

Institutional Outlook

By: Bhrigu Bagga

Learn
Lead
Inspire



We
Lead
Forward

Source:
[1.Image](#)
[2.Image](#)

Land Acknowledgement

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 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.



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Source:

1. [Land Acknowledgement](#)

2. [Image](#)

2026-30 Strategic Plan: We Lead Forward

Pillar 1: Learning

We build a culture of learning to nurture curiosity and opportunity for each learner.

Goals:

- Increase mathematics learning outcomes for all students.
- Increase the overall reading proficiency of all students (with a focus on Grades 1 to 3).
- Prepare every student for their post-secondary destination (apprenticeship, community, college, university, workplace).
- Increase the knowledge and skills of employees to better support learners with special education needs in an inclusive classroom.

Pillar 2: Well-Being

We build a culture of well-being to support the cognitive, social, emotional and physical needs of each learner.

Goals:

- Increase the knowledge and skills of employees to better support learners in developing the capacity to tend to their own well-being.

Pillar 3: Belonging

We build a culture of belonging to support an equitable, inclusive and responsive environment for each learner.

Goals:

- Deepen our system commitment to reconciliation and improve education achievement outcomes for all First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.
- We build a culture of belonging to support an equitable, inclusive and responsive environment for each learner.



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Source:

1. We Lead Forward: Strategic Plan 2026-30
2. Annual Learning and Operating Plan 2025-26

Vision

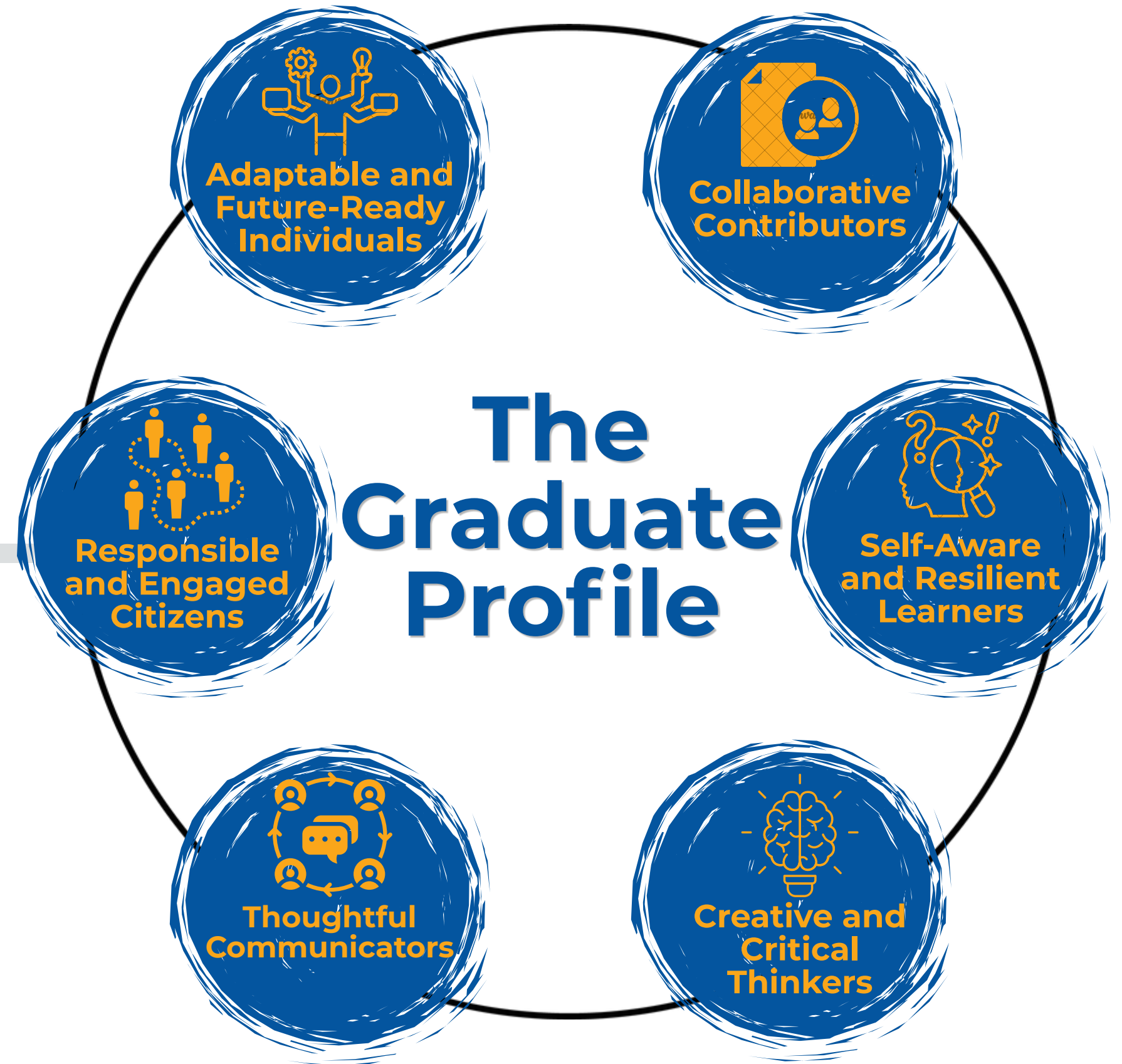
Learn

Lead

Inspire

Mission

Together, we build a culture of learning, well-being and belonging to inspire each learner.

