergarten classrooms
- 15 regular classrooms
- 2 Specialized Services Spaces
- Shared use of a 7,400 square foot gymnasium
- Shared use of an 1,800 square foot library/learning commons.

The site plan application, as well as the building permit applications, are both currently underway. The schematic drawings are attached as Appendix A: 3D Rendering and Appendix B: Draft Floor Plan.

Budget Implications:

A cost consultant was engaged to review the project drawings developed by Svedas Architects and provided a Class A cost estimate to ensure the project cost is within the Ministry's ATP funding allowance. In the opinion of the architect, it is assumed that the Cost Consultant report utilized a relatively higher square foot construction cost estimate in their calculations when compared to similar projects in the sector.

Estimated project costs are aligned Ministry of Education approved allocation.

Funding Breakdown:

Description	Budget
New School Construction (Class A Estimate)	\$ 30,837,060
New Childcare Construction (Class A Estimate)	\$2,024,025
Estimated Site Works	\$192,961
Total estimated project cost	\$33,054,046
Variance to Funding	\$0

This project has been funded through the Ministry of Education's Capital Priorities and Child Care Capital Funding Program. Currently, no additional reserves have been allocated to this project. However, should the tender results reveal a budget pressure, the Board will have three options:

1. Review alternate pricing and re-structure components so the project fits within the approved project funding.
2. Utilize internal, Board-appropriated reserves for any cost overruns. The balances of Board reserves as of August 31, 2023 are:

Reserve Fund	Balance	Notes
Proceeds of Disposition - Ministry	\$130,967	Requires Ministry Approval
Proceeds of Disposition - Other	\$1,016,793	Requires Ministry Approval
Accumulated Surplus:	\$11,111,173	Requires Board Approval

3. Incur unsupported capital for any cost overruns.

Additional information will be provided in future regarding the review phase of the tender results.

Project Schedule:

Pending Board of Trustees approval of the designed project scope of work, staff can release the tender for this project in February 2024. The following schedule is subject to favorable tender pricing:

General Contractor Tender Posting	February 2024
Board to approve Tender Award	April 2024
General Contractor Tender Award	April 2024
Break Ground / Commence Construction Phase	April/May 2024
Grand Opening:	September 2025

Grand Erie Multi-Year Plan

This report supports the Belonging indicator of Learn Lead Inspire and the following statement: we build a culture of belonging to support an equitable, inclusive and responsive environment for each learner.

Respectfully submitted,

Rafal Wyszynski
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

Appendix A



Appendix B



GROUND FLOOR AREAS

GEOSB TOTAL	= 1,440.7m ² + 1,571.45m ² = 3,012.15m ²
BHNCDSB TOTAL	= 1,050.45m ² + 1,117.6m ² = 2,168.05m ²
SHARED TOTAL	= 1,319.45m ²
CHILDCARE	= 439m ²
TOTAL BUILDING AREA	= 6,939m ²



SECOND FLOOR AREAS



Student Senate Meeting

Thursday, May 5, 2023

10:10 a.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School

MINUTES

Present:

Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, Cayuga Secondary School, Delhi District Secondary School, Dunnville Secondary School, Hagersville Secondary School, North Park Collegiate, Paris District High School, Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School, Simcoe Composite School, Tollgate Technological Skills Centre, Valley Heights Secondary School, Waterford District High School

Student Trustees:

Tatyana Zebroski (Representing North)
Maggie Baker (Representing South)
Aleena Skye (Representing Indigenous)

Administration:

Superintendent Munro, Executive Assistant: K. Harrison

Recorder:

Christina Dero

A - 1 Opening/Welcome

(a) **Grand Erie Land Acknowledgement** – Student Trustee Baker

(b) **Opening and Welcome** – Superintendent Munro opened the meeting and welcomed Senators.

B - 1 Approval of the Minutes – April 5, 2023

Moved by: M. Baker

Seconded by: A. Skye

THAT the minutes of the Student Senate meeting, dated April 5, 2023, be approved.

Carried

C - 1 Consensus Building – United Indigenous Student Council

Student Trustee Skye and J. Martin, Native Advisor spoke to Senators about the consensus building method that was used during the Indigenous Student Trustee election earlier this year.

D - 1 Working Groups

Student Senators broke into working groups: Mental Health, Student Voice, and Environment.

E - 1 Round Table Discussion

Student Senators summarized the working group discussion:

Mental Health

- An EQAO Feedback Committee has been formed. If students are interested in participating, contact a Student Trustee.
- An email has been sent to administration to inquire about cafeteria pricing
- Information about a \$1000 OPSBA Scholarship can be found on the Student Trustee Instagram page. The deadline is May 12, 2023.

Learn

Lead

Inspire



Student Senate Meeting

Thursday, May 5, 2023

10:10 a.m.

Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School

MINUTES

- The working group shared the work of schools to promote Mental Health Week.

Student Voice: Student:

- The working group hopes for a consistent approach across the district with regards to the Land acknowledgement and O Canada.
- Work continues on a set Dress Code that includes respectful attire while still acknowledging self-expression.

