

Greater Essex County Parent Involvement Committee



2014-2015 Annual Report

GEPIC Executive:

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|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| • Chair | -Katrina Elchami | -Roseland/Massey |
| • Vice Chair | -Armand Matte | -Talbot Trail |
| • Secretary | -Kim Beneteau | -Lakeshore Discovery/Belle River DHS (resigned) |
| • Conference Moderator | -Jamie del'Eveille | -Taylor |
| • Workshop Coordinator | -Gene Myers | -Hugh Beaton |
| • Member at Large | -Michelle Hedge | -Kingsville PS/Kingsville DHS |
| • Member at Large | -Cindy Mitchell | -Herman Secondary School (resigned) |

MEETING DATES:

- October 28, 2014- Board Office
- November 25, 2014 - Board Office
- January 27, 2015 - Board Office
- April 28, 2015 - Dr. David Suzuki Public School
- May 26, 2015 - Westview Freedom Academy

MEETING DETAILS:

OCTOBER 28, 2014 - General Meeting

- **Outlook Training** with Superintendent **John Howitt**.
- **Presentation by Principals/School Council Chairs:** Several teams consisting of the principal and school council chair provided tips for having an effective school council.
- **Presentation by Administration:** Public Relations Officer, **Scott Scantlebury**, spoke about keeping communication consistent when speaking to traditional media or posting on social media.
- **Director's Report:** Spoke about the many great activities happening throughout our Board.

NOVEMBER 25, 2014 - Kindergarten Registration

- **Presentation by Principals:** Principals **Laura Bates**, **James Cowper** and **Teresa landolo** discussed how parent councils can support Kindergarten Registration and "A Day in the Life" activity for Kindergarten parents.
- **Presentation by Administration:** Superintendent **Sharon Pyke** discussed the Board's Mental Health Strategy and the School Climate Survey.
- **Principal's Report:** Principal **Chris Mills** updated GEPIC on what is happening with IT in the GECDSD.
- **Director's Report:** Reported on many of the exciting activities happening within GECDSD.

JANUARY 27, 2015 - Transitions

- **Student Success Team**
 - Individual Pathway Plans
 - Career Cruising
 - Specialist High Skills Major
 - OYAP
 - CO-OP Education
 - Re-Engagement Initiative
 - SWAC (School Within a College)
- **Principal's Report** – Principal **Chris Mills** spoke about OfficeSuite being given to all students for free as well as teachers receiving professional development including Effective learning and Teaching PD.

APRIL 28, 2015 - Eco Schools

- **Meet the Trustees** - Gale Simko-Hatfield provided an overview of the role of the trustee. Trustees present included Connie Buckler, Alan Halberstadt, Cheryl Lovell, Kim McKinley and Gale Simko-Hatfield.
- **Presentation by Administration:** Coordinator of Engineering, **Giuliana Hinchcliffe**, provided a tour of Dr. David Suzuki Public School as well as a presentation regarding the efforts by Facilities Services to facilitate ECO Schools.
- **Director's Report** – Spoke about the many activities happening within GECDSB as well as updated GECPIC on the latest information available with regards to the teacher unions.

MAY 26, 2015 - School Council Financial Reporting

- Dinner meeting with food provided by the **Westview Freedom Academy Culinary Program**.
- **Presentation by Administration:** Accounts Payable Supervisor and School Generated Funds Liaison, **Kathy Dominato** spoke about the financial reporting expectations for school councils as well as the new School Cash Online system.
- **Director's Report** – Spoke about the many activities happening within GECDSB as well as updated GECPIC on the latest information available with regards to the teacher unions.

WORKSHOPS:

FALL WORKSHOP - *The Power of Empowerment: Strategies for Raising Resilient Children* - Saturday, November 29, 2014 at Talbot Trail Public School (See Addendum 1-1 and 1-2)

- Presentation by **Bruno Pallotto**, Vice Principal of Roseland Public School, on "The Power of Being and Upstander!".
- Presentation by **Katrina Elchami**, Chair of GECPIC, regarding the role of GECPIC within the Board as well as helpful community resources.
- Presentation by the **Windsor Police Services** in partnership with **Kelcom** on "Cyberbullying and Internet Safety".
- Presentation by **Dr. Bob Sornson** on "The Power of Empowerment: Raising Resilient Children".
- A flash drive was given to each attendee with a list of helpful resources.
- Lunch was provided and door prizes were distributed by chance.

SPRING WORKSHOP - *Involving Parents in the process of Digital Learning*- Saturday, March 28th, 2015 at Tecumseh Vista Academy (See Addendum 2)

- Presentation by **George Couros** who is the Division Principal of Innovative Teaching and Learning for Parkland School Division in Alberta.
- His talk provided peace of mind to parents while engaging them in the consideration of this unique opportunity to participate in their child's learning.
- Lunch was provided and door prizes were distributed by chance.

MENTAL HEALTH SERIES OF WORKSHOPS

- ***Risky Behaviors, Challenges and Self-Harm*** - January 21, 2015 (Roma Club) and January 29, 2015 (Caboto Club) (See Addendum 3)
 - Presented by **Alan Goyette** from the GECDSB and Hanna (the student voice).
 - Presentation regarding unhealthy coping skills and what to do as a parent.
- ***Parenting in a High Stress Society*** - February 2, 2015 (Roma Club) and February 26, 2015 (Caboto Club) (See Addendum 4)
 - Presented by **Triple P Parenting**.
 - Learn how to help your child (and yourself) navigate the increasing pressures faced in a complex world.
- ***The Developing Brain*** - March 5 (Ciociaro) (See Addendum 5)
 - "**The Teen Brain: Under Construction**" - Presented by **Dr. Jean Clinton**, Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at McMaster, Division of Child Psychiatry.
 - Learn why children do the things they do.

