Greater Essex County Parent Involvement Committee

Tuesday, November 25, 2025 - 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
451 Park Street West, Windsor, ON. N9A 6K1
Board Committee Room

Minutes

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE
Ashley Kirby – WECHU
Padu Surtani
Christina Sayer
Fahema Sikl
Bridget Fauteux
Hana Othman
Jennifer Diemer
Tara Barnett
Yetunde Osanyin
Entela Bilali

BOARD PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE
Vicki Houston – Director of Education
K. McKinley -Trustee
Laura Bates
Raquel Roberts

REGRETS
Deepa Chawla
Daniela Masotti
Nisha Withane
Pragya Chhetri
Najet Jones
Julia Burgess

RECORDER
Beth Silverio

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Chair Fauteux called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**
   Principal Bates read the approved GECDSB Land and Water Acknowledgement.

3. **ATTENDANCE**
   Chairperson Fauteux acknowledged that not all members were in attendance

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
   Moved by B Fauteux

   That GECPIC approve the agenda for November 25, 2025.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Moved by B Fauteux

That GECPIC approve the minutes October 28, 2025

6. **PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS**
Wellness Report – PALS was added to 10 additional schools for 2025-2026 - Attachments included

Acadience Screener – Superintendent Roberts explained:
-the progress monitoring
-year two kindergarten – Gr. 2's are screened
-screener is the first step in assessment of student reading
-identifies students that may be at risk, and may need further assessment
- predictor indicator shows next steps

Discussion points:
Union Position – the Director is flabbergasted that the union expressed disagreement with screening students multiple times during the academic year.
Director Houston's Position - Strongly supports multiple screenings.
Emphasized that repeated assessments help teachers identify areas needing improvement and address gaps early.
Warned that without multiple screenings, gaps will continue to widen.
MOE Guidance - Advised that teachers may use their professional judgment regarding the frequency of screenings.
Director Houston's Response
Disagrees with relying solely on professional judgment.
Stressed that consistent screening is critical for closing achievement gaps.
Supporting Evidence
This was the impetus in the *Right to Read Report*, a 10-year study highlighting literacy as a foundational skill.
Reinforced that students have the right to read, and systematic screening supports this right.

Ontario-Wide Multi Day Career Fair – Attachments included

K-12 Cyber Awareness Month – Attachments included

PRO Grants – 27 applications were received and approved

OSYC 2026-2027- Superintendent Roberts explained why there is an earlier start for staff (September 2, 2026) for the 2026-2027 school year. Students will start the school year on September 8, 2026.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**
Chairperson Fauteux adjourned the meeting at 6:41pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 (Hybrid)

Board Meeting Schedule
December 16, 2025 - Y. Osanyin
January 20, 2026 – C. Sayer, D, Masotti

February 17, 2026 – F. Sikl
March 24, 2026 – N. Withane, T. Barnett
April 21, 2026 – B. Fauteux, J. Diemer
May, 19, 2026 – H. Othman,
June 16, 2026 – B. Fauteux, P. Chhetri

GECPIC Minutes available on GECPIC Agenda, Minutes and Reports

Raquel Roberts, GECPIC Liaison