Environmental:

- Senators reviewed the initiative to ensure Nestle products are no longer available in Grand Erie Schools and developed a template letter to amplify voices.

E – 1 **Keynote Speaker – Joel Hilchey**

Student Senators had the opportunity to hear Joel Hilchey share his experiences and provided messaging on leadership, creativity, kindness and self-care.

Future dates: TBD

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 28, 2023

1:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Chair:	C. VanEvery-Albert, Trustee
Community Representative(s):	S. Graham, Six Nations Federal Schools Representative
Trustees:	E. Thomas, Trustee
Grand Erie Staff:	R. Hill-Beauchamp, Native Education Counsellor K. Graham, Superintendent of Education J. Laight, Six Nations Native Advisor J. Roberto, Director of Education D. VanEvery, Native Education Counsellor Nil.
Grand Erie Staff (Resources):	
Organizations/ Agencies:	Nil
Absent with Regrets:	A. Powless-Bomberry, Six Nations Elected Council Representative R. Staats, System Principal Leader Indigenous Education C. Vyse, Native Education Counsellor
Absent	T. Anderson, Indigenous Services Canada Director of Education responsible for Six Nations Federal Schools A. Skye, Indigenous Student Trustee
Recording Secretary:	D. Fletcher, Executive Assistant

- A - 1 **Opening**
- (a) **Ohen: ton Karihwatehkwen**
Six Nations Native Advisor J. Laight provided opening greetings.
- (b) **Land Acknowledgment Statement**
Superintendent Graham read the Land Acknowledgment statement.
- (c) **Introduction of New Members & Roll Call**
Introductions and Roll call were completed.
- (d) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - Nil
- (e) **Approval of Agenda**
The agenda was approved by consensus.
- B - 1 **ESA Staff Roundtable**
- (a) **Introductions and Updates from each school**
Superintendent Graham introduced Six Nations Native Advisor, J. Laight and the Education Service Agreement (ESA) team members.
- J. Laight shared a general overview of her role and the connections with the ESA Staff. Current and future initiatives include: continual work throughout the year with Transitions, co-facilitated NBE teacher professional development, work with the indigenous Support Leadership Council (ISLC) and the Indigenous Student Trustee, ESA Report, Enrolment (students), support Multi Language learners (MLL), graduation strategy, and Adult Education Program on Six Nations



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 28, 2023

1:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Native Education Counsellor, R. Hill-Beauchamp shared information and updates about McKinnon Park Secondary School:

- Focus on Grade 12 students will include work with Indigenous recruiters from colleges and universities to provide opportunities and connections, tracking their success, potential Prior Learning and Recognition (PLAR) process, updating information available to encourage parental engagement at the schools, updating Brightspace (Learning Platform), and working with the Nutrition Program
- Special Event will be held on September 29, 2023 - Football game between MPSS and PJCVS with half time show recognizing "Every Child Matters".

Native Education Counsellor D. VanEvery shared information and updates about Hagersville Secondary School/NewStart Program:

- Focus on promoting attendance and face to face instruction
- October meetings - one on one meetings with grade 12 students for graduation status and potential pathways grad status

Invitations to remaining Six Nations Advisory Committee meetings for the year will be sent to committee members.

C - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings** - Nil

D - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **Approval of Minutes – June 8, 2023**

Trustee E. Thomas moved THAT the minutes of the Native Advisory Committee held on June 8, 2023 be approved.

Carried

E - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Meeting Dates**

Superintendent Graham shared a calendar with proposed meeting dates: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

December 14, 2023 (*In person)

February 22, 2024 (Virtual)

April 18, 2024 (*In person)

May 16, 2024 (Six Nations Annual General Meeting- Time TBD)

June 13, 2024 (*In person)

(b) **Annual General Meeting (AGM) Planning**

Chair VanEvery-Albert shared that the purpose of the AGM is to provide information to the community.

Next steps will be to create a planning committee and schedule meetings. This is a community event promoting Community Awareness Month

Committee members are asked to save the date and share the information with the community.

(c) **Terms of Reference (ToR)**

Superintendent Graham referenced the Terms of Reference document (ToR).



Six Nations Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 28, 2023

1:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

F - 1 Information Items

(a) **Student Senate Update** - Nil

(b) **Proposed Date for ESA Report Presentation to SNEC**

Chair VanEvery-Albert shared that a date has been proposed to meet with Council in October. Details will be provided once they are confirmed.

(c) **Principal's Report (Future Item)** - Superintendent Graham shared that the Administrators from the Big Six schools will be asked to join future meetings to provide updates about their school. Information provided in the report will include a focus on academics, and photographs of events at the schools.

(d) **Student Showcase (Future Item)** - Superintendent Graham shared that the student showcase could include a student testimonial or presentation (via video).

G - 1 Next Meetings include:

December 14, 2023 (*In person) 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Location TBD

February 22, 2024 (Virtual)

April 18, 2024 (*In person)

May 16, 2024 (Six Nations Annual General Meeting)

June 13, 2024 (*In person)

H - 1 Closing Address & Adjournment

Six Nations Native Advisor, J. Laight gave the closing address.

