

GREATER ESSEX COUNTY PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (GECPIC)

Tuesday, May 22, 2012 ❖ 7:00 p.m. ❖ Century Secondary School

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Sheet was distributed for sign in.

AGENDA: Motion to accept agenda made by Kelly Schwab and seconded by Cindy Mitchell.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Motion to accept previous minutes made by Rob Quenneville and seconded by Cindy Mitchell.

Principal Presentation - Elementary Math Initiative by Gene Petrusenko, Vice-Principal of Belle River Public School.

- Presentation was given about a math initiative program that strengthens partnerships between parents and students.
- It extends student learning from the classroom to the home.
- Questions are sent home with the students to share with their parents.
- The answer sheet is included as well as a blog address.
- Surveys are used to track progress.
- It's not about the right answer - it's about the reasoning and articulation involved in answering the questions.
- Kits are made from materials that the school already has.
- Parent volunteers are used to oversee the project.

Financial Reporting Update by Leah Beneteau

- A presentation regarding policies and procedures for monetary issues was viewed.
- The principal is responsible for all school generated funds and any funds raised by School Council. All assets purchased legally belong to the School Board.
- AP-BA-13 should be made available to every individual involved with school generated funds.
- All funds collected should be recorded on a Cash Receipts Voucher.
- Financial reports and bank reconciliations should be read at parent council meetings.
- Chair should ensure that all records are complete and financial reports are done.

Portal Update by Superintendent John Howitt

- A presentation about the progress of the Portal was viewed.
- Staff and teachers need to be on before we can add the parents. Teachers and staff are in the process of being trained.
- Schools need to be up and running first.
- The Riverside Family of Schools is participating in a pilot project.
- The parent side of the Portal will come from this pilot project and will hopefully be done in the fall.

Multicultural Literacy Night by Katrina Elchami, Chair at Roseland Public School

- A presentation was made regarding Multicultural Literacy Night at Roseland Public School.
- The event was very successful and brought the school community together to celebrate literacy in any language.
- Special thanks was given to Superintendent John Howitt, Superintendent Clara Howitt, Director Warren Kennedy and the School Board for their assistance with this event.

Chair's Report: Jamie del'Eveille

- Year-end reports from school councils are due to the Board on June 30, 2012.
- TD Bank has a summer reading book club. The internet address is TDSummerReadingClub.ca.
- John Campbell School will host the Children's Block Party on June 22, 2012. They are looking for donations of free food.

Director's Report: Warren Kennedy

- There is nothing new to report on negotiations.
- Several PARC's will continue.
- The school board has between 4,000 and 6,000 empty pupil spaces.
- Trustees will have some hard decisions to make.
- The budget is being prepared and some tough decisions will have to be made. Hopefully, the budget will not affect programming.
- Vision to Practice will be offered again in August.
- Thank you to all GECPIC members for coming to the meetings and having a voice.

Motion to adjourn made by Kelly Schwab and seconded by Deb Gagnier.