



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.



‘Building Healthy Foundations for Every Child’

**71st Annual General Meeting & Convention
Book of Reports
Saturday, April 13, 2024
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel
75 Kent Street Charlottetown P.E.I.**

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc. exists to promote the total well-being of children and the highest standards of education for each child in the province. The Federation works in partnership with other organizations who foster this ideal. The Federation encourages and whenever possible assists in the development of policies related particularly to quality education for each child and generally to the total well-being of children in Prince Edward Island.

HOME AND SCHOOL THOUGHT

We hope that our endeavors may at all times be guided by wisdom! May we use knowledge so our thoughts may be well directed and that we will be tolerant. May we use understanding and clear vision, so we always seek the highest good for our children, our homes and our schools. May we always have the wisdom to choose the right.

HOME AND SCHOOL CREED

We Believe

That Home and School should be concerned with everything that relates to the welfare of the child at home, and in the community.

That Home and School's main purpose is to bring together the home, the school, and the other educational forces in the life of the child, in order to work for the good of all children.

That Home and School should seek to learn about all conditions in the school, and in the community that affect children and youth, and encourage those which promote their growth and safety.

That Home and School work actively to promote public support for schools, so that they will be equipped with the best teachers, facilities, and other resources.

That Home and School should help parents increase their knowledge and understanding of their own role.

That Home and School should support the school in its efforts to give children and youth the education they need to become citizens who represent the best in Canadian national life.

That Home and School may question the school policies but shall not be used as a medium for criticizing or interfering with its authority.

That Home and School's guiding principles are those of social service, good citizenship, good will, and international peace. *Approved: AGM April 20, 2002.*

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION
PRESIDENTS 1953 - 2024

1953 - 1955	Dr. Helen MacDonald (<i>Deceased</i>)
1955 - 1957	Mrs. J. P. Lantz (<i>Deceased</i>)
1957 - 1959	Reginald MacNutt (<i>Deceased</i>)
1959 - 1961	Mrs. Basil (Margaret) MacDonald (<i>Deceased</i>)
1961 - 1962	Eric J. Kipping (<i>Deceased</i>)
1962 - 1963	Dr. Kenneth Parker (<i>Deceased</i>)
1963 - 1965	Matthew F. Hagan (<i>Deceased</i>)
1965 - 1967	Hesta MacDonald (<i>Deceased</i>)
1967 - 1969	Charles Campbell (<i>Deceased</i>)
1969 - 1971	Jeannette Gleeson (<i>Deceased</i>)
1971 - 1972	Ronald E. Elliott
1972 - 1974	Dr. Karl Winter (<i>Deceased</i>)
1974 - 1975	Jack Sands (<i>Deceased</i>)
1975 - 1976	Dr. Karl Winter
1976 - 1978	Wayne MacKinnon
1978 - 1979	Dr. Karl Winter
1979 - 1981	Stan J. Warwick
1981 - 1982	Lorne Morell
1982 - 1984	Inez Doiron
1984 - 1986	Melina Gallant
1986 - 1988	Marion Murphy
1988 - 1990	Jeannette Arsenaault
1990 - 1992	Marjorie Stevenson-Dawson
1992 - 1994	Audrey Newcombe Penner
1994 - 1996	Corina Bolo
1996 - 1998	Sherry Cheverie
1998 - 2000	Kathy Jussaume
2000 - 2002	Georgina Allen
2002 - 2004	Ken Williams
2004 - 2006	Martha Ellis
2006 - 2008	Wendy MacDonald
2008 - 2010	Bill Whelan
2010 - 2012	Owen Parkhouse
2012 - 2014	Pam Montgomery
2014 - 2016	Peter Rukavina
2016 - 2018	Lisa MacDougall
2018 - 2020	Cory Thomas
2020 - 2022	Heather Mullen
2022 - 2024	Dionne Tuplin



Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation
71st Annual General Meeting

“Building Healthy Foundations for Every Child”

Saturday, April 13, 2024

Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, 75 Kent Street, Charlottetown, PEI

Tentative Agenda

AM

08:00 Registration – Victorian Room

Visit Displays – Provinces Room (downstairs)