CHAIR'S ACTIVITIES:

- **Ontario College of Teachers Conference** - attended "Inspiring Public Confidence" conference from Wednesday, November 5, 2014 to Friday, November 7, 2014. It was a very informative conference focusing on critical issues concerning regulators, teacher educators and the public. Keynote speakers included Ken Taylor (former Canadian Ambassador to Iran), Jean Charest (former Premier of Quebec), and Sally Armstrong (Human Rights Activist, Journalist and Award Winning Author).
- **People for Education Conference** - attended conference on Saturday, November 8, 2014 and network meeting on November 9, 2014 in Toronto, Ontario. GECD SB was very well represented at the conference with a total of 7 people including two trustees.
- **PIC (Parent Involvement Committee) Symposium** - April 24-25, 2015 in Toronto, Ontario. The annual PIC Symposium hosted by the Ministry of Education brings the chairs of all PIC's from every school board in Ontario. There are a variety of break-out sessions to choose from as well as a variety of speakers.
- **Mind Force** - Provided a welcome greeting from GEC PIC on Saturday, May 2, 2015.
- **The Windsor-Essex Schools' Safety Patrol Association** - GEC PIC had the opportunity to choose a representative to be part of the Executive. The chair attended the annual Safety Patrol Awards Banquet on Thursday, May 28, 2015.

PRO Grants - Local (23 schools with a total of \$24,320 in funding):

School Name	Title of Project	Amount
Anderdon Public School	Parent Engagement Event	\$1000
Centennial Public School	Math Fun Game Night	\$700
Colchester North Public School	Parents Overcoming Intimidation About Math	\$875
Coronation Public School	Social Networking Safety Social	\$1000
Essex Public School	Parents Overcoming Intimidation About Math	\$1000
Glenwood Public School	Math and Fitness Nights	\$1000
Gosfield North Public School	Parents Overcoming Intimidation About Math	\$875
Hugh Beaton Public School	Bulldogs in Motion	\$1000
Jack Miner Public School	No More Bullying	\$920
Kingsville District High School	Program Pathways and Parent Information	\$1000
Kingsville Public School	The New Math and You!	\$1000
LaSalle Public School	LPS Parent Workshop	\$1000
Marlborough Public School	Multicultural Art Fair	\$1000
M.S. Hetherington	Make Homework Fun	\$950
Parkview Public School	Interactive Family Math Night	\$1000
Princess Elizabeth Public School	Success in Math - The Parent Connection	\$1000
Queen Elizabeth Public School	Numeracy Night	\$1000
Queen Victoria Public School	Math and Science Night	\$1000
Riverside Secondary School	Involving Parents in School	\$1000
Roseville Public School	Families as Partners	\$1000
Tecumseh Vista Academy - Elementary	Health and Wellness Parent Initiative	\$1000
Tecumseh Vista Academy - Secondary	Health and Wellness Teen Initiative	\$1000
Vincent Massey Secondary School	Parents Using Digital Media to Enhance Student Success	\$1000
Western Secondary School	Engaging Parents	\$1000
William G. Davis Public School	A Magical Night of Literacy	\$1000

PRO Grants - Regional

Greater Essex County District School Board	\$18,000
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GECPIC BUDGET 2014-2015

as of June 11, 2015

EXPENDITURES	Ministry Budget AMOUNT	GECPIC Previous PRO Grant AMOUNT	GECPIC Portion of Grant AMOUNT	Mental Health Portion of Grant AMOUNT
Executive attended People for Education Conference	\$2,396.85			
Chair to attend OCT conference	\$843.35			
Refreshments for October GECPIC meeting	\$116.50			
Commissionaire for October GECPIC meeting	\$72.06			
Commissionaire for November GECPIC meeting	\$60.68			
Refreshments for November GECPIC meeting	\$72.45			
Refreshments for January GECPIC meeting	\$67.03			
Commissionaire for January GECPIC meeting	\$53.10			
Executive Meeting	\$88.70			
Refreshments for April meeting	\$63.16			
Parent Involvement Symposium Expenses	\$47.94			
Key Note Speaker		\$2,971.80		
Promotional Items		\$82.30		
Videotaping Charges		\$758.35		
Refreshments for Fall Workshop		\$996.12		
Facility Costs		\$336.02		
USB Keys		\$545.54		
Mental Health Workshop - Non Suicidal Self Injury - Caboto				\$715.12
Mental Health Workshop - Caboto - Navigating the Increasing Pressures Faced in a Complex World				\$664.04
Mental Health Workshop - The Developing Brain - Ciociaro				\$787.91
Mental Health Workshop - Supplies				\$97.10
Mental Health Workshop - Caboto - The Anxiety Tool Box				\$664.04
Mental Health Workshop - Roma Club				\$568.78
Mental Health Workshop - Roma Club				\$568.78
Mental Health Workshop - The Anxiety Tool Box - Roma Club				\$568.78
Guest Speaker for March 5th The Developing Brain Workshop				\$2,084.46
Mental Health Workshop Honorariums				\$1,650.00
Video Taping Mental Health Workshops				\$1,200.00
Workshop Materials			\$119.00	
Guest Speaker for March 28th Digital Learning Workshop			\$4,972.39	
Refreshment for March 28th Workshop			\$139.04	
Lunch for March 28th Workshop			\$320.02	
Total Budget	\$10,950.00	\$5,754.71	\$8,000.00	\$10,000.00
Total Expenses	\$3,881.82	\$5,690.13	\$5,550.45	\$9,569.01
Total Available	\$7,068.18	\$64.58	\$2,449.55	\$430.99
Total Grant \$ left for GECPIC			\$2,880.54	