



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

Thursday, November 14, 2013, 6:30 pm
Dogwood Room, Norfolk School Support Centre
227 Main Street South, Waterford ON N0E 1Y0

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MINUTES

Chair: Tom Waldschmidt

Recorder: Valerie Slawich

1. Welcome and IntroductionsT.Waldschmidt

Eva Dixon, Rachelle Lambert, Nancy Waldschmidt, Verna Millington, Patti Allan, Dave Lloyd, Holly Knill-Horvath, Hetty Verlinden, Jean Montgomery, Brent Howard, Shawn McKillop, Heather Carter, John Forbeck, Tom Waldschmidt, Katherine Hagan

2. MinutesT.Waldschmidt

2.1. Approval of Minutes

- Holly Knill-Horvath moved to accept the minutes; Nancy Waldschmidt seconded

2.2. Business Arising from Minutes

- Child Care at Council Meetings – a preferred 3rd party vendor has shown interest. In the interim, we could utilize the before and after program providers.

3. Financial Report.....T.Waldschmidt

3.1. Update

- Budget was reviewed; there have been two school events so far this year

4. Updates from the Board Table.....E.Dixon

Bill Johnston, Trustee has resigned from the Board. The Appointment process will be conducted by trustees which will include a public interview process. Eva Dixon highlighted The “English as a Second Language” (ESL) program at the Joseph Brant Learning Centre and shared a photo of a proud student and her teacher.

5. Director’s UpdateJ.Forbeck

The stories on our website highlight different events taking place throughout the Board. Port Rowan Public was highlighted by EQAO in terms of student scores. They were one of 14 schools in Ontario invited to a gala in Toronto for recognition. Grand Erie currently has two single track French Immersion schools. We are looking at accommodation needs for Ecole Fairview students. Next Thursday, November 21st, will be the first meeting for the Secondary ARC for Haldimand. Student Trustees recently presented a report to the Board about student senate. Student Researchers is a new project for Secondary students. Hagersville Secondary School did a presentation on the Woodland Cultural Centre, formerly a Residential School. They created artwork to tell a story, which was taken to Toronto as part of a province-wide celebration recognizing their efforts. Two students from BCI and one from Ecole Fairview will be presenting for Remembrance Day at the Board Meeting November 11th.

6. CEPIC Chair’s Update.....T.Waldschmidt

Tom attended the October 23rd meeting “Surviving Social Media” at the Best Western. The focus was learning to understand what social media is and the challenges surrounding it, cyber bullying, cellphones and safeguards such as ‘Call Manager’, which is available through some cellphone companies.

Achievement

Environment

Engagement



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7. Planning, Discussion and Sharing S.McKillop
- 7.1. Mental Health Update..... H.Carter
- Heather Carter is the Mental Health Lead for Grand Erie District School Board as part of a 3-year strategy. GEDSB is a Phase II Board; recently Phase III included remaining school boards for a total of 72 MH Leads in Ontario School Boards. Focus on three main areas: what are we doing to support student mental health; teaching students, parents, and all staff mental health literacy; and fostering connections
 - Currently trying to build capacity through committees to engage learning and suicide prevention
 - Commitment in the Annual Operating Plan to support Mental Health
- 7.2. Draft Application Form (accessing GEPIC funds)
- Discussion on criteria for application approvals was deferred to a future meeting
- 7.3. GEPIC-sponsored Event Ideas
- February 27 meeting - have a PROgrant session at 6:30 with RSVP for dinner; invite Chairs and a guest or Principal
 - Saturday March 29th 8:30 am Registration/Light breakfast in WDHS; April 16th 6:30 pm Dinner and Session at JBLC - will offer same sessions
 - May 5-9 Mental Health/Education Week
 - May 22 last meeting Mental Health Debrief/Recap
 - Heather and Shawn will help gather resources on speakers/presenters
- 7.4. 21st Century School Libraries – video
- Parent Engagement and Student Achievement in Ontario Power Point presentation from MoE
 - Link on MoE [21st Century School Libraries](#) will post on school council in-service
 - Parent Engagement – attached; extract resources out to share at the February 27th meeting

8. School Council Updates – Activities/Learning Connections

Teeterville – Rachelle Lambert

We have a new principal this year; running various fundraisers: looking at hot lunch program twice/week, Christmas craft sale, poinsettia sale; door locks working well; upcoming elections and concerned if there will be any security problems; district school report coming up; Remembrance Day ceremony

Caledonia Centennial – Katharine Hagan

Second parent council meeting; looking at fundraising and initiatives; participating with a float in the Santa Clause Parade on December 3rd; Pita Pit for lunches; PROGrant Marion Small at MPSS coming up November 25th along with Oneida and River Heights; locks working well, dealing with some items; creation of a butterfly garden

PDHS – Nancy Waldschmidt

We are looking for new chair; it was very promising to see a lot of new grade 9 parents out at our first meeting



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Paris Central – Nancy Waldschmidt

Grade 6/7 class working on implementing THINK Campaign – may present at a future meeting and at a Board meeting

BCI – Verna Millington

Working on PROGrant for January on bullying; new principal, new Chair and new parents on the council; students' council planning the 12 days of Christmas; staff vs. students sporting events; crazy sweater day; student president and vice president have been attending parent meetings

Ecole Dufferin – Verna Millington

Ecole 100th anniversary well attended; a 103-yr old lady walked to Dufferin, she was a former student; McMillan's fundraising; school holding penny drive and toys for Haiti

TTSC – Dave Lloyd

Remembrance Day ceremony last week produced by students with veterans; former student Larry Rudd was killed in Afghanistan, his mom and sister joined with a slide show of Larry's life

Banbury – Holly Knill-Horvath

January 30th "Reading Rocks" recruiting readers; starts with a pancake breakfast then into classrooms to read. All students get a book, purchased by the school council

DDSS - Hetty Verlinden

New principal and new Chair on council; struggling to get parents out; students council is very active; environmental club finished green classroom; teachers involved in extracurricular activities – swim team back up and running; great and well attended commencement; grade 8 day well attended; GSA at Delhi looking at going to Winnipeg

WDHS – Jean Montgomery

Won the whole Norfolk Bowl; inclusive culture; social justice committee initiated by students were selling bracelets at pumpkin fest with proceeds to 'Because I'm a Girl'; former student and CFL player Shane Bergman played first his game last week with the Stampeders

SCS – Brent Howard

Meeting was on Tuesday; will have a real turkey dinner for students at Christmas; debating moving grad to the fall; working on code of conduct; junior awards November 20th ; semi on January 30th - have had trouble at dances in the past and will try to avoid problems this time; new Sabre-Wear for this year; Jean speaking at school November 26th on "Kids Have Stress Too"

9. Other Business

None

10. Dates 2013-2014

10.1. February 27; May 22