



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

February 5, 2015, 6:30 pm

Haldimand Room, Haldimand Support Centre, Hagersville Secondary

Chair: Brent Howard

Recorder: Valerie Slawich

MINUTES

1. **Welcome and Introductions** J.Forbeck
 - 1.1. Helen Maltby, Verna Millington, David Lloyd, Nancy Waldschmidt, Tom Waldschmidt, John Harris, Sarah Nichol, Shawn McKillop, Sally Landon, Wayne Baker, Brent Howard, John Forbeck, Christine Bibby, Ed DiPelino
2. **Minutes** B.Howard
 - 2.1. Approval of Minutes
 - 2.1.1. Tom Waldschmidt moved to approve the November minutes; John Harris seconded
~ carried
 - 2.2. Business Arising from Minutes
None
3. **Financial Report** J.Forbeck
 - 3.1. Financial Update
There has not been any change in the account since the last meeting.
 - 3.2. Pro Grant Update
No update at this time as the focus has been on the upcoming Education Week in May.
4. **Presentation/Learn** W.Baker
 - 4.1. Tell Them From Me – Climate Survey (with Christine Bibby and Sally Landon)
The Ministry of Education mandated that every two years, all students will be surveyed via a School Climate Survey. Tell Them From Me is a climate survey that creates excellent useable data. The data is used to inform programs and services to students to create a culture of appropriate behaviour.
5. **Updates from the Board Table** J.Harris/T.Waldschmidt
 - 5.1. John Harris, new Trustee for Norfolk was welcomed as a new member of the Committee. Tom Waldschmidt expressed his thanks to Lakewood Elementary parents for the wonderful Christmas lunch invitation, and to Holly Knill-Horvath at Banbury Heights for the invitation to Reading Rocks. Tom represented Grand Erie District School Board at the Strong Start hockey game last Friday. Tom and Rita Collver have started to visit the School Councils that they represent.
6. **Director's Update** J.Forbeck
 - 6.1. Mr. Forbeck attended a Grade Two Pizza Party at Ecole Dufferin yesterday to celebrate one of the winners from his Christmas Card Artwork Contest. All policies and procedures are posted for viewing on our website. We have six new trustees, learning and working hard in the board room. Our new climate survey Tell Them From Me is being completed across the Board. The Educational Technology Plan report is coming to the Board Meeting on Monday night as we complete 5 years of technology integration. Grant McKinnell, Principal at Major Ballachey was a recipient of the Outstanding Principal Award and was recognized at a recent celebratory event hosted by The Learning Partnership.



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7. GEPIC Chair's Update B.Howard

- 7.1. Parent Involvement Committee Annual Symposium
Brent will be attending the PIC conference this year. Upcoming events include the Pan Am/Parapan games, MSAC for grades 7-12, and the Premier's Awards for Accepting Schools.
- 7.2. Subcommittee for Grant Requests
Information will be sent out on February 10th with application submissions due by April 10th. The Subcommittee will approve by the end of April and a full report of approvals will be ready for the next GEPIC meeting on May 21st. Next year, we would like the applications to be available at the September School Council In-services.

8. Planning, Discussion and Sharing S.McKillop

- 8.1. GEPIC Supporting School Councils Update
A survey went out to school council chairs before Christmas regarding GEPIC support, two requests were received from Walsh and Central School. GEPIC would like to provide more training opportunities such as Mental Health training for school councils. Initiatives of interest include the 'Hope More' website for kids to reach out for help and Haldimand-Norfolk Reach Safe Talk which is suicide alert training. If we are interested, it would have to be planned by March.

9. School Council Updates – Activities/Learning Connections

Helen Maltby – Cobblestone Elementary

We are currently working through CPIP options; the staff parking was moved; the parking lot is being plowed nicely this year.

Verna Millington – Dufferin

Calendar fundraising wrapped up, waiting for total dollars raised; annual staff appreciation week next, culminating in a lunch on Wednesday; our principal is retiring end of February.

Verna Millington – BCI

Our new principal Ann Myhal and vice principal Dave Thomas started in January; will be holding a concussion information night soon.

David Lloyd – TTSC

Staff concussion training has been completed.

Nancy Waldschmidt – Paris Central

Sadly we lost a student over Christmas and will work towards honouring her name; chocolate bar sales going well.

Nancy Waldschmidt – PDHS

Our new vice principal, Adriana Potichnyj started in January.

Sara Nichol – Walsh

Our turkey lunch held in December was our first in 14 years and was received well; 20% response rate so far on the climate survey; planning movie night May 8th; Seeds fundraiser; Oliver's labels.



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Jean Montgomery – WDHS

We changed commencement to June for the last 3 or 4 years but found that there wasn't enough time to complete everything. As a result of a parent survey, it will now be moved to the fall 2015. WDHS will be celebrating 125 years in 2017, we have formed a committee to start planning.

Brent Howard – SCS

Our school play, "Little Shop of Horrors" will perform on February 19, 20, and 21, everyone welcome.

10. Other Business

10.1. none

11. Dates 2014-2015

11.1. May 21, 2015, Dogwood Room, WDHS

Adjourned 8:40 pm