Chair VanEvery-Albert adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.



Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023

3:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Chair:

Community

Representative(s):

Trustees:

Grand Erie Staff:

**Organizations/
Agencies:**

**Parent/Family
Designates**

Absent with Regrets:

Absent:

Guests:

Recording Secretary:

J.P. Gauthier, Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant
P. Barber, Director of Lifelong Learning of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
N. Shawana, Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
R. Collver, Trustee
K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
E. McCartney-Maracle, Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant
M. Moniz, Indigenous Student Engagement and Support Teacher
R. Mullings, Elementary Principal
J. Roberto, Director of Education
J. Burnham, Local Association Representative
L. Harris, Local Association Representative
K. Sandy, Local Association Representative
D. Sowers, Local Association Representative
S. George, Parent/Family Designate
T. Simon, Parent/Family Designate
J. Hill, Six Nations Native Advisor
V. King-Jamieson, Mississaugas of the Credit Education Pillar Lead
S. Miller, Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant
R. Staats, System Principal Leader Indigenous Education
H. Watts, Education Manager – Six Nations Lifelong Learning Taskforce
C. General, Local Association Representative
B. Sandy, Local Association Representative
A. Skye, Student Trustee
R. Skye, Indigenous Education Advocate
E. Whiton, Trustee
R. Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business
D. Fletcher, Executive Assistant

A - 1 Opening

(a) Opening Address

Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation N. Shawana provided opening greetings.

(b) Land Acknowledgement Statement

Superintendent Graham read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(c) Introduction of New Members & Roll Call

Superintendent Graham welcomed members to the meeting. Roll Call was complete.

- Superintendent Graham requested that any individuals who are interested in the role of Chair put their names forward. Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant J.P. Gauthier nominated himself and was acclaimed as the Chair of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.

(d) Declaration of Conflict of Interest - Nil



Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023
MS Teams Virtual Meeting

H-1-c

3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

(e) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approvals**

The agenda was approved.

B - 1 **Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous meeting** - Nil

C - 1 **Approval of Minutes**

(a) **June 8, 2023**

N. Shawana moved THAT the minutes of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee held on June 8, 2023 be approved. The minutes were approved.

D - 1 **New Business**

(a) **Overview and Learning**

- Jordan's Principle
- Reciprocal Education Agreement (REA)

Superintendent Graham provided a brief overview regarding supports provided for the Jordan's Principle and the Reciprocal Education Agreement.

Superintendent K. Graham will provide the number of students who were supported last year through Jordan's Principle.

(b) **Board Action Plan (BAP) Financial Overview/Presentation**

Superintendent Graham provided an overview of the four funding categories: Using Data to Support Student Achievement, Supporting Students, Supporting Educators and Engagement and Awareness Building.

Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant E. McCartney-Maracle shared the work of the Elementary Team.

Indigenous Education Teacher Consultant J.P. Gauthier shared the work of the Secondary Team.

The committee was invited to participate in an interactive discussion to add recommendations under each BAP plan. The document will remain open for additional comments or can be sent to D. Fletcher.

Some recommendations brought forward and briefly discussed included: Partnership Land Based Credit (Summer Program), Language Application, Land Based quilt making activities, increased signage throughout the schools around languages, language conference for students, Elders conference, sharing circles and Social events for students and parents,

Recommendations will be brought back to the next meeting. The Indigenous Education team will review, discuss, and put into appropriate categories along the funding element.

Superintendent Wyszynski provided an overview of the Indigenous Budget, which included 2022-23 Revised Budget, revenue, carry over, program allocations and grants. After October 31, 2023, the enrolment will be reviewed, and budgets will be shifted.

Page 2 of 4

Learn

Lead

Inspire



Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

H-1-c

3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

In response to a question, Superintendent Wyszynski explained the process for the allocation of the Ministry grant is based on the average class size below 23. The Ministry will fund, at 1/23rds, each class that is below 23. Previously the grant provided funding for each attempted credit. This is the reason why the grant has decreased by 33% from the previous year. He further explained that other boards with similar revenue and course participation levels were affected. This will be monitored this year and if the findings show significant impact, a report may be provided to the Ministry. There has been no impact to teacher positions or courses due to this decrease.

Superintendent Graham explained that this committee is instrumental with input into the Board Action Plan. The committee will review the plan together and seek additional supports to utilize all the funds.

(c) **Meeting Dates**

The following meeting dates were proposed for the 2023-24 school year. Consideration is being given to providing some in-person meetings. Times will continue to be 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- December 14, 2023
- March 28, 2024
- May 23, 2024

(d) **Student Showcase (Future Item)**

Indigenous Student Engagement and Support

Teacher, M. Moniz shared information regarding the Opening Event for the Indigenous Student Leadership Initiative 2023-24, to be held on October 31, 2023.

The event is open for all students interested to attend; there will also be Indigenous Advisors and members of the Indigenous Education team. The event will be focused on continued consensus building and unity among Indigenous students throughout the Board. The guest speaker is Jason Shawana.