08:45 Welcome Delegates/Board/Guests – President, Dionne Tuplin

Parliamentarian: Owen Parkhouse

Business Meeting

1. Adoption of Agenda 2024

2. Adoption of Minutes 2023

3. President’s Report

4. Adoption of Finance Report – Treasurer

5. Other Reports – Accepted as circulated in Annual Book of Reports

6. Resolutions

7. Nominations Report/Elections

Induction of new board by Parliamentarian

8. New Business

9. Adjourn Business Meeting

10:00 Nutrition Break & View Displays: Provinces Room (downstairs)

10:30 Round Table Topics

Inclusion Report Summary - **Erin McGrath Gaudet**, Deputy Minister Education and Early Years

Suicide Prevention - **Les Wagner**, Canadian Mental Health

What is the role of an educational assistant? - **Shannon Bruyneel, Elina John, Erin Veale**

Youth Sports Nutrition - **Nancy Fong**, PEI’s (only) Sports Dietician

Youth Health Survey Results, 2023-2024 - **Cody Davenport**, Chief Public Health Office

What is Foundations? - **Jane Hastelow**, Department Education and Early Years

11:55 Delegates/guests will move downstairs to the Georgian Room for the luncheon; be seated by

12:10 p.m. for entrance of Lt. Gov, Hon. Antoinette Perry, Lieutenant Governor of P.E.I.

PM

12:10 Stand for entrance of The Honourable Antoinette Perry, Lieutenant Governor of PEI

12:30 Luncheon/Award/Greetings

Volunteer of the Year Award Presentation

Greetings: The Honourable Antoinette Perry, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island

Tracy Beaulieu, Director, Public Schools Branch

Andy Doran, President, P.E.I. Teachers’ Federation

Speaker: Hon. Natalie Jameson, Minister of Education and Early Years

1:25 Stand for departure of The Honourable Antoinette Perry, Lieutenant Governor of PEI

Closing remarks

BUSINESS PROCEDURE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

1. The Annual General Meeting is conducted in accordance with our **Constitution and By-Laws**. In the case of any procedural dispute, reference shall be made to Parliamentary Procedures which is based on **Robert's "Rules of Order"**.
2. Each Local Association may have **five voting delegates**. **All members** may attend.
3. **Each voting delegate shall have one vote** provided their Association Membership Fees have been paid to PEIHSF by the Annual Meeting date. Each member of the Federation's Executive and Board of Directors shall also be entitled to one vote.
4. **Voting shall be by ballot or show of hands**. All questions shall be decided by a majority of those voting, except those which require **two-thirds (2/3) majority**; the President having a deciding vote in case of a tie.
5. A delegate speaking from the floor shall **address the Chair** and wait to be recognized. When a sound system is being used, **delegates should proceed to a microphone**, and wait until the Chair indicates it is their turn to speak.
6. **A delegate may not speak for more than two minutes** on any question under discussion, not more than once on the same question unless requested or permitted by the Chair to clarify a point. However, **the mover of a motion or resolution** shall have the privilege of speaking first to begin discussion and speaking last to close debate.

MEETING TIPS

1. **Plan to enjoy** the meetings. As a representative of your Association, it is your responsibility to help make it a success.
2. **This is YOUR Annual Meeting** - You transact the business of the Federation and set the policy to be followed in the coming year for the PEIHSF.
3. **Be courteous** to speakers by listening attentively. Avoid private conversations and remain seated when others are speaking.
4. **Speaking from the floor** - a member wishing to speak from the floor shall address the Chair, give their name in full and the name of the Association represented.
5. **Do find time to exchange ideas and information. Be friendly**, mix with delegates from other parts of the province. Don't wait for them to speak first. They may also be a bit shy and a first-time delegate to an Annual Meeting.
6. **Say "hello" to your Board of Directors**. They are elected to represent you between Annual Meetings by Association members, and they would like to meet you personally.
7. **Do take notes** in order that you may report back to your Association: the actions taken, business transacted, ideas and inspirations gained. **Share information with your members** - knowledge, hand-outs and other material acquired during the AGM.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<u>Name</u>		<u>Term Ends</u>
President	Dionne Tuplin	(AGM 2024)
Past President	-	(AGM 2024)
Vice President	Shannon Bruyneel	(AGM 2024)
Treasurer	Craig Goodick	(AGM 2025)
Secretary	Bev Campbell	(AGM 2025)