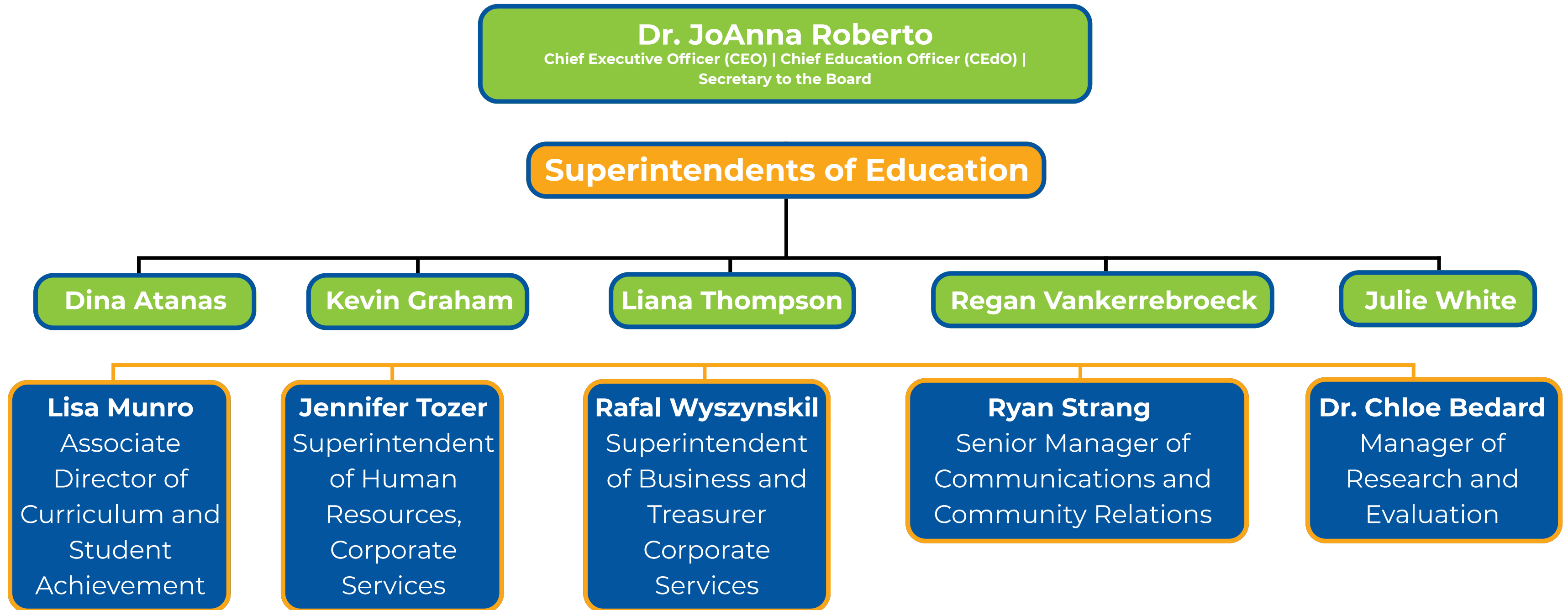


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Source:
1. We Lead Forward: Strategic Plan 2026-30

Governance and Executive Leadership

Senior Leadership Team



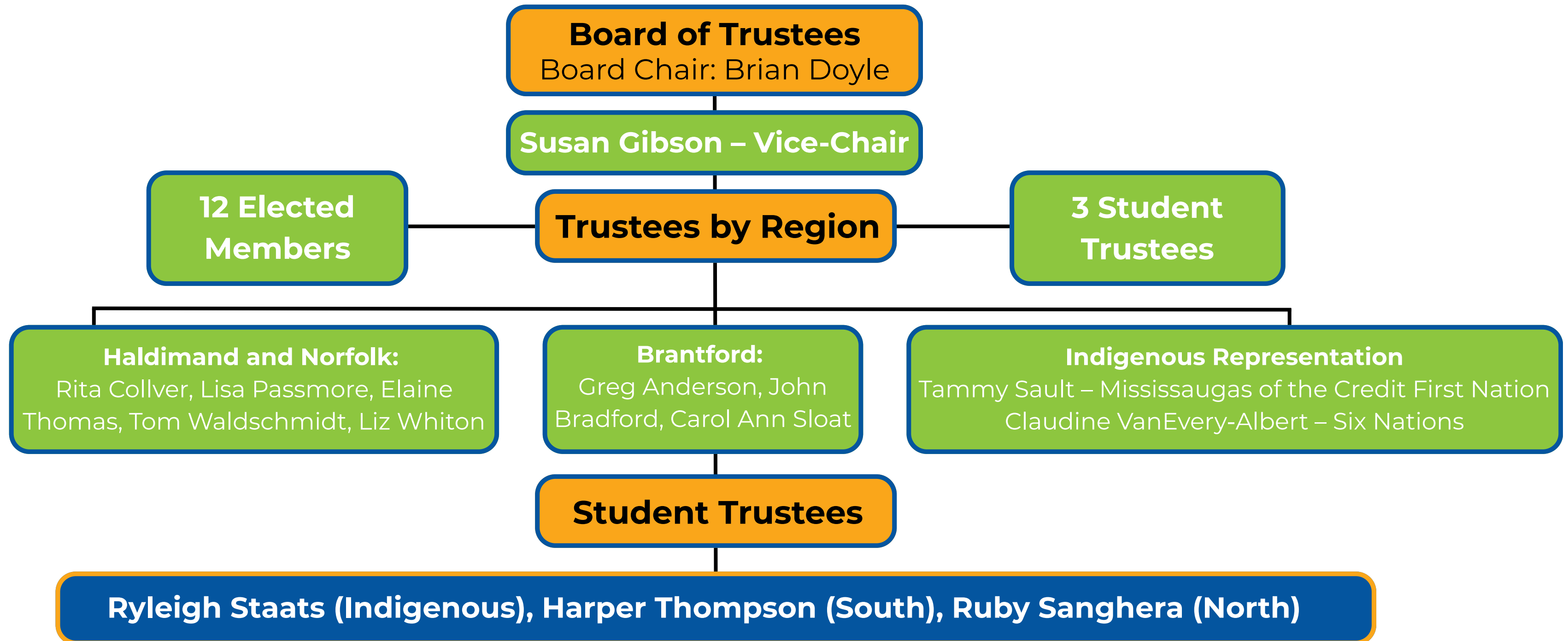
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Source:

