

GREATER ESSEX COUNTY PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (GECPIC)

Tuesday, October 22, 2013 ❖ 7:00 p.m. ❖ Board Office -

MEETING MINUTES

MEET AND GREET: Director Kelly and Trustees

- Trustees McKinley, Buckler, Taves, Lovell and Kilpatrick along with Director Kelly addressed the group. Principal Representative Chris Mills, Glenwood Public School and Community Representatives Kathleen Westlake and Usha Jacob were also introduced.

ATTENDANCE: Sheet was distributed for sign in.

AGENDA: Motion to accept agenda made by Kelly Schwab and seconded by Gene Myers.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Motion to accept previous minutes made by Armand Matte and seconded by Kelly Schwab.

Chair's Report: Jamie del'Eveille

- Looking forward to a new year of GECPIC
- Hoping for better communication with the new email system.
- Jamie del'Eveille, Armand Matte and Katrina Elchami will be attending the People for Education Conference in Toronto and will report on the conference at the next meeting.

School Climate Survey - Jon Procter

- General results of the school climate survey were provided through a powerpoint presentation.
- Results were correlated into key areas: School Culture, Diversity, Wellness, Bullying and Parental Perspective.
- In general, school is considered to be a welcoming place as noted by both parents and students. Parents feel that parents and volunteers are a vital part of school culture.
- Overall, most students think bullying is being addressed. They feel that bullying is occurring during less structured times such as lunch and spare. Students indicated that they do not want to get involved when they witness bullying.
- Grade 7-12 students report that the plans after high school emphasize the pathway to university. Teachers are doing a good job at talking about the different pathways in high school.
- Parents are looking for schools to communicate how parents are able to help within the school. Response to the School Climate Survey by parents was very low.
- Next Steps
 - Individual schools have their results to incorporate into their own school improvement plan.
 - Board results have been distributed to committees.
 - Superintendents have the results.
 - Staff survey will be conducted this year.
 - Results are posted on the Board website as well as individual school sites.

Trustees and Their Role - Dave Taves, Trustee

- Balance the big picture. Take into consideration the needs of individual schools and decide the best course of action as a Board.
- Relay the needs of our Board to the Ministry of Education
- Maintain the focus of our Board on student achievement.

Executive Elections

- Members of the GECPIC were allowed to submit nomination forms.
- The following were elected to the executive: Jaime del'Eveille, Armand Matte, Gene Myers, Katrina Elchami, Cindy Mitchell, Michelle Hedge and Kim Beneteau.
- The executive will vote amongst themselves to determine specific positions. The elected positions will be announced at the next meeting.

Director's Report

- Director is happy to be at GECDSB and is settling into the position.
- She has visited many schools and events.
- The Fall Workshop will be focused on mathematics as the focus of the Ministry this year is also on mathematics. People for Education will also be presenting at the workshop.
- Staff will be participating in United Way during the month of November.
- The Ministry of Education is doing a survey online. She would like parents to participate if possible.
- She was on Twitter today and thought that we would like to see how individual schools are using Twitter within their schools.

Twitter on School Website - Chris Mills, Principal, Glenwood Public School

- Twitter is being used on the school website to tweet exciting news that is happening.
- They have approximately 30 Twitter followers and it is growing every day.
- The Twitter feed is also embedded into the website so parents can view the Tweets there as well.

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