REGIONAL DIRECTORS – Families of Schools:

Bluefield	Vacant	(AGM 2025)
Charlottetown Rural	Elina John	(AGM 2024)
Colonel Gray	David Schult	(AGM 2024)
Kensington	Mikayla Paynter	(AGM 2025)
Kinkora	Vacant	(AGM 2024)
Montague	Vacant	(AGM 2024)
Morell	Matthew McNally	(AGM 2024)
Souris	Vacant	(AGM 2024)
Three Oaks	Jannett Jones	(AGM 2025)
Westisle	Erin Veale	(AGM 2025)
Executive Director	Shirley Smedley Jay	

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
2023-2024 HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**

SCHOOL

Alberton Elementary
 Amherst Cove Consolidated
 Athena Consolidated
 Belfast Consolidated
 Birchwood Intermediate
 Bloomfield Elementary
 Bluefield High
 Cardigan Consolidated
 Central Queens Elementary
 Charlottetown Rural High
 Colonel Gray High
 Donagh Regional
 East Wiltshire Intermediate
 Eliot River Elementary
 Ellerslie Elementary
 Elm Street Elementary
 Englewood Consolidated
 Georgetown Elementary

PRESIDENT/CO-CHAIR

Tasha Ashley
 Laurie Muttart
 Jennafer Lynch-Bernard/Marissa Jordan
 Sylvie De Sousa
 Mike Redmond
 Julie Ramsay/Brandy Rogers
 Amanda Doherty-Kirby
 Twila Palmer
 Patty Jo Hickey
 Patricia Callaghan
 Heather Mullen
 Nancy Power
 Andrea Kelly
 Jacinta Andrews
 Jess Persad/Christina Sidwell
 Amanda DesRoches/Brye Caissie
 Rachael Cameron
 Sarah Sampson

(Cont'd President/Co-Chair)

Glen Stewart Elementary
Greenfield Elementary
Gulf Shore Consolidated
Hernewood Intermediate
Kensington Intermediate/Senior High
Kinkora Regional High
Lucy Maud Montgomery Elementary
M. E. Callaghan Intermediate
Miscouche Consolidated
Montague Consolidated
Montague Intermediate
Montague High
Morell Consolidated
Mount Stewart Consolidated
O'Leary Elementary
Parkdale Elementary
Parkside Elementary
Prince Street Elementary
Queen Charlotte Intermediate
Queen Elizabeth Elementary
Sherwood Elementary
Somerset Elementary
Souris Regional
Southern Kings Consolidated
Spring Park Elementary
St. Jean Elementary
St. Louis Elementary
Stonepark Intermediate
Stratford Elementary
Summerside Intermediate
Three Oaks Senior High
Tignish Elementary
Vernon River Consolidated
West Kent Elementary
West Royalty Elementary
Westisle Composite High
Westwood Primary

Heather MacAulay
Sarah Boeker
Marsha LeBlanc
Vanessa Mallett/Sabrina Sharp
Bev Campbell (contact)
Tracey Nichol
Cara Dempsey/Katheryn MacKay
Carrie Ann Dunbar
Erynn Cormier
Paula O'Brien
Julie Brittain
Robyn MacDonald (contact)
Kelsey MacIntyre
Leanne Feehan
Katelyn Good
Myra Barquilla
Jana Newson
Tanya Arsenault
Heather Mullen
Coreen Pickering
Sarah Borsos
Jennifer Duffy (contact)
Krystal Jamieson
Krista Sheppard/Gena Miller
Sjors Reijers
Michelle Dunlop
RaeAnne Arsenault
Sara MacDougall
Femke Hakkers/Vanessa Campbell
Doug Doyle (contact)
Jacqueline Reeves (contact)
Stephanie Gaudet
Aleida Tweten
Renee Harper
Stephanie Chaloner
Brian Gard (contact)
Laura Steeves/Jacinta Andrews

Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.
Minutes (Draft) of the 70th Annual General Meeting
Saturday, April 15, 2023
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI

Call to Order

President Dionne Tuplin called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. opening with a welcome reading. Dionne introduced the head table, Bill Whelan, Parliamentarian, Shannon Bruyneel, Vice President and Mary MacDonald-Pickering, Secretary and welcomed the over 70 delegates and guests in attendance representing 35 Home and School Associations.