1. Senior Leadership Team

Governance and Executive Leadership

Board of Trustees



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Source:

1. Board of Trustees
2. Student Senate Elects Brantford's 2026-27 Student Trustee

Institutional Footprint and Scale

28,317
Enrollment



20,098 Elementary and
8,219 Secondary Students

\$395.2M
Annual Budget



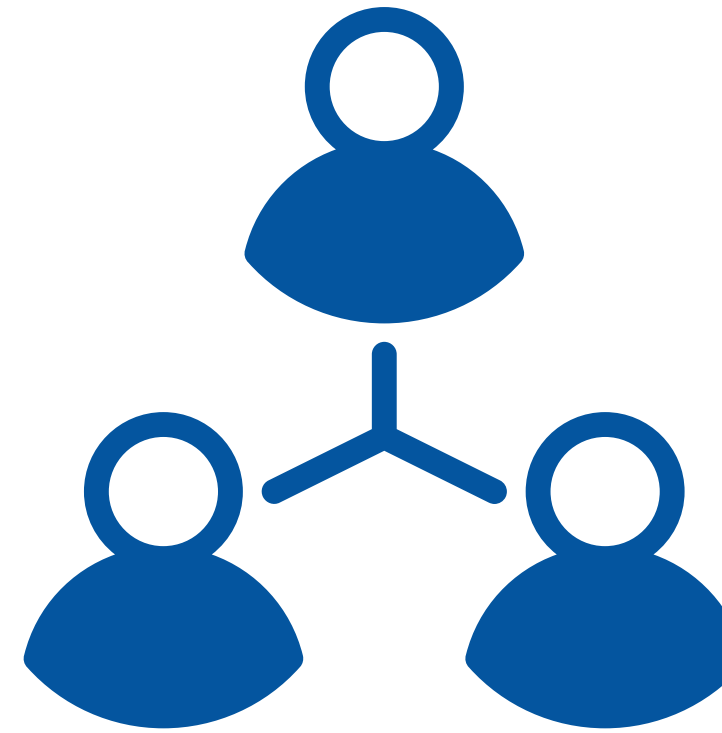
Operating: \$368.7M
Capital: \$26.5M

71
Schools



Elementary: 57
Secondary: 14

2,848
FTE Staff



Instructional: 1,831
Non-instructional: 1,017

81.4%
Secondary
Graduation
rate



Geographic Coverage:
Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk, Six
Nations of the Grand River
and New Credit, Mississaugas
of the Credit First Nation.



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Source:
1. [About Grand Erie](#)
2. [Geographic Coverage](#)

The Core Educational Journey

Elementary (Grades 1-8)

- Foundational literacy and numeracy development.
- French Immersion programming.
- Extensive athletic and intramural integration.

Secondary (Grades 9-12)

- Grand Pathways career coaching and guidance.
- Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) & Dual Credit with colleges.
- Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP).