There will be four Indigenous Student Leadership Initiative meetings this year. The year-end event will invite students and parents to attend.

The Transitions team continues to work with grade 8 students to participate in some of the events.

(e) **Update - Community** - Nil

(f) **Terms of Reference**

Superintendent Graham shared the current Terms of Reference and through Governance, will include an Indigenous Trustee Representative in the Committee Composition.

Superintendent Graham encouraged committee members to reach out to community members who may be interested in being part of the committee.

The Terms of Reference will be updated and brought back to the next meeting.



Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023
MS Teams Virtual Meeting

H-1-c

3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Once finalized, they will be posted on the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee tab on the Board website under October 18, 2023 meeting.

E - 1 **Information Items**

(a) **Student Senate Update** - Nil

F - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday, December 14, 2023, 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

G - 1 **Adjournment**

Chair J.P. Gauthier adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

H - 1 **Closing Address**

Elementary and Secondary Education Advisor Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation N. Shawana gave the closing address.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday November 16, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair L. DeJong, Vice-Chair K. Jones, Trustee Waldschmidt, Community Representatives: B. Bruce Organizations: L. Boswell, C. Stefanelli, R. Vriends
- Administration:** Superintendent Thompson, Principal Leader Specialized Services: J. Senior, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar
- Regrets:** Trustee Whiton, Trustee Sault, Community Representatives: K. Kelly, L. Nydam, W. Rose, Organizations: C. Gilman
- Absent:** Organizations: T. Buchanan
- Visiting Trustees:** Nil
- Guests:** Superintendent Munro

A - 1 Opening

(a) Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement

Chair DeJong called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder

M. Tokaci, Information Technology, informed members of the YouTube livestream. Chair DeJong reminded members of the closed caption feature available in MS Teams.

(c) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Moved by: K. Jones

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the November 16, 2023 Agenda be approved.

Carried

B - 1 Timed Items

(a) Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan (GE-MAAP)

Superintendent Munro presented Grand Erie's Math Achievement Action Plan.

C - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

(a) Approval of Minutes

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the Minutes dated October 5, 2023 be approved.

Carried

(b) Annual Learning and Operating Plan (ALOP) 2022-23 – Final Report

Superintendent Thompson gave an overview of Grand Erie's final ALOP report for the 2022-23 school year.



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday November 16, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

MINUTES

- (c) **Annual Learning and Operating Plan (ALOP) – 2023-24**
Superintendent Thompson gave an overview of Grand Erie's ALOP for the 2023-24 school year.
- (d) **The role of the Teacher Consultant – Specialized Services**
Principal Leader J. Senior gave a presentation on the role of the Teacher Consultant in Specialized Services.
- (e) **Update on Nursing Supports in Schools**
Principal Leader J. Senior gave an update on nursing supports in Grand Erie schools.
- D - 1 **New Business**
 - (a) **Pre-School Speech and Language – Changes in service provision**
Principal Leader J. Senior gave an update on the changes in service provision to pre-school speech and language services.
 - (b) **Standard 7 – Specialized Health Support Services in Schools**
Principal Leader J. Senior reviewed Standard 7 of Grand Erie's Special Education Plan 2022-23.
- E - 1 **Other Business** - Nil
- F - 1 **Standing Items**
Policies Out for Comment - Nil
 - (a) **Trustee Updates**
Trustee Waldschmidt shared his update, including Student Trustee activities that have taken place.
 - (b) **Chair/Vice Chair Update**
Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones shared their respective updates. Chair DeJong encouraged community members to bring relevant information about their organizations to SEAC meetings.
- G - 1 **Information Items**
 - (a) **Regional Special Education Council (RSEC) - Update**
Superintendent Thompson and Principal Leader J. Senior shared an update from the recent RSEC conference they attended. Program Coordinators L. Miedema and L. Sheppard shared an update on the Special Education Regional Coordinator Council (SERCC) conference they attended.
- H - 1 **Community Updates**
 - (a) **Connecting with Services, Supports, and Resources – Lansdowne Children Centre**
A video depicting the work of Lansdowne Children's Centre was shared.
- I - 1 **Correspondence** – Nil



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday November 16, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

MINUTES

J - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**

- (a) Video Spotlight – Inclusion by Design in Grand Erie
- (b) Follow up on destreaming in Grand Erie
- (c) Transportation Update
- (d) Update on transitions
- (e) Anti-racism video series
- (f) Supporting students who are flight risks
- (g) Information on the training Specialized Services employees receive in regard to supporting students with special education needs

K - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday December 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. MS Teams

L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Carried



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday December 14, 2023

6:00 p.m.