1. Adoption of Agenda 2023

MOTION: To adopt the 2023 70th Annual General Meeting's agenda as circulated.

Moved by Heather Mullen (Colonel Gray)

Seconded by Jacinta Andrews (Westwood)

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Adoption of AGM Minutes 2021

MOTION: To adopt the minutes of the 69th Annual General Meeting, April 23, 2022 as circulated.

Moved by Heather Mullen (Colonel Gray)

Seconded by Bev Campbell (Kensington Board)

MOTION CARRIED.

3. President's Report

President Dionne provided highlights from her report. Refer to 2023 Book of Reports (pg. 14-19).

4. Financial Report

Shannon Bruyneel, Vice President, presented the report on the financial position of the PEIHSF fiscal year 2022 referencing the Book of Reports (pgs. 20-28). David Wright, Accountant, was present to answer questions.

MOTION: To adopt the 2022 Fiscal Year Financial Review and report as presented.

Moved by Shannon Bruyneel.

Seconded by Heather Mullen.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: To appoint Terra Wheeler, Arsenault, Best, Ellis, Cameron accounting services for the next year of operations, 2023.

Moved by Shannon Bruyneel.

Seconded by Katie McNally. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. Other Reports

Local Association Annual Reports are submitted by Association presidents (pages 29-101). Dionne encouraged everyone to review the forty-four reports to learn more about other Home and School's activities happening in

other school communities across the island. All reports are accepted as circulated.

6. Resolutions

David Schult chaired the resolution portion of the meeting. The following proposed resolution was presented for consideration.

RESOLUTION: 2023-1 ACCESSIBLE AND UNIVERSAL AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING FOR ALL PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND STUDENTS IN GRADES K-6

Submitted by West Kent Home and School Association

- WHEREAS Prince Edward Island is receiving a historic investment from the federal government of approximately \$121 million dollars from 2021-2026 to expand access to child care services for children ages 0-5, this calls attention to an opportunity for the PEI Provincial Government to address the gap in after-school child care for children ages 6-12 (1), and
- WHEREAS there are currently 8,361 school-age children ages 5-9 living on PEI, and in 2018 there were 56 licensed school age centres providing 2000 spaces for families needing after school child care, and even when the 10-12 year old children are not accounted for, at full capacity these spaces do not meet the national average of children seeking after-school care (2, 3, 8), and
- WHEREAS evidence reveals that in Quebec the 1998 universal after-school care policy increased the use of after-school care by 6–10 percent, replacing self-care and care provided by a sibling, achieving the policy’s primary goal of combating child safety concerns and the phenomenon of latchkey children (4), and
- WHEREAS children with disabilities face significant challenges in access to health, social, and educational services and continuity of care for children who require additional human resources in-school, currently do not follow through to support the child at an after-school program (5, 6), and
- WHEREAS ensuring that before and after-school care is affordable, accessible and culturally sensitive is critical to meeting the child care needs of Island families (7), and
- WHEREAS evidence supports that accessible after-school care is a preventative care service for children living in a high-risk environment (8), and
- WHEREAS those in the visible-minority status, immigrant status and Indigenous identity are all associated with lower odds of participation in any form of before or after-school child care (7), and
- WHEREAS families in rural areas face barriers to accessing childcare, as low population density means that children must travel longer distances to after-school care facilities (7), and
- WHEREAS current research suggests that school-based after-school programs are better equipped for effective programming versus off site or tenant run programs (9), and
- WHEREAS current research states after-school programs improve healthy eating and physical activity among school-aged children (11), and

WHEREAS PEI employment targets are at risk as the availability of after-school care is associated with labour force participation among mothers of school-aged children (10, 12), and

WHEREAS supporting women in the workforce is supporting maternal mental health, a primary indicator for childhood mental health and healthy development (13, 14), and