Continuing Education (Adults)

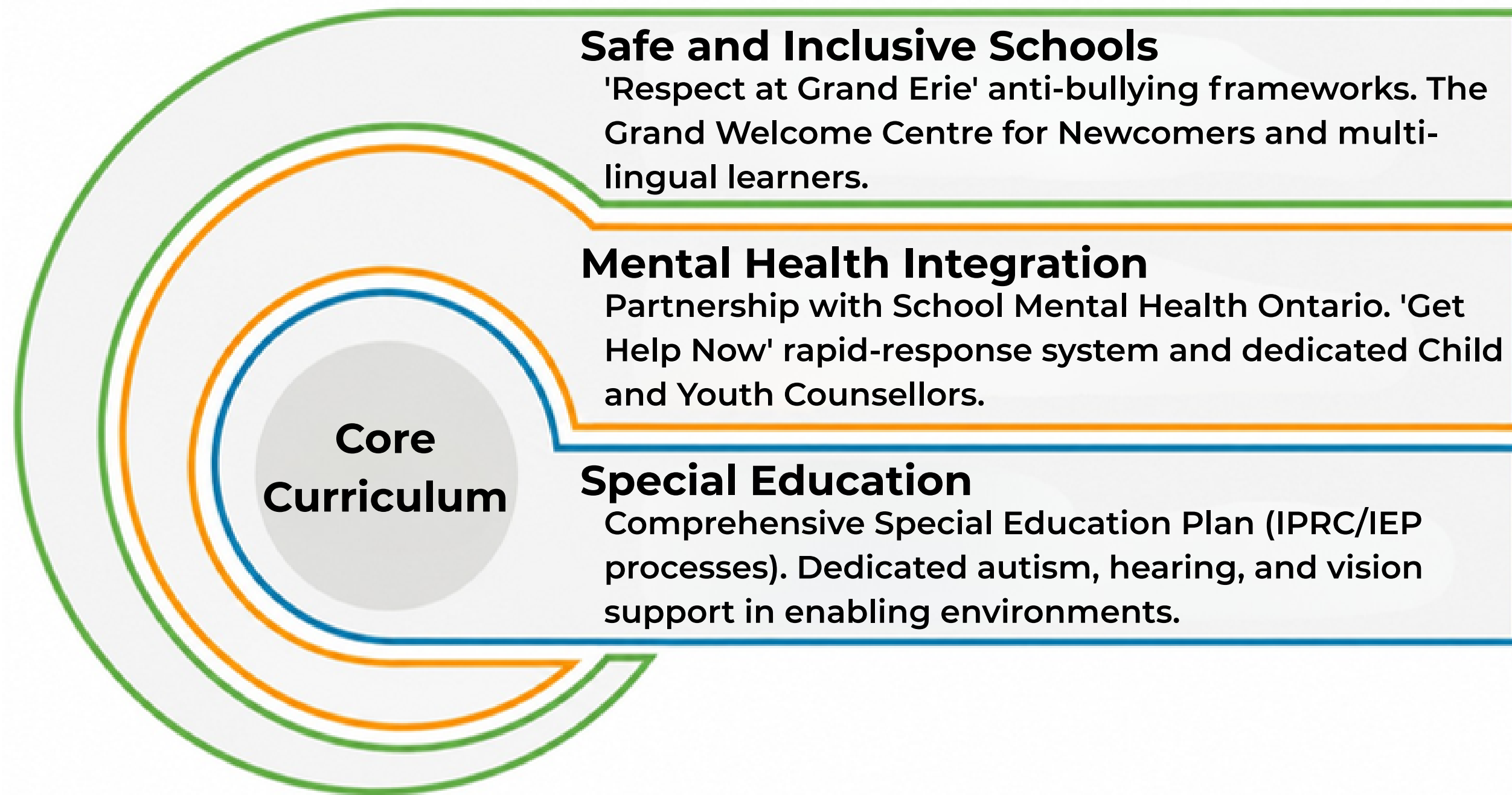
- Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA).
- Adult credit upgrading and diploma completion.
- ESL and flexible online/evening remote learning frameworks.



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Source:
[1. granderie.ca](http://1.granderie.ca)

Specialized Services and Equity Architecture



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Source:

1. [Bullying Prevention](#)
2. [Mental Health Strategy](#)
3. [Grand Erie Special Education Plan 2025-26](#)



Indigenous Education and Co-Governance

- Deep, formalized partnerships with Six Nations of the Grand River, First Credit and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.
- Active co-governance via the Six Nations Advisory Committee (SNAC) and Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC).
- Curriculum integration focusing on land-based learning, language, and cultural resources.
- Indigenous Allyship Award, recognizing exceptional students of Indigenous ancestry.



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Source:

1. [Indigenous Education](#)
2. [Indigenous Education](#)
3. [Education Services Agreement](#)

Flagship Initiative: The Innovation Hub



The Launch

Opened November 2024 at
North Park Collegiate
(Brantford)

The Curriculum

Dedicated space for hands-on
STEM, robotics, coding, media
arts, and eSports.

The Partnerships

Co-hosted STEMovation
event in partnership
with Laurier University
and STEM Fellowship.

A purpose-built facility designed to foster transferable skills, bridging the gap between secondary education and the future technological workforce.



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Source:

1. [Innovation Hub @ Grand Erie](#)
2. [Grand Erie Annual Learning and Operating Plan – Innovation Hub 2025](#)

Community Integration and Sustainability



Sustainability

17 Certified EcoSchools (as of June 2026), proving a board-wide commitment to environmental stewardship.



Civic Partnerships

Deep integration with Brantford Police Service for social responsibility and proactive safe school initiatives.



Community Engagement and Fundraising

A great example of community health and well-being centered initiative with a goal of raising support for Grand Erie students.



Community Engagement and Fundraising

The inaugural Grand Erie Learning Open raised more than \$40,000 for the Grand Erie Learning Foundation.