MS Team Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair L. DeJong, Vice-Chair K. Jones, Trustee Waldschmidt, Community Representatives: B. Bruce, K. Kelly, L. Nydam, W. Rose Organizations: L. Boswell, C. Gilman
- Administration:** Superintendent Thompson, Principal Leader Specialized Services: J. Senior, Program Coordinators: L. Miedema, L. Sheppard, Recording Secretary: J. Valstar
- Regrets:** Trustee Sault, Trustee Whiton, Organizations: C. Stefanelli
- Absent:** Organizations: T. Buchanan, R. Vriends
- Visiting Trustees:** Nil
- Guests:** Nil

A - 1 Opening

(a) Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement

Chair DeJong called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(b) Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder

M. Tokaci, Information Technology, informed members of the YouTube livestream. Chair DeJong reminded members of the closed caption feature available in MS Teams.

(c) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

B-1 (a): Deferred to early 2024

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the December 14, 2023 Agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B - 1 Timed Items

(a) Video Spotlight – Inclusion by Design

Deferred until early 2024

(b) Video Spotlight – Grand Erie's Anti-Racism Series

Presented

C - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

(a) Approval of Minutes

Moved by: K. Jones

Seconded by: W. Rose

THAT the Minutes dated November 16, 2023 be approved.

Carried



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday December 14, 2023

6:00 p.m.

MS Team Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- (b) **SEAC – call out for members - update**
Chair DeJong informed members there is an individual who has expressed interest in joining SEAC and will be approved at the January Board meeting.
- D - 1 **New Business**
- (a) **Supporting Students who seek escape**
The Specialized Services Management Team (SSMT) presented Grand Erie's approach to supporting students who seek escape.
- (b) **Grand Erie's Special Education Plan - Standard 3 – Roles and Responsibilities**
Principal Leader J. Senior reviewed Standard 3 of Grand Erie's Special Education Plan 2022-23 and solicited input from SEAC members.
- E - 1 **Other Business**
- (a) **PAAC on SEAC**
Vice-Chair Jones encouraged members to review the resources at paac-seac.ca.
- F - 1 **Standing Items**
Policies Out for Comment - Nil
- (a) **Trustee Updates**
Trustee Waldschmidt shared his update, including the results of the Trustee elections at the November Board meeting.
- (b) **Chair/Vice Chair Update**
Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones shared their respective updates.
- G - 1 **Information Items**
- (a) **Chair / Vice-Chair Elections**
Superintendent Thompson explained the annual election process for Chair and Vice-Chair of SEAC, which will occur at the January SEAC meeting.
- H - 1 **Community Updates**
- (a) **Connecting with Services, Supports, and Resources – Lansdowne Children Centre**
C. Gilman shared an update from Easter Seals Canada, reminding members of Red Shirt Day on May 30, 2024.
- I - 1 **Correspondence**
- (a) Update on LDAO Circulars
(b) Letter from Behaviour Analyst Certification Board
(c) Letter from Thames Valley DSB – Students with mental Health challenges
(d) Letter from Lambton Kent DSB – Recruitment of an Education Resource Worker
- J - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**
- (a) A Day in the Life of a Math Coach
(b) Video Spotlight – Inclusion by Design in Grand Erie
(c) Follow up on destreaming in Grand Erie



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday December 14, 2023

6:00 p.m.

MS Team Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- (d) Video Spotlight - Anti-racism video series
- (e) Early Reading Strategy
- (f) Follow up on TVDSB letter for discussion about SEAC sending a letter of support regarding students struggling with mental health challenges.

K - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday January 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. MS Teams

L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: K. Jones

Seconded by: W. Rose

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Carried

**Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee****Thursday, October 26, 2023****6:30 p.m.**

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Committee Chair S. Darling, Director J. Roberto, Board Chair S. Gibson, Trustee J. Bradford, Trustee N. Waldschmidt, D. Dean, Superintendent K. Graham, G. Stead, Superintendent R. Vankerrebroeck, Superintendent J. White, B. DeMille, E. Huxley, C. Maunder, L. McCormick, J. Oliver, A. Parkin, D. Prince, M. Rahman, B. Reifenstein, J. Smith, S. Strohm, H. Thompson

Recorder: E. Roberts

A - 1 Opening**Roll Call / Welcome to Open Session / Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Superintendent White opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and confirmed that Roll Call had been completed. Superintendent Vankerrebroeck read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 GEPIC Slate of Members**(a) Election of Chair**

Superintendent White called for nominations for the GEPIC Chair for the 2023-24 school year.

S. Darling and N. Rahman self-nominated for the position of Chair.

Superintendent Vankerrebroeck confirmed the number of voting members present at 13 and conducted the collection of votes announcing the successful nominee as S. Darling.

Superintendent White congratulated S. Darling on her continuing role as GEPIC Chair for the 2023-24 school year.

(b) Terms of Reference

Superintendent White outlined the components of the GEPIC Terms of Reference, explaining that they must align with the Education Act (O. Reg. 612/00).

Moved by: J. Smith

Seconded by: J. Oliver

THAT the Terms of Reference for the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes be approved.

Carried

C - 1 Minutes**(a) Approval of the Minutes – May 25, 2023**

The Committee supported the approval of the May 25, 2023 Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee minutes.