WHEREAS high quality after-school care is associated with positive outcomes for children and communities, including improvements in social adjustment, academic achievement, workforce participation, and economic goals (15);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the P.E.I. Home and School Federation requests the Ministers of Education and Lifelong Learning, Status of Women, and Social Development and Housing, to work collaboratively to streamline resources to create accessible and universal afterschool programs for all PEI students in grades K-6, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the P.E.I. Home and School Federation requests the Ministers of the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, Department of Social Development and Housing, and Department of Health and Wellness, and Minister responsible for the Status of Women, to work collaboratively to create accessible and universal after-school programs for all PEI students in grades K-6, where inclusivity with disabled, neuro diverse, immigrant, visible minorities and Indigenous children are at the forefront of program planning and implementation.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education and Lifelong Learning
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
Minister of Social Development and Housing
Public Schools Branch / Board of Trustees

MOTION: To move Resolution 2023-1 to the floor for approval.

Moved by Shannon Bruyneel

Seconded by Liam Corcoran (West Kent)

In favour = Majority

Against = 2

Abstentions = 2 MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2023-2 READING LITERACY

Submitted by: Miscouche Consolidated Home and School Association

WHEREAS the definition of reading "Reading Comprehension is the product of Decoding and Language Comprehension ($RC = D \times LC$);" Decoding is the ability to use the Knowledge of letter-sound correspondences to "sound out" written words; language comprehension is the ability to understand spoken and written language; only when students are proficient in both can they accurately and effectively recognize written words and then attach meaning to achieve reading comprehension (Stephen Parker, Reading Instruction and Phonics, 2nd edition 2019), and

WHEREAS there are two approaches to teaching reading: Balanced Literacy and Structured Literacy - Balanced Literacy involves using a combination of whole language strategies (i.e., three-cueing, memorizing high-frequency words, etc.) and phonics (i.e., letter-sound correspondences) across multiple environments with the goal of fostering a love of reading and writing, and Structured Literacy involves explicit, systematic, and sequential instruction in phonics and phonemic

awareness; evidence shows that while Balanced Literacy works for many students, Structured Literacy works for ALL (Fountas & Pinnell, 1996), and

- WHEREAS the link between low reading comprehension and high poverty rates, high unemployment levels, and high crime activity established through numerous national and international research sources, and
- WHEREAS data supports that a one percent increase in adult literacy would create an economic benefit of approximately \$67 billion in Growth Domestic Product for Canada per year (Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation, 2022), and
- WHEREAS data supports that 45 percent of Islanders between the ages of 16 and 65 do not have the necessary literacy skills to succeed in the current social and economic structure, and
- WHEREAS literacy of today's children is directly related to adult literacy skills, and
- WHEREAS children in low socioeconomic communities are almost two times as likely to be behind in early development skills as their high-socio-economic status peers, and
- WHEREAS research has shown that children who have developed strong literacy skills are more likely to be employed as adults and experience fewer periods of joblessness throughout their life (Deloitte, 2020), and
- WHEREAS Island resource teachers refer close to 1,100 Island children in grades K to 6 to the PEI Literacy Alliance tutoring program because they struggle with reading, writing, or math (PEI Literacy Alliance, 2018); not all students can be accepted in the summer program due to available space, and
- WHEREAS the 2019 PEI Literacy Assessment of 1,408 Island Grade 3 students recorded that 26 percent were almost or having difficulty reading at grade level and of the Grade 6 students assessed, the percentage increased to 33 percent, nearing expected reading levels but still experiencing difficulties (PEI Provincial Government, 2019), and
- WHEREAS when the results of students tested in Grade 3 compare to those of Grade 6 students tested, the percentages show that the struggle to read and comprehend is worsening for Island students as they move through the PEI reading literacy program, and
- WHEREAS the most current PEI literacy assessment results (2019) strongly indicate that the current curriculum methods used for teaching reading and writing to Island students are proving ineffective and flawed for a large portion of the student population who, under such methods, are failing to reach a level of proficiency that has been thus undermining a successful educational career, which is the foundation for moving out into successful life careers, and
- WHEREAS Balanced Literacy is the current primary method being employed across Island schools, despite the evidence showing that while Balanced Literacy works for many students, Structured Literacy works for all, and
- WHEREAS extensive data shows that the public education system has failed generations of Islanders in achieving proficient reading literacy and there must be a call for immediate steps to be taken to alter reading literacy outcomes and no child should be left behind due to the ineffectiveness of the educational system to which they are entrusted and no adult should be left behind because the

