



Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee

October 20, 2016, 6:30 pm
Dogwood Room, Waterford District High School

Chair: Brent Howard

Recorder: Valerie Slawich

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions B.Blancher
 - 1.1. Brenda Blancher, Brent Howard, Sue Noort, Christine Oliveira, Sheila Sloom, Sarah Nichol, Nancy Waldschmidt, Tom Waldschmidt, John Harris, Holly Knill-Horvath, Shawn McKillop, Liana Clarysse
2. GEPIC Slate of Members B.Blancher
 - 2.1. Election of Chair
 - 2.1.1. Brent Howard was nominated as Chair; Brent accepted the nomination and will serve as Chair of GEPIC for 2016-2017.
3. Minutes Brent Howard
 - 3.1. Approval of Minutes
 - 3.1.1. The minutes will be amended to reflect that Sarah Nichol was present
 - 3.1.2. Sarah Nichol moved to approve the minutes; Christine Oliveira seconded
~ carried
 - 3.2. Business Arising from Minutes
 - 3.2.1. No New Business
4. Financial Report B.Blancher
 - 4.1. GEPIC Budget
 - 4.1.1. Opening budget was \$10,000; balance to date is \$9,200.86
 - 4.2. PRO Grants for 2016-17
 - 4.2.1. Fourteen Grand Erie schools are participating this year. Recipient schools have been notified, the attached documents explain the awarded grants and amounts received.
 - 4.2.2. Brent received correspondence from the Ministry of Education sharing that since 2006 19,500 grants worth \$31 million have been awarded!
5. Updates from the Board Table J.Harris/T.Waldschmidt
 - 5.1. Tom Waldschmidt shared that the Board is working on finalizing the North Brant ARC and the South East Norfolk ARC. He was invited and attended Grade 12 graduation ceremonies at Waterford District High School and Paris District High School and will attend Delhi District Secondary School ceremony in November.
 - 5.2. John Harris added that a decision will be made on Monday October 24th regarding the South East Norfolk ARC. He also attended a Grade 12 graduation ceremony at Simcoe Composite School.
6. Director's Update B.Blancher
 - 6.1. The majority of secondary commencements are held in the fall, and will wrap up in November; Fall sports in Grand Erie are many including slow pitch, soccer, cross country, and football; Delhi District Secondary School held its 75th anniversary from September 16 – 18th with great activities all weekend long; Superintendent Dave Abbey participated in the LEAP exchange program and visited Australia for 3 weeks in July, then hosted a guest from Australia here in September; congratulations to Shawn McKillop and his team for winning the Bravo Award, a national award for our "BE WELL" campaign. Shawn will be presented this prestigious award in Ottawa this weekend. Lifelong learning Week took place in September; the Terry Fox Run took

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place at the end of September; October 5th was World Teacher Day; Orange Shirt Day was September 30th which recognizes the harm that the residential school system did to children's self-esteem; October 19th was purple shirt day to support vulnerable children in youth, raising awareness about child abuse. Today was the pilot assessment of online OSSLT, unfortunately it was not successful and all students will need to write in March.

7. GEPIC Chair's Update Brent Howard
 - 7.1. GEPIC Grant Application and deadline
 - 7.1.1. GEPIC agreed to allocate \$8200 to their grants, with an application deadline of December 22, 2016 and award decisions made on January 20, 2017. The application will better define the criteria for receiving a grant, and will recommend schools to collaborate in their own Family of Schools on similar ideas. A list of approved speakers will be supplied to GEPIC.
 - 7.1.2. The Grant Sub-Committee will include Nancy Waldschmidt, Sarah Nichol, Sheila Slood and Brent Howard. The Sub-Committee will meet January 14, 2017 to review the applications.
 - 7.1.3. Shawn McKillop will speak to Administrators at November Director's Meetings.

8. Planning, Discussion and Sharing S.McKillop
 - 8.1. Orientation Session October 5, 2016
 - 8.1.1. The evening generated 62 registrations, with 47 in attendance and 26 schools represented.
 - 8.1.2. The Open Classroom Forum was well received. Survey information showed the activity was useful and applicable, and changed or reinforced thinking. Networking occurred between local schools, sparking conversations and information sharing. Christine would like to do this again on a weekend and several other GEPIC members agreed with this idea. The format was very different from past sessions where GEPIC presented information through facilitators. GEPIC is sure with clear, strong communication, a weekend event will prove to be a success with parents.
 - 8.1.3. Our target audience is parents, but would like to open up the event to parents, educators, and trustees. Tentative date is April 1st at Branlyn Community School from 8:30 am – 2:00 pm. Nancy and Christine will look into food trucks; Shawn will advertise early; will budget \$1000 for the day.

9. Other Business
 - 9.1. None

10. Dates 2016-2017 - changes
 - 10.1. January 19, 2017; March 23, 2017; May 11, 2017