(b) Business Arising from the Minutes – Nil**D - 1 Financial Report**

**Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee****Thursday, October 26, 2023****6:30 p.m.**

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES**(a) GEPIK Budget**

Superintendent White reported that schools have each been allocated \$500 for Parent Involvement, \$200 for School Council for the 2023-24 school year, and that a further \$27,000 is available for larger engagement events.

E - 1 School Highlights

Administrators D. Dean (Elementary) and G. Stead (Secondary) shared highlights of school engagement events and activities that occurred in 2022-2023. Grand Erie's strategic priority of learning and Math PD, and incorporating learning goals and success criteria, will be a main focus for schools in 2023-24.

School Council Chairs shared highlights of school activities held and being organized thus far in 2023 24. A welcome event for new boundary change families to Branlyn Public School, meet the teacher nights, and successful fundraising events at various schools were shared. Reduced congestion at Woodman Cainsville Public School resulting from the boundary change was also shared.

F - 1 System Updates

Superintendent White shared information about:

- The You Belong Here Campaign at all schools promoting belonging for all students
- 2023-24 initiatives and the Annual Learning and Operating Plan
- Days of Significance recognition in schools and on the board website

G - 1 Updates from the Board

Trustees J. Bradford and L. Passmore expressed the importance of parent/caregiver voices and engagement. School Council chairs are invited to submit questions and comments to GEPIK Chair S. Darling.

H - 1 New Business - Information

- (a) Superintendent Vankerbroeck provided an overview of the Grand Erie Math Achievement Action Plan (GE MAAP), its key priorities, professional development and coaching supports for schools and classrooms.
- (b) Superintendent White explained that Communication Boards are being provided to all schools for students with limited language abilities to assist with communication.

I - 1 Planning for Future Meetings

- (a) Suggestions for topics and speakers to present to GEPIK members and families during 2023-24 were requested and may be provided to Chair S. Darling.
- (b) A School Council Orientation workshop will be held virtually on the evening of November 23, 2023. Details will be shared with School Councils in advance of this date.
- (c) A GEPIK year-end event will be planned for May 2023. Ideas for planning will be discussed at future meetings.

J - 1 Future Meetings

GEPIK

- January 25, 2024



H-1-f

Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, October 26, 2023

6:30 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

- March, 28, 2024
- May 23, 2024

School Council Orientation

- November 23, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.



Small Schools Make a Difference

November 23, 2023

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2
Stephen.lecce@pc.ola.org ministerofeducation@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Lecce,

RE: Request for Additional Perspective on Bill 98 from Rural School Boards

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to you as the leader of the Superior-Greenstone District School Board, representing our community and the dedicated educators and staff who serve within our district. We commend your ongoing commitment to education and your tireless efforts to improve the educational landscape across the province of Ontario.

We understand that Bill 98 holds great promise in further enhancing the quality of education in our province. It is evident that your vision for education is founded on principles of inclusivity, collaboration, cooperation, and relationship-based leadership, which are values we deeply resonate with and strive to uphold within our school board.

While we acknowledge the significant progress we have made in our initiatives to support students, we believe it is essential to offer a unique perspective from small, rural school boards like ours. Our district encompasses a rich tapestry of communities, including 13 First Nation communities, Nookiwin Tribal Council, Nishnaabe Aski Nation (NAN), Matawa Tribal Council, Anishnabek Nation, Anishnabek Education System (AES), two Treaty areas, unseeded territory, and three Metis Nation Councils. Additionally, our student demographic is close to 40% First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI).

Our unique context and realities demand special attention when regulations of such significance as Bill 98 are adopted. We believe that the achievement data within many rural school boards, where students predominantly achieve at level 2 and have done so for several years, underscores the urgency of thinking differently about educational strategies for our students. Attempting to implement initiatives designed for larger, more urban centers may inadvertently hinder our ability to make the necessary changes and improvements for our students.

One of our primary expectations as a school board is to foster meaningful connections with the families we serve. We understand that building these relationships is a crucial aspect of our commitment to total inclusion for students and our core values of collaboration, cooperation, and relationship-based leadership. However, we acknowledge that this endeavor presents unique challenges, as many of the families within our district face busy schedules, socio-economic hardships, and a lack of trust in traditional parent engagement initiatives. Bringing them information such as the three Ministry Priorities and student achievement data may negatively impact the work that we have done to date to build relationships with families to promote engagement in our schools. Currently, the families we serve are not focused on data and school board priorities, but on managing the complexities of daily life. We need to more fully understand the rationale for this expectation as it has not been identified as a need in our district.

Our primary focus is on students' needs. Within our community, there is an impression that this legislation prioritizes political and economic considerations. In addition, stakeholders have shared they do not have a clear and transparent understanding of key details and future implications of this legislation and have shared their concerns that this legislation has the potential to negatively impact our communities.