education system failed in its mandate, and

WHEREAS in today's world, ALL students legally have the human right to a meaningful, evidence and science-based opportunity to learn to read (Baskin, Tiffany; May 2020); other Canadian provinces such as B.C., Alberta, Ontario, and N.B. are revising their current Early Learning, Literacy, and Language Arts to adopt Structured Literacy, and

WHEREAS the responsibility of the education authority of the Public Schools Branch for the English language in PEI is to provide and deliver such programs and courses in schools that meet ALL the needs of students (Government of Prince Edward Island, 2016), and

WHEREAS Structured Literacy programs have proven when all students receive explicit, systematic, and sequential instruction in phonemic awareness and phonics, are scientifically proven to be effective in teaching all students to become proficient readers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests that the Prince Edward Island government and Prince Edward Island Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, and Prince Edward Island Public Schools Branch take immediate action to invest and implement Island-wide evidence and science-based Structured Literacy programs, thus giving all children the right to succeed in reading literacy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that investment in educating teachers and support staff in engagingly teaching Structured Literacy is essential; no doubt, those in the school system can be accommodated within the current ongoing instructional days; however, a strong emphasis should be placed on working with universities teaching degree programs to prepare their students to have the skills to teach Structured Literacy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by investing in and implementing Structured Literacy, the Island government, Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, and Public Schools Branch will strengthen the social and economic future of the province and its people; Implementing Structured Literacy is not an issue that needs years of study and Structured Literacy is proven to work for ALL, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if the Prince Edward Island government, Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, and Public Schools Branch determine to hold on to Balance Literacy, then we call on them to justify to students, parents, taxpayers, and the general public the thinking behind letting Islanders unnecessarily fail at a great cost to the individual and our province.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education and Lifelong Learning
Public Schools Branch / Board of Trustees

MOTION: To move Resolution 2023-2 to the floor for approval.

Moved by Erynn Cormier (Miscouche)

Seconded by Tracy Jones (Miscouche)

Discussion: A friendly amendment was recommended to remove the 4th Resolved Statement which was accepted by mover and seconder. No further discussion. The 4th Resolved Statement was removed. Delegates were ready to vote on the motion.

In favour = 8

Against = 23

Abstentions = 20 MOTION DEFEATED.

RESOLUTION: 2023-3 STREAMLINING SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Submitted by PEI Home and School Federation

- WHEREAS only approximately 3.5% of eligible voters on Prince Edward Island registered for mail-in ballots for the 2022 School Board Trustee Election¹, and
- WHEREAS voter turnout was low across all zones² for which elections were held³
- WHEREAS the process of requiring eligible voters to register for a mail-in ballot, and having mail-in ballots as the only voting option, may have generated voter confusion and contributed to low voter turnout in the 2022 School Board Trustee Election,
- WHEREAS the timing of the 2022 School Board Election, in November 2022, immediately following the October 2022 Municipal Elections, could have contributed to voter confusion and fatigue, and
- WHEREAS a review of practices across Canada indicates that in those provinces where school board trustees are elected, school board elections take place concurrently with municipal elections⁴, and
- WHEREAS the province of Saskatchewan has enacted new legislation to streamline its election processes to hold school board trustee and municipal elections concurrently⁵, and
- WHEREAS in the province of New Brunswick, which uses a District Education Council (DEC) model in place of school board trustees⁶, DEC representatives are elected in conjunction with municipal elections in the province⁷;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Minister of Education and Lifelong Learning to work collaboratively with the Public Schools Branch and Elections PEI to hold School Board Trustee elections concurrently with Municipal Elections on Prince Edward Island, reflecting the practices of other jurisdictions with elected school boards across Canada, which include holding municipal and school board trustee elections concurrently and in-person.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education and Lifelong Learning
Public Schools Branch / Board of Trustees

MOTION: To move Resolution 2023-3 to the floor for approval.

