

Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

59th Semi-Annual Meeting – October 31, 2012

Kanata Club, Kinkora

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Pam Montgomery at 6:21 p.m. Peter Rukavina acted as Recording Secretary.

Pam welcomed members and guests, including Hon. Alan McIsaac, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, English Language School Board Superintendent Jane MacMillan, and Deputy Minister Dr. Sandy Macdonald, and thanked Adam Baldwin and Andrea Pickett for facilitating use of the Kanata Club.

Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: The agenda be approved as circulated. Moved by Shelley Muzika, seconded by Lee Gauthier. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adoption of 2011 Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes

MOTION: The minutes of the 2011 Semi-Annual Meeting be approved as circulated. Moved by Ken Williams, seconded by Lee Gauthier. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Treasurer's Report

Shelley Muzika presented a brief report on the PEIHSF financial situation. Revenue for the year comes primarily from a \$35,000 parent engagement grant and a \$37,500 operating grant from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. She circulated an Income Statement (attached) from January 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012 (attached).

MOTION: The financial summary be approved as circulated. Moved by Lee Gauthier, seconded by Ken Williams. **MOTION CARRIED.**

There was additional discussion of finances: the Parent Engagement grant program has two deadlines for this year, Dec. 14 and Feb. 28, with grants up to \$1000 per school . It was noted that Shirley Jay has application forms available. It was also noted that the Parent Engagement Survey will be repeated, with Vicki Bryanton hired to develop questions and methodology for the survey.

President's Report

Pam Montgomery presented her President's Report (circulated in information packages and attached).

New Business

Pam Montgomery called for new business from the floor.

It was noted that a School Calendar Committee has been formed by the Department of Education and the the PEIHSF has two representatives on the committee.

There being no new business, Pam called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: The meeting to adjourn. Moved by Lee Gauthier. **MOTION CARRIED.**

So-ended the format business of the Semi-Annual meeting. At this point the meeting adjourned for a brief break before continuing with a presentation on the SHAPES survey by Sterling Carruthers at 6:40 p.m.

At the conclusion of this presentation, at 7:28 p.m. the meeting continued with a discussion of the resolutions passed at the 2012 Annual General Meeting

Resolution Discussion

Discussion of 2012 Annual Meeting Resolutions with Department of Education and School Districts

Pam Montgomery welcomed Hon. Alan McIsaac, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Dr. Sandy MacDonald, Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, and Jane McMillan, Superintendent of the English Language School Board.

Each of the 7 resolutions passed at the 2012 Annual Meeting were then considered. Each resolution's "resolved" clause was read, representatives of the Department and Districts were invited to offer their body's response, and then members of the association were invited to ask questions and offer comments.

RESOLUTION 1 /2012 – REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT OF PEI TO INVESTIGATE AND IMPLEMENT SCHOOL EFFICIENCIES

Hon. Alan McIsaac commented that there has been discussion about cooperating on issues such as school bus purchase, and that he will continue this discussion about cooperation as he meets with his fellow ministers.

RESOLUTION 2/2012 – RENAME THE CAPITAL BUDGET LINE ITEM FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Hon. Alan McIsaac confirmed that his Department will act on this resolution for the next fiscal year.

RESOLUTION 3/2012 – RESTORE CAPITAL FUNDING FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Hon. Alan McIlsac announced that this budget item will be restored to its former level of \$500,000 as of April 2013, and that the funding will be increased to \$1,000,000 for the following year, \$500,000 for the third year and \$750,000 for the fourth year.

RESOLUTION 4/2012 – SIMPLIFICATION OF THE ‘ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Hon. Alan McIlsac committed to look at ways to simplify the Acceptable Use Policy. Superintendent McMillan reiterated that is the Board’s goal to “manage risk” and that the policy helps them meet that goal.

RESOLUTION 5/2012 – ENHANCE AND AFFIRM THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MINISTER’S IT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COMPUTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Hon. Alan McIlsac spoke highly of the work of the committee and reaffirmed his support of the committee’s work.

RESOLUTION 6/2012 – THE IMPORTANCE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES IN THE HOME

Hon. Alan McIlsac agreed that unequal access to information technology resources in the home was an issue to be examined, and committed to having the Minister’s Advisory Committee on CIT provide guidance on this issue.

RESOLUTION 8/2012 – EQUITY IN ALL PEI SCHOOL

Hon. Alan McIlsac indicated that his department “strives” for equity, but that this is not always possible, as various factors mean that program delivery in different schools is offered differently because of different facilities and resources.

Superintendent McMillan indicated that it is the Board’s intent to focus on equity in *outcomes*, and indicated that simply looking at “headcount” is not an accurate measure of this. “Sameness isn’t fairness,” she said.

Conclusion

Pam Montgomery concluded with thanks to guests, to Shirley Jay for her dedication to her task, to the board and to the membership. The meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Rukavina,
Recording Secretary

**Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation
Pam Montgomery, President**

OPENING REMARKS

Our Children. Our Schools. Our Future. Parents and Teachers working together in Education! Children whose parents are involved in the school perform better and have higher career and education goals. Research shows that when it comes to education, parents matter. The PEI Home and School Federation continues to show Islanders that Home and School has relevance and that our focus is on advocating for the best education possible for our children and youth. As parents we focus on being a full partner in PEI's school system.

