

GREATER ESSEX COUNTY PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (GECPIC)

Tuesday, January 22, 2013 ❖ 7:00 p.m. ❖ Belle River District High School

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Sheet was distributed for sign in.

AGENDA: Motion to accept agenda made by Cindy Mitchell and seconded by Armand Matte.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Motion to accept previous minutes made by Cindy Mitchell and seconded by Gene Myers.

"Bill 115 - The Union's Perspective" – Representatives from OSSTF and ETFO

- Presentation and handouts of the union's (ETFO and OSSTF) perspective into the workings of Bill 115 and how it is affecting everyone involved were distributed.
- At this point, the unions are waiting to see what will happen when a new premier is elected.

"JK/SK Open House" - Presented by Helen Dean, Principal of Queen Elizabeth Public School and Larry Anderson, Principal of Belle River Public School

- Presentation regarding JK/SK Open House events.
- Open House is February 20th and registration is February 19th through March 1st.

"Parent and Family Literacy Centres" - Presented Sue Chanko, Coordinator

- Presentation and handouts regarding Parent and Family Literacy Centres available through the GECDSB were distributed.
- These centres are a unique strength for the GECDSB with 5 centres available throughout Windsor and Essex County.
- The centres accommodate parents and their children from birth to age 6.

"Parent/Guardian Survey" - Presented by Jon Proctor, Vice Principal of General Amherst

- Presentation regarding school climate surveys which aim to determine the climate in the schools with respect to bullying, racial issues and other issues.
- The survey will be done every 2 years.
- There are different surveys for Grades 4-5, Grades 7-8 and Grades 9-12.
- Surveys are online and are anonymous and non-identifiable.

"Grade 8-9 Transition and Option Sheets" - Presented by Debbie McAiney, Student Success and Guidance Support

- Presentation regarding the role of the student success team and the process of transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9.
- Received an 8-2-9 Magazine.

Director's Report: Warren Kennedy

- Catholic Board is not allowed to address the media, so the public board is receiving all of the media attention.
- A pamphlet is to be sent to 138,000 homes regarding kindergarten registration. Parent and Family Literacy Centres and ways for parents to get involved in their child's education will be emphasized.
- Handout was received regarding the policy and regulations on Play Spaces.
- Reminder of the next date for the Mental Health Series was announced.
- EQAO will be having a seminar to answer questions regarding assessments and how to help your child with the testing.
- The Director's Annual Report is available on the board website.
- CUPE ratified a local agreement last week.

Chair's Report: Jamie del'Eveille

- The next mental health presentation will focus on anxiety and will be on February 13th in the city and on February 27 in the county.
- Registration form for the EQAO Parent Forum can be found on the GECPIC Facebook page.
- A review of the budget shows that \$3,727.15 of \$10,000 has been spent.

Motion to adjourn made by Kelly Schwab and seconded by Gene Myers.