Moved by Bev Campbell.

Seconded by Shannon Bruyneel.

In favour = Majority

Against = 0

Abstentions = 0 MOTION DEFEATED.

7. Nominating Report/Elections:

Matthew McNally, Chair of the Nominations presented the Slate of Officers and called for further nominations three times from the floor to fill vacant positions. A slate of officers was nominated as follows:

<u>Executive Position:</u>	Name:	Term expires:
Secretary	Bev Campbell	2025
Treasurer	Craig Goodick	2025
<u>Regional Directors:</u>		
Bluefield	Makayla Paynter	2025
Kensington	Vacant	2025
Souris	Vacant	2025
Three Oaks	Jannett Jones	2025
Westisle	Erin Veale	2025

MOTION: To call for nominations to cease.
 Moved by Erin Veale (Ellerslie)
 Seconded by Jacinta Andrews (Westwood Primary)
In favour = Majority
Against = 0
Abstentions = 0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: To approve the PEI Home and School Federation board of directors for 2023-2024 as presented.
 Moved by Leanne Feehan (Mount Stewart)
 Seconded by Trisha Callaghan (Charlottetown Rural)
In favour = Majority
Against = 0
Abstentions = 0 MOTION CARRIED.

Other vacant positions will be filled by the Federation Board.

The new PEI Home and School Federation Board was inducted by Bill Whelan, Parliamentarian. Outgoing board members, Krystal Jamieson, Tammy Norden, Katie MacLennan, and Mary MacDonald-Pickering were thanked for their contributions to the Federation during their terms of office.

8. New Business

No new business.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the 70th Annual Business Meeting.
 Moved by Katie McNally.
 Seconded by Matthew McNally.
MOTION CARRIED.

The business meeting was followed by a nutrition break, round table discussions and the President's Luncheon with guests: Lt. Gov, PSB Director and nine past presidents.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary MacDonald-Pickering
 PEIHSF Secretary

Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.
2023 Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes (Draft)
Monday, October 23, 2023, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Central Queens Elementary School, Hunter River, PEI

1. Call to Order

President, Dionne Tuplin, called the business meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. We begin by acknowledging that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. Welcome members and guests to the 68th Semi-Annual Meeting of the PEI Home and School Federation.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: To approve the Semi-Annual meeting's agenda for October 23/23, as circulated.
Moved by Matthew McNally. Seconded by Patricia Callaghan. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the Semi-Annual meeting's minutes dated October 21, 2021, as circulated.
Moved by Heather MacLaren. Seconded by Jannett Jones. Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Update

Craig Goodick, Treasurer, presented the Balance Sheet, Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 2023
Total liabilities and equity = \$94,778.15
MOTION: To approve the financial update as presented.
Moved by Craig Goodick. Seconded by Mary Kendrick. Motion carried.

5. President's Report

President Dionne presented an update on activities since the Annual Meeting in April. Highlights include:
- Process of Resolutions; deadline is Jan. 31, 2024
- Playground equipment is a huge expense for Locals; in-demand requests from families Need the Department of Education to move on upkeep and updating playgrounds rather than making schools, Home and Schools and ultimately, parents responsible for financing that. The Department of Education, Trustees, Home and Schools do more than playground fundraising. Why is playground fundraising on the shoulders of parents? We need to keep asking these questions. The Public Schools Branch maintains aspects of fields but not playgrounds.

6. Motion to adjourn the business meeting at 6:00 p.m.

“Help My Child” panel presentation followed the business meeting with the following speakers/topics:

1. Dave Schult “What is Home and School?”
QR code
2. Cody Davenport, Project Lead for COMPASS student health survey results, PEI 2022-2023
64% participation rate, grades 7-12; 62% schools
Go to: Livewell PEI website – research and reports; cjdavenport@ihis.org

(Cont'd Semi-Annual Minutes)

3. Dr. Travis Saunders Screens – sedentary behaviours research network; trsaunders@upei.ca
parents shocked that kids are watching shows during lunch; kids are not eating lunch; not getting F2F social time 63% of school homework is sedentary; use screens at school when they are the best for the job. Go to: sedentarybehaviour.org

Question/Comments:

- Spring Park = Can passive screentime in classrooms be a resolution topic? Yes. The best way to change policy is from the local level. Home and Schools advocate and advise. It is best when a resolution comes from a Local.
- Points emphasized that for Home and School Associations, education should be a greater and more important focus/goal than simply fundraising (and playgrounds)!
 - Refer to Wellness Grant online application; COMPASS results (online).
 - School COMPASS data can be used to help bridge gaps, solve specific problems, see where students are struggling, etc.;

Matthew thanked attendees and presenters.