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Source:

1. [Grand Erie Congratulates 17 EcoSchools](#)
2. [Grand Erie launches PROSE modules to foster positive, collaborative learning environments with police](#)
3. [A Hole-in-One: Inaugural Grand Erie Learning Open a Big Success for Students](#)

Annual Highlights 2024-25

Learning

Elementry



InnovateHER Summer Camp

Grand Erie launched a new camp for young women eager to dive into all things technology. InnovateHER marked a week of empowerment, creativity and mentorship, as young women uncovered technological solutions to real-world problems.

Secondary



\$100,000 Scholarships for Two Grand Erie Students

Not one but two Grand Erie students received the prestigious Schulich Leader scholarship, valued at an incredible \$100,000. Judy Gao, a Grade 12 student at McKinnon Park Secondary School, and Jack Gillespie, a Grade 12 student at North Park Collegiate and Vocational School, are two of just 100 students across the country to be awarded this scholarship



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Source:

1. Director's Annual Report 2024-25

Annual Highlights 2024-25

Mental Health and Well-Being



Wellness Out Loud

Getting Loud for Mental Health and Well-Being

At the third annual “Wellness Out Loud” event, over 200 student wellness ambassadors from secondary and elementary schools gathered to participate in interactive workshops, including sound bathing, therapy dogs and nervous-system regulation.



Shanker Training

Building Staff Capacity for Well-Being

438 employees completed the MEHRIT Shanker training, while 28 elementary schools participated in the school-based micro-credential Shanker Method 101.



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Source:

1. Director's Annual Report 2024-25

Annual Highlights 2024-25

BELONGING



Iftar Celebration at Walter Gretzky

Walter Gretzky Elementary School hosted an Iftar celebration, inviting learners and families to come together for the evening fast-breaking meal. It was an opportunity to learn from each other, with activities centered around Ramadan, while creating welcoming, inclusive spaces where students and families see themselves reflected in their school community.



Toronto Holocaust Museum Partnership

Transforming Education Through Immersive Learning

Grand Erie launched a partnership with the Toronto Holocaust Museum to provide immersive learning experiences centred on deepening understanding of the Holocaust.



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Source:

1. [Director's Annual Report 2024-25](#)

