

GECPIC Annual Report 2021-2022

Committee Composition:

Family of School	Results	Term	2021-2023 Members
Belle River DHS	Committee Member 2021-23	2 Years	Nabhdeep Dhillon
Essex DHS	Committee Member 2021-23	2 Years	Dana O'Neil
General Amherst	Committee Member 2021-22	1 Year Vacancy	
Herman Academy	Committee Member 2021-22	1 Year Vacancy	
Kennedy Collegiate	Committee Member 2021-22	1 Year Vacancy	
Kingsville DHS	Committee Member 2020-22	2nd Year	Stephanie Segave-Tiessen
Leamington District	Committee Member 2021-22	1 Year Vacancy	
Vincent Massey Sec.	Committee Member 2021-22	1 Year	Mahbooba Quriash
Riverside Sec.	Committee Member 2021-23	2 Years	Stephanie Slipiec
Sandwich Secondary	Committee Member 2021-22	1 Year	Lisa Shulman
Tecumseh Vista	Committee Member 2021-23	2 Years	Natalie Middleton-Bondy
Walkerville Collegiate	Committee Member 2020-22	2nd Year	Lisa Renaud
Westview Freedom	Committee Member 2020-22	2nd Year	Helena MacKenzie
Belle River	Member at Large	1 Year	Emily Varga
Vincent Massey	Member at Large	1 Year	Sadiq Pirani
Riverside	Member at Large	1 Year	Milena Todorovski
Sandwich	Member at Large	1 Year	Kristen Siapas
Trustee	Alicia Higgison		
IEAC Member	Louise Cervini		
Community Partners:	Liam Giles-Hayes	United Way Windsor/Essex	
	Christie Nelson	Family Fuse	
	Rima Nohra	Canadian Centre of Excellence	
Director of Education	Erin Kelly		
Superintendent	Dr. Jeff Hillman		
Elementary Principal	Laura Bates		
Secondary Principal	Najet Jones		

Greater Essex County Parent Involvement
Committee (GECPIC) Meetings for 2021 -2022

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

General Meeting Details:

October 26, 2021

Elections were held for the roles of Chair and Vice Chair.

GECDsB Communications Officer joined GECPIC in a more formal and involved capacity this year and shared a recap of the results of a survey that GECPIC did the year prior of all Parent Council Chairs to garner feedback of their needs and how they can be better supported.

Planning for the 21/22 year – the Group agreed to use the survey completed the previous year to work towards developing resources to better support Parent Councils throughout the GECDsB.

November 23, 2021

Presentation: 2021 Ontario Parent Survey (S. Querbach).

Business items completed: meeting dates set; PRO Grant Update for total amount available to GECDsB Parent Councils – total funding for 21/22 \$39,000.

Superintendent Hillman presented the proposed school calendar for 2022/23 for feedback.

To drive the work for the year, two sub-committees were established (communications and resources).

It was decided that the communications committee would divide all GECDsB schools into small sub-sections where each member of the sub-committee would hold focus group sessions to further understand the needs.

January 25, 2022

Presentation: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (J. Cauty)

Business items completed: Selected a member for TEAC – UWindsor Committee; PRO Grant Update – 30 applications received; sub-committees worked in breakout rooms to continue individualized work.

Communication Committee – It was decided to create a survey to present to the Parent Council Chairs when soliciting more feedback on their needs. Resource Committee – review already established resources and identify gaps and how they can be more readily available and made easier for Parent Councils to digest and utilize (improve functionality).

February 22, 2022

Presentation: Budget and budget survey – seeking feedback (S. Maheux)

BIEP – Seeking feedback (J. Hillman)

GECPIC decided to come together and submit feedback as a group for the budget survey.

Sub-Committees held breakout sessions to work more on the resource development and then reported back to the larger group on our progress.

April 26, 2022

Presentation: Human Rights and Equity System Advisor (Ros Salvador)

Updates: BIEP & GECPIC Parent Applications for 2022/23 (Jeff Hillman)

Business items completed: Sub-Committees worked in breakout rooms to further develop resources (approximately 50% of resources were in draft, and soon to be ready for the Communications Officer to work on production for the GECDSB website); Request for an update on the tutoring program for the next meeting.

The Chair and Vice-Chair then hosted a discussion on the year and built a list of items that the committee felt were working well, not working well, and suggestions for improvement.

May 24, 2022

GECPIC Parent Applications Update: discussed tentative selection dates and reviewed the by-laws regarding the selection of GECPIC members.

Jeff Hillman provided an update on the tutoring program and how it has been going.

Madeline McEachern provided an update on the current content circulating on GECDSB social media assets.

Sub-Committee Chairs, S.Slipiec and K.Siapas provided an update on the sub-committee work and identified that the sub-committees would continue their work through the summer to ensure the 5 prioritized resources would be ready for September 2022, as well as be available to support a townhall meeting prior to the first GECPIC meeting of the 22/23 year.

Chair's Closing Thoughts

This year GECPIC made some great strides in the work we committed to with the goal of improving the communication and resources available to our GECDSB Parent Councils. Using the survey results of Parent Council Chairs from the 20/21 year, we were able to really hit the ground running and establish a trajectory and set goals for our sub-committee work. The resource committee's focus of identifying, prioritizing and then developing resources was founded off the focus group work that the communications sub-committee completed. Then coming together as one committee we were able to streamline and identify the top 5 resources that our Parent Council Chairs would gain the most value out of and truly help them establish a foundation of basic operations and best practices. The resources that were prioritized with the goal of having them available to our Parent Councils for September 2022 are:

- Purpose of Council
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Annual Checklist
- How to Run Nominations and Elections
- Networking and information opportunities through townhalls (first offering will be September 2022, hosted by this current year's GECPIC)

The team this year was also pleased to gain insight and provide parent feedback on the various topics that were presented to us this year – from the 2022/23 school calendar to the Board's work on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, to the 2021 Ontario Parent Survey and how the board has utilized that information within the classroom. Each opportunity has been valued and appreciated.

I am truly proud of the work we have completed this year, as well as the momentum that we will be bringing into the upcoming year as we work towards further resource development and incorporating

opportunities for Parent Council Chairs to network, learn and hopefully gain a better understanding of the work GECPIC does. Improving the relationship between GECPIC and our Parent Councils will hopefully yield us a stronger presence and increased confidence within our local parent communities and their work to help improve student success!

It was an honor to lead this group of Parents, Community Partners, and Administration with the support and guidance from our Trustee representative, Alicia Higgison, and of course Superintendent Jeff Hillman.