Dionne made announcements:

- Membership fees due Nov. 15
- Report it! New online student incident reporting tool is live
- Resolutions due Jan. 31
- Training: Miscouche, Nov. 6; West Royalty School, Nov. 7
- Writing screentime resolution will be coordinated between Spring Park, Athena and Elm Street

Adjournment at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Bruyneel
Vice President for Board Recording Secretary

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION**Dionne Tuplin, President**

Welcome and thank you for attending and participating in the PEI Home and School Federation's 71st Annual General Meeting & Convention. The theme, "*Building Healthy Foundations for Every Child*," inspires us to continue learning and working together for every student in Prince Edward Island. A special thank you to the Federation's board members *Shannon Bruyneel, Vice President; Craig Goodick, Treasurer; Bev Campbell, Secretary; Families of Schools Directors: Elina John, Charlottetown Rural, David Schult, Colonel Gray; Mikayla Paynter, Kensington; Matthew McNally, Morell; Jannett Jones, Three Oaks, and Erin Veale, Westisle*, for your dedication in leading the work of the Federation over the past year, including efforts to coordinate, implement, and execute this year's AGM.

The Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation works with government departments and community education partners who share our ideals to advocate for positive solutions that benefit all students' learning paths on PEI. The Federation's top priorities and activities since the 2023 annual meeting are outlined in this report.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS

On June 1, 2023, Shannon, Craig, Shirley, and I met with Education Minister Natalie Jameson and Deputy Minister Bethany McLeod to discuss current PEIHSF topics, including post-pandemic stats on learning gap, aligning trustee elections with municipal elections, after-school care, and Miscouche literacy resolution. This was an introductory meeting to foster relationships, keep communication lines open, and discuss the Federation's resolutions, policies, and current issues. The Federation received a letter from a government standing committee asking PEIHSF to report its feedback on learning gaps following COVID-19. The Federation does not collect this information. The minister recommended a future meeting with Tammy Hubley-Little to discuss learning gaps. For the second year, the education department provided school supplies for kindergarten to Grade 9 students for the 2023-2024 school year. As a result, standard supplies were on hand at all K-9 schools by the first day of instruction on September 7, equipping students with notebooks, pens, and pencils.

PARTNER MEETINGS

Elections PEI: In October, Elections PEI met with Shirley, Shannon, and myself to discuss the possibility of merging the school board elections with municipal elections to have a greater voter turnout. Elections PEI explained that the island has huge sections of unincorporated communities which is problematic when trying to align elections; the zone map of PEI for provincial government, municipal and schools are all different; Elections PEI reported on other provinces' election methods which do not "fit" in PEI. Aligning elections in PEI is not possible at this time. Tim Garrity is open to further suggestions from PEIHSF on how to handle rural areas with various district boundaries.

PEI Teachers' Federation: In December Dionne and Shirley were invited to a meeting with Andy Doran, PEITF President and Executive Director, Patrick MacFadyen to discuss respective roles in the school system. In March, a second meeting with Andy Doran and Selina Pellerin, Staff Officer, focused on discussion about the impacts of heat stress in schools and related to climate change for students and staff.

School Bus Drivers & Bus Aides: In February, Dionne and Shirley were invited to meet with Robert Geiss, President of the School Bus Drivers & Bus Aide's Union (1145), to discuss school bus safety, capacity, monitor/aides, and electric busses. This information was presented to the government's Standing Committee on

Education and Economic Growth on Jan. 23. You will find the presentation online at:
<https://www.assembly.pe.ca/committee-archive>.

Tobacco and Vaping, CPHO: Dionne