In light of this, we respectfully request that you consider the following as you look to implement the various components of Bill 98:

1. **Inclusion of Rural Perspectives:** We advocate for the inclusion of perspectives from small, rural school boards during the implementation of Bill 98. Understanding our unique challenges and opportunities is paramount to ensuring the success of this legislation.
2. **Tailored Initiatives:** We recommend that initiatives under Bill 98 be adaptable to various educational settings, with provisions for rural communities, to ensure they effectively meet the needs of all students, including those in our district.
3. **FNMI Representation:** Given our significant FNMI student population, we believe that additional leadership and resources are essential to address their specific needs and create a more equitable educational experience.

We firmly believe that by working collaboratively and taking into account the diverse needs of all communities, we can achieve better outcomes for Northwestern Ontario's students. We are committed to contributing our expertise and local knowledge to help shape the implementation of Bill 98 in a way that truly benefits all students across our province.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with you and your team to further explore these recommendations and ensure that the educational future of all Ontario students is bright and inclusive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. McRae".

Pinky McRae,
Chair of the Board
Superior-Greenstone District School Board

cc. SGDSB Trustees
OPSBA
Chairs of Ontario School Boards



802 Drury Lane
Burlington, ON
L7R 2Y2
(905) 632-6300
www.hcdsb.org

January 9, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education

Dear Minister Lecce,

RE: Request for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funding for Publicly Funded School Boards in Ontario

I am writing to you on behalf of the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) to request the reinstatement of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF).

Our school board is committed to reducing our carbon footprint and enhancing the sustainability of our schools. Under the leadership of our Facility Management Services, staff monitor the energy consumption and greenhouse emissions of all school and Board sites. We are currently ranked third out of 72 school boards in the [Performing School Boards Report: Sustainable Schools](#), establishing HCDSB as the most sustainable school board in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

While we are proud of our accomplishments, there is more we could be doing to further reduce our carbon footprint. This would require significant financial investment, especially in the current economic context marked by rising inflation.

We are reaching out to request that the Ministry of Education reinstate the provision of *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funding* that was previously available to publicly funded school boards in Ontario. This funding is critical for implementing energy-efficient upgrades, renewable energy projects, and other initiatives that contribute to greenhouse gas reduction. Aligning the funding with the current inflation rate will help ensure that school boards can effectively plan and execute these vital projects without financial constraints.

The impacts of climate change are increasingly evident, and schools play a pivotal role in educating the next generation about sustainability and environmental stewardship. By equipping our schools with the necessary resources to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we can create a more sustainable future while providing practical learning opportunities for our students.

.../2

Investing in green initiatives dovetails with the province's commitment to environmental responsibility. This funding will not only support the provincial goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions but also demonstrate leadership in prioritizing sustainable practices in public institutions.

With the support of the Ministry of Education, we can continue to make significant strides to achieve our environmental objectives and protect the future of our planet for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Duarte'.

Marvin Duarte
Chair of the Board

cc. *HCDSB Trustees & Student Trustees*
J. Klein, Director of Education
HCDSB Senior Administration
Members of Parliament from Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville
Members of Provincial Parliament from Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville
Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA)



*Creating a culture of
faith, hope and love
to ensure equity
and well-being.*

January 15, 2024

Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
15th Floor, 438 University Ave.
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2K8

delivered by email: Minister.edu@ontario.ca

RE: Supporting Students with Special Education Needs

Dear Minister Lecce,

The special education budgets in many school boards across the province are overspent year after year, yet the needs of students are not always being fully met. This is not because school-based personnel fail to recognize the needs of these students. It is because there is insufficient staff in the schools to implement programming effectively. This leads to growing gaps and frustration for the students as they try to deal with individualized challenges without the support they need. Increased levels of support would most certainly decrease acute behavioural and mental health struggles. Moreover, consistent levels of support for our students early in their schooling would potentially avert later, more significant struggles.

As per our mandate, the PVNC Catholic Special Education Advisory Committee is actively making recommendations on matters impacting the establishment, development, and delivery of special education programs and services - specifically focusing on providing recommendations to update the funding formula that would help serve our students with special education needs. We would ask you to explore three recommendations specifically tied to financial resources in order to update the funding formula to better serve these students. In addition, we have provided 2 other recommendations for review, that the SEAC committee believes, if adopted, would benefit students with special education needs. Please review and consider the following recommendations:

Many students with special education needs are not able to access a school bus in the same way most children do. This could be because of self-regulation issues, anxiety, physical disabilities, etc. This is an equity issue. They deserve the same access to transportation that the students who are able to take the regular school bus have. The current funding for this issue is tied to students taking smaller buses. For boards with a large geographical area and rural components, such as ours, these small buses are

unavailable; we must rely on taxis and vans to transport these students. The 196 students in our Board with special transportation needs generates \$98,000 of funding while costing our school board \$1,256,000 - a gap of well over a million dollars.

Supervision of elementary students during lunch and recesses is largely the work of educational assistants in many school boards. In PVNC Catholic, elementary teachers complete 80 minutes of supervision per week, as well as working with students, contacting parents, preparing lessons, extracurricular activities, etc., during these scheduled student break times. This results in the bulk of the supervision completed by educational assistants. Our school board currently receives \$300,000 per year to cover all elementary supervision for the year. We encourage you to review the actual cost to school boards in this area, including the cost of covering lunch and breaks, and fund at a more realistic amount.