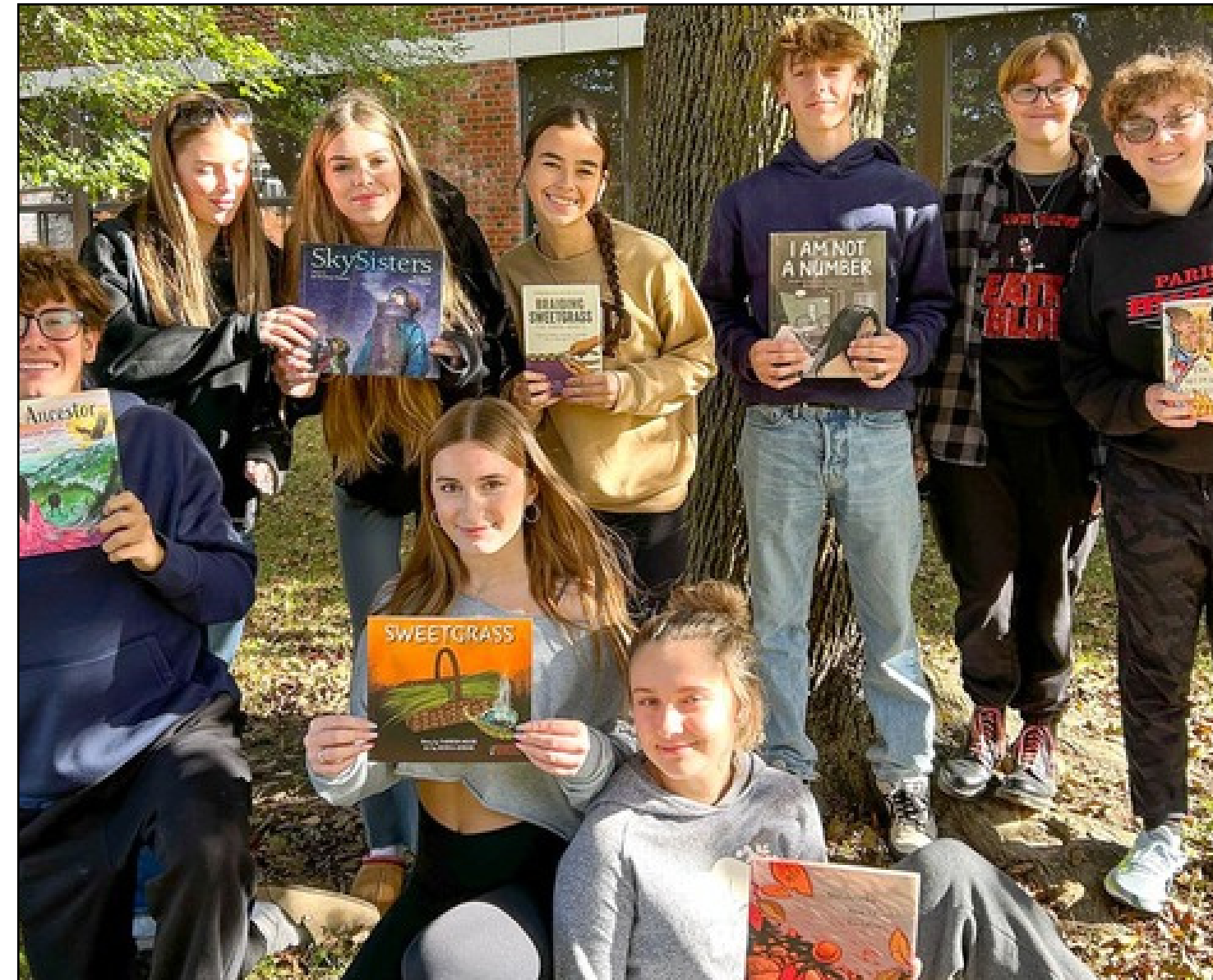
Annual Highlights 2024-25

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION



Indigenous Student Engagement

An artistic display at Brantford Collegiate Institute and Vocational School educated on the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, thanks to a hands-on student art project. Educator Mary Peterson and Cultural Mentor Delores Maas helped bring the Indigenous student-led project to life.



Truth and Reconciliation

Learning and Leadership on Truth and Reconciliation

Schools actively engaged in learning about the legacy of the residential school system and Indigenous perspectives during Truth and Reconciliation Week, including survivor dialogue, classroom discussions, student-led literature projects and interactive displays promoting Indigenous voices and culture.



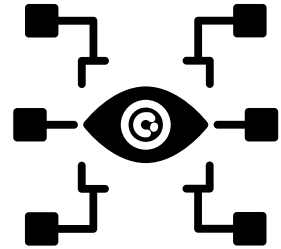
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Source:

1. [Director's Annual Report 2024-25](#)
2. [Director of Education Highlights Spring 2025](#)

Annual Highlights 2024-25

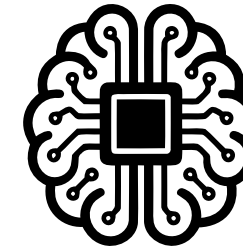
SUPPORT SERVICES and Community Connections



Digital Reach

Communications Impact

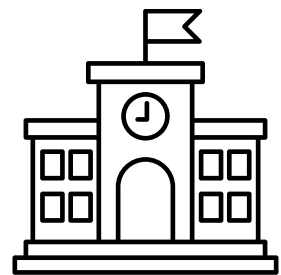
Grand Erie reached 1.9 million social media accounts and launched a redesigned granderie.ca.



AI and Professional Development

Preparing for an AI-Enabled Future

Grand Erie developed an AI Micro Credential in collaboration with Conestoga College and developed AI Guidelines for staff and families.



College-Within-a-School

Expanding Pathways Through Partnerships

Grand Erie announced a College-Within-a-School partnership with the Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning.



Project SEARCH

Building School-to-Work Pathways

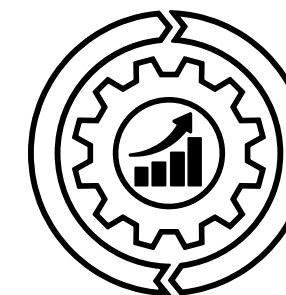
Norfolk General Hospital partnered with Grand Erie and the Norfolk Association for Community Living to join Project SEARCH, a nationwide school-to-work training program where students with special needs in the final year of high school receive first-hand, work-related skills.



West Elgin Public School

Expanding Learning & Community Infrastructure

The expansion added a four-room kindergarten addition, a new entrance and elevator to ensure the building is fully accessible, and a new three-room childcare centre to support early childhood care in the community.



District-Wide Improvements

Investing Across Grand Erie

Many facility upgrade projects were completed across the district, including gym improvements, Learning Commons renovations, interior and exterior improvements, boiler replacements and paving work.



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Source:

1. Director's Annual Report 2024-25

Artificial Intelligence in Education

PUBLICATION- AI STRATEGY



AUGMENT, NOT REPLACE

AI expands human capacity while keeping teacher judgement, empathy and critical thinking at the centre.



AI + PEDAGOGY

Grand Erie integrates GenAI with Bloom's Taxonomy to move students from information gathering toward critical evaluation.



RESPONSIBLE BY DESIGN

Privacy, ethics, transparency, copyright, cultural sensitivity and critical thinking are built into AI use.

Grand Erie is treating AI not merely as a technology, but as a human-centred approach to teaching, learning and responsible digital citizenship.