Being involved in Home and School is one way to learn more about what is happening in your child's school. You can raise issues that are important to you with other parents and the principal. Some of these issues become resolutions that are discussed at the provincial level and presented to the Annual General Meeting (April 18th, 2013), and if approved, are circulated to the decision-makers such as the Minister of Education and School Boards, requesting a response.

Here is an overview of the Federation's current activities:

Training Workshops

- Held in September 2012 at Miscouche, Mount Stewart and Prince Street schools with facilitators - Stephen Gould and Vicki Bryanton.
- Individual training available upon request.

Education and Early Childhood Development

- School Calendar Committee met in May/June to discuss changes to the calendar.
- Dr. Avis Glaze presentation: PEIHSF partnered with the ministry of department on a public parent session with Dr. Avis Glaze who presented on the topic Student Achievement, September 24/12, in Summerside; Presentation notes available on our website www.peihsf.ca

Parent Engagement Initiatives

- Survey II is being compiled for on-line version launch in December 2012.
- Parent Engagement Grant Program: To be announced.

English Language School Board

- Appointed trustees were announced on September 14, 2012
- New trustees will attend a training session before they begin their new role on Jan. 1/13
- Parents are urged to attend school board meetings to learn more about trustees and the important decisions they make that impact students and their learning in PEI's education system.

PEI Teachers Federation Convention

- Convention reception and display Oct. 11- 12/12; New banner designed for the convention and future meeting displays.

Welcome to Kindergarten

- Welcome to Kindergarten is a national pre-school readiness program designed for families. The program provides parents with tools and resources to engage their children in early learning experiences prior to the child's first day at school. Key goals are to support families use of the WTK Kit educational learning materials and promote communication between the parent and their child, and the parent and the school/system.

Atlantic Caucus Meeting

- Atlantic Caucus is the Atlantic regional meeting of Home & School Federations, PEI will host a 2012-13 meeting; TBA

60th Years Serving Island Children, 1953-2013

- PEIHSF will celebrate its 60th Anniversary at the 60th Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 18th, 2013 at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel
- Each Local Home and School Association is to extend an invitation to all parents/ teachers in their school and to designate five as their voting delegates.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

- 2013 Teacher/ Staff Appreciation Week (T/SAW) February 10-16
- Form a local planning committee to show appreciation to your school staff

Awards

- Extra Mile Award deadline: Jan. 18/13 for presentation during T/SAW.
- Volunteer of the Year deadline: March 15/13 for presentation at the AGM April 18/12.
- Life Membership deadline: March 15/13 for presentation at the AGM April 18/12.
- School Bus Driver Award deadline: May 17/13 for presentation in early June.

Nomination criteria is online at: <http://peihsf.ca/content/awards>

Communications

- Federation mailings, circulate monthly emailed updates, Guardian column "Home & School & You" published on the first Wednesday of the month
- Press Releases are circulated to the media and to Presidents.
- Department of education and school boards Minister's Directives, Proposed Policies, etc. are circulated to Presidents for Association consideration and response

Website

- The PEIHSF's website was refreshed over the summer by University student, Tanner Brine; he redesigned the site, and transferred all information from the old website; it has a simpler look and, with the new search box, is more user friendly.

REMINDER: Presidents are urged to forward Federation e-mails to Home and School members including your executive and other parents on your group list.

Submitted: Semi-Annual, October 30, 2012

PEI Home & School Federation Inc

Income Statement 01/01/2012 to 09/30/2012

REVENUE

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Grants	72,500.00
Membership Dues	714.00
Donations	594.51
Fund Raising	0.00
Display fees	807.00
Registration Fees	1,850.00
Charitable Receipts	0.00
Interest Income	343.28
Sale of Goods	0.00
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>76,808.79</u>

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EXPENSE

EXPENSES

Advertising	628.16
Promotion	0.00
Awards	591.53
Donations	0.00
Bank Charges	207.90
Display Fees	0.00
Dues	0.00
Gifts & Awards	0.00
Goods for Resale	0.00
Insurance	0.00
Meeting - Annual General	3,656.75
Meeting - Semi Annual	0.00
Meetings - Board	<u>332.78</u>
Meetings: Total	3,989.53
Supplies	367.54
Equipment	0.00
Photocopies	145.98
Telephone	993.01
Rent	2,056.95
Postage	554.59
Professional fees	2,014.61
Travel & Conference - National	1,153.25
Travel & Conference - Provincial	0.00
Travel, Transportation & Mileage	<u>997.93</u>
Travel: Total	2,151.18
Wages and Benefits	14,919.45
Honorarium	0.00
EI Expense	0.00
Payroll remittances	5,538.16
WCB	<u>91.63</u>
Total Wage Expense	20,549.24
Parental Involvement	<u>11,288.17</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>45,538.39</u>

TOTAL EXPENSE 45,538.39

NET INCOME 31,270.40

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