A portion of funding for special education is often linked to the SIP process and formal testing and diagnosis of students. This means that only students with severely unsafe behaviour or clear medical diagnoses would qualify for enhanced funding. Formal testing of students who are clearly struggling academically, behaviourally, or socially but are not a significant safety risk often takes a significant period of time to occur. There are long waiting lists in school boards for psychometric testing. This results in students with clear needs not being tested, and hence funded, until at least the junior years of elementary school. As a result, we encourage you to continue additional funding for assessments and enhance the allocation of targeted funds through SIP.

Furthermore, this lack of funding is especially apparent for children entering kindergarten. We see students arriving to ELKP with communication, toileting, behavioural and cognitive lags with little or minimal community support in place. It often takes months to work with parents/guardians to begin exploring the child's needs and development through medical and community-based professionals. With no enhanced funding for these students, personnel has to be pieced together to assist these students. This lag in funding results in insufficient personnel to meet the needs of these students during their first five to seven years of schooling. Without the appropriate level of funding for the help they require, these students often fall further behind academically and socially. We encourage you to examine this funding in order to help all students reach their potential. Though early identification of language and math issues is a step forward, it is unrealistic to believe that remediation and intervention can happen without the additional personnel to implement these programmes.

Currently, the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Health often operate within their own silos, with communication and collaboration of services being extremely difficult if not impossible in some cases. Increased collaboration and communication, including fostering the involvement of



Creating a culture of
faith, hope and love
to ensure equity
and well-being.

community professionals with specific expertise to support students from their respective discipline should be a priority in our system. Seamless coordination and communication between each respective Ministry would allow a more timely, comprehensive, and effective delivery model.

Students with caregivers who struggle with transportation, booking/ keeping appointments, mental health impediments, etc. would have those barriers removed. Priority care to students and families would more effectively be delivered with enhanced coordination and communication by all.

Another area where the lack of integration between ministries negatively impacts our students with special education needs is when they prepare to transition from secondary school into the workforce. Targeted funding for these students, beyond traditional school co-op placements, could lead to greater connections and training through the involvement of community organizations. Additionally, if employers were incentivized to invest in these students and retain them as employees following the completion of placements or volunteer hours, this could lead to an increase in opportunities for employment for these individuals as they transition into adulthood.

Our committee believes that updating funding and addressing gaps in coordination and communication to deal with the challenges mentioned above is crucial to the success of our students and the balancing of the special education budget. We encourage you to work to address these needs in order to allow each of our students to benefit fully from their experience in Ontario's school system.

Sincerely,

Kevin MacKenzie
Board Chairperson

Shawna Belcourt
Special Education Advisory Committee Chairperson, Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board

cc. Chairs of Ontario School Boards' Special Education Advisory Committees



Bluewater District School Board

351 1st Avenue North
Chesley ON N0G 1L0
Telephone: (519) 363-2014 Fax: (519) 370-2909
www.bwdsb.on.ca

January 16, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Sent by email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Bluewater District School Board, we are writing to you to share the following motions that were passed at the Regular Meeting of the Board on December 19, 2023:

Whereas the proliferation of gambling advertising, particularly during sports telecasts, has resulted in an alarming number of children and young adults becoming addicted to gambling;

Whereas gambling can lead to significant harm, including runaway debt, stress to families, low self-esteem, anxiety, depression, and even suicide;

Whereas Statistics Canada has estimated that 1.6% of adult gamblers, more than 300,000 Canadians, are at moderate to high risk of gambling disorders; and much information on the insidious result of these advertisements can be found at BanAdsForGambling.ca;

Whereas school boards across Ontario and beyond are dedicated to preserving and improving the mental health of students.

That Bluewater District School Board assert that it supports a legislative ban on advertisements for gambling in Canada in all media, one of the objectives of the Campaign to Ban Ads for Gambling (BanAdsForGambling.ca).

That Bluewater District School Board send a letter to local MPs, MPPs, and provincial and federal political leaders to advocate that legislation be enacted to ban advertising for gambling in all media.

That Bluewater District School Board forward this resolution to OPSBA for dissemination.

With the proliferation of gambling advertisements, and their potential negative impact on students, Bluewater District School Board is adding its voice, among other advocates, to urge action to address a pervasive issue in Canada. We recognize that any measures to implement a legislative ban on gambling related advertising falls within the jurisdiction of our provincial and federal political leaders. By calling on our governments to enact appropriate legislation that applies to all media across the

country, we are aligning with our board's strategic plan priority of a safe supportive learning community that works together to support wellness.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your support of our students. As always, our commitment remains focused on providing a quality education for every student in a safe, accepting, and caring environment.

Sincerely,



Jane Thomson
Chair



Jan Johnstone
Vice-Chair

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Alex Ruff, MP, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Ben Lobb, MP, Huron-Bruce
Rick Byers, MPP, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
The Honourable Lisa Thompson, MPP, Huron-Bruce
Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

/jp