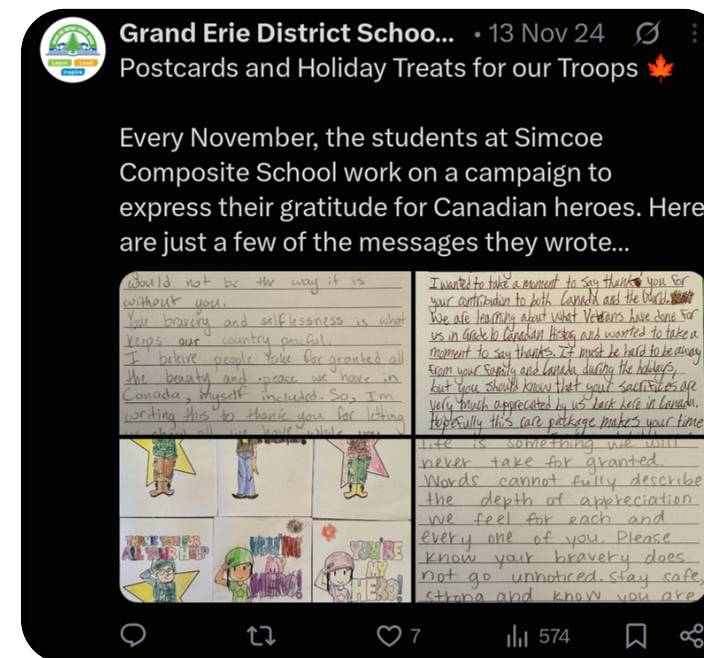
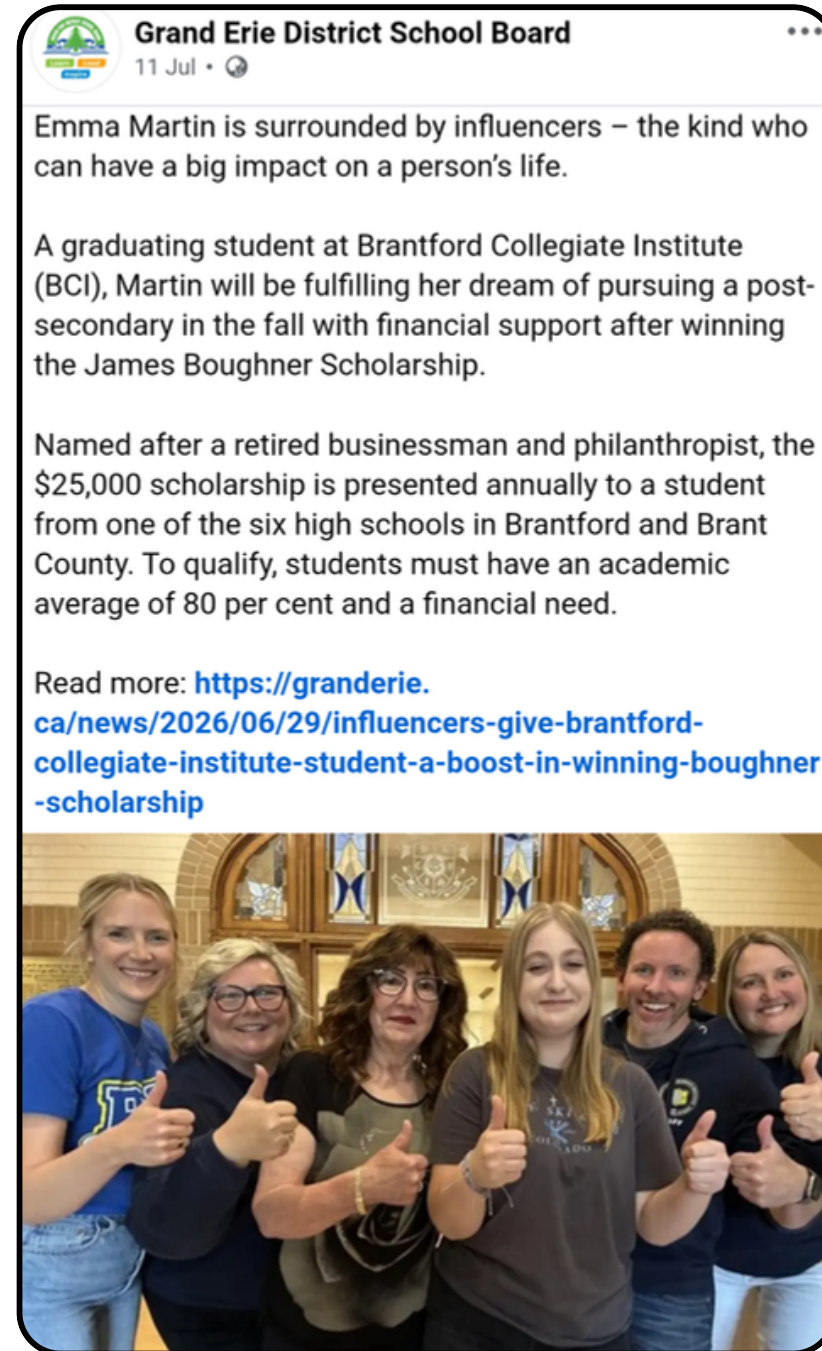


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Source:

