

**Greater Essex County Parent Involvement Committee**  
**Tuesday, February 23, 2016**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Westgate Public School**  
**1275 Campbell Windsor, ON**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:** Sign in sheet distributed.

**Schools Represented:**

Southwood (1)	Westview (3)	MD Bennie (1)	Forest Glade (1)
John Campbell (1)	Gordon McGregor (1)	West Gate (3)	Glenwood (1)
Giles Campus (1)	Sandwich Secondary (1)	Talbot Trail (1)	

**AGENDA:** Motion to approve agenda made by Armand Matte and seconded by Beverlee Lachine.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Motion to approve previous minutes made by Cindi Lafond and seconded by Kim del'Eveille

**Regrets from Director Kelly, Katrina Elchami, Sarah Gall and Gene Meyers**

**"Family Literacy Centres" - Gail Tester,**

- Presentation on the program that allows children to become familiar to school. Runs like kindergarten (birth to 6 years)
- Big piece is the parent engagement; relationships that can be built in PFLC continues to grow through the years
- Jocelyn brought her baby to Campbell, had her oldest son in the school. He met 4 friends that he now goes to school with, helped him learn the school routine. She also met moms that were involved in school council and became involved this way.
- Child engagement and play based learning
- Video played.
- Parent Welcome bags were passed out
- Questions: difference between OEY and PFLC is funding OEY municipal, PFLC board.

**"Mental Health Strategic Plan Update" - Dr. Sharon Pyke**

- Plan is handed in every year
- seeking to reduce the stigma and increase mental health literacy; deal with crisis with kids and well being
- Suicide intervention with Secondary Students - "Safe talk", how do we spot/help a friend, what are the signs. Give kids the confidence to say "are you thinking of ending your life?"
- Maryville hospital - What do kids coming out need? 6 questions ex. what are your triggers?
- Wellness clubs in Secondary Schools - not only about mental illness also about well being
- questions about confidentiality taken, depends of school culture
- Mindfulness, meditation - all staff has the opportunity to learn about it. Action and Reaction
- mental health seminars are on You Tube.
- Suggestion made to put link on Facebook.
- Roots of Empathy - Public Health Nurses are the facilitators
- Transition to school for kids with anxiety program

- CCAC nurses to assist with addiction help in Secondary Students and meds after hospital stay
- App just launched with Leamington hospital
- Comments:
  - 1) hospital/crisis binder
  - 2) start focus on younger (elementary) kids ie. Peer support
  - 3) term bullying is overused but programming to address grades 1 - 3?
- healthy mindset eliminates bullying
- program implementation slow moving but progress has been made

**“Chair’s Report” - Jamie del’Eveille**

- February 4th was Roads to Freedom Black History ceremonies based on local history, wonderfully attended by Board Trustees
- Grade 8 students career cruising started by grade 9 courses
- New Canadian ceremony represented 17 countries, Lego collection for Syrian refugees
- Kindergarten registration went well across the room
- DM Eagle had taco day this week
- Pink Shirt day for anti-bullying
- Carnival was held at Westgate Public
- PIC symposium in London on April 16th

**“Director’s Report” - Dr. Sharon Pyke**

- located on Board website

**“Principal’s Report” - Chris Mills**

- EDSBY hand out/ press release regarding new Parent Portal, website explains
- Compliments Office 365
- will be slowly rolled out in Spring
- Teachers will start with attendance

**“Council Corner” - Christa De Turris**

- handout on possible grants for school councils to apply for.
- DM Eagle applied to TD Friends for outdoor classroom and S’cool Life for Learning Through the Arts.

**Motion to adjourn made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Bobbi-Lynn Simpson**