1. Artificial Intelligence in Education

Digital Presence



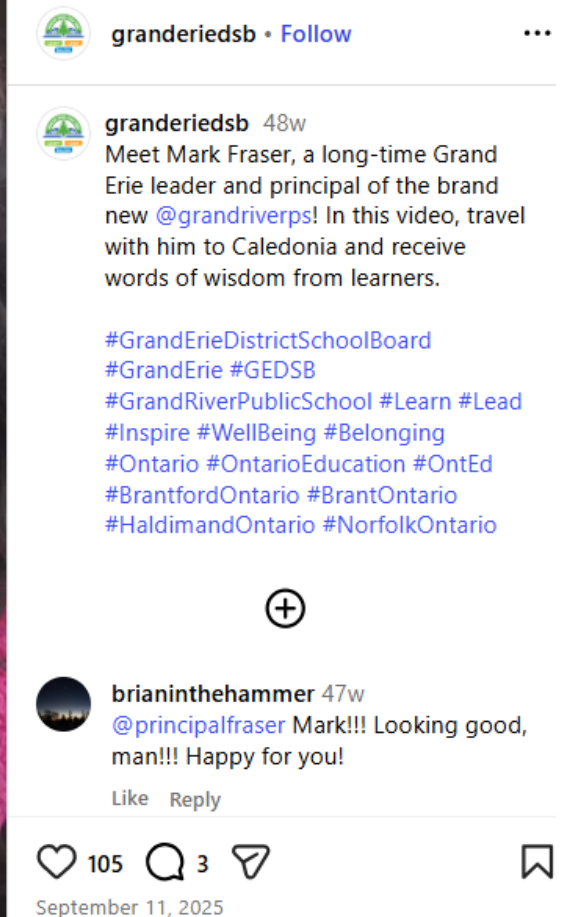
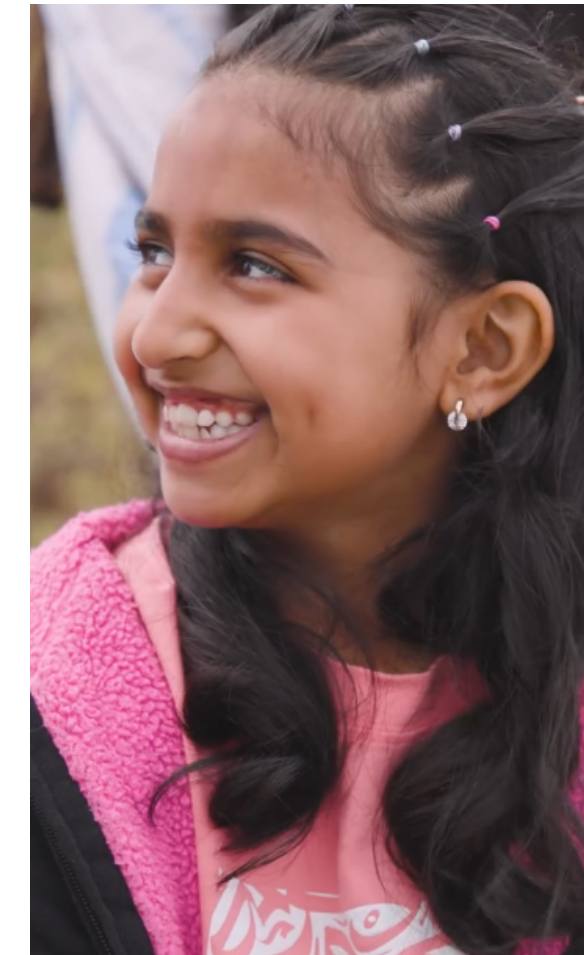
Grand Erie teaches more than subjects, it builds community. From keeping parents part of the learning journey to honouring scholars and standing firm on media and racial literacy, every post reflects care for the whole child.



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Source:
Facebook and X: @GEDSB
YT: @GrandErieDSB
Instagram: @granderiedsb
Linktree Hub: GEDSB Official

Digital Presence



The reels go beyond the classroom. Girls exploring trades, students confronting real issues like microaggressions, a school welcoming its community, each one shows trust built through honest moments.



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Facebook and X: @GEDSB
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Linktree Hub: GEDSB Official



***"Together, we build a culture
of learning, wellbeing and
belonging to inspire each
learner."***

*Grand Erie District School Board
349 Erie Avenue, Brantford,
ON N3T 5V3
www.granderie.ca | [@granderiedsb](https://twitter.com/granderiedsb)*



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My Career Road Map

**Communications
Assistant
Dev Sanskriti
University**

**Global Business
Development Social
Media Assistant
Niagara College**

**Communications
Coordinator
Town of Grimsby**

**Marketing and
Communications Assistant
Niagara College Student
Administrative Council**

**Communications
Assistant
Niagara Region**

**Current: Communications
Advisor Brant Community
Healthcare System**



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Awards



**Canadian Public Relations Society
(CPRS) Hamilton's Pinnacle Award
of Excellence in Staff Engagement
Category – 2026**



**CPRS – Hamilton Mark
Gregory Memorial Award
(Emerging Professional of
the Year) – 2026**



**Associate Dean's Award of
Excellence – Niagara
College Public Relations
Program**



**Canadian Public Relations Society (CPRS)
Hamilton's Student Award of Excellence
based on – strong understanding and
application of Public Relations and
Strategic Communications**



**Peace Win Bursary - Fully
funded Master's degree in
Reconciliation and
Peacebuilding award by the
University of Winchester**



**Niagara College Student
Administrative Council Director's
Award for volunteering and
leadership in college community**



**Lithuanian government grant - two
fully funded semesters abroad at
University of Vilnius and Vytautas
Magnus University**



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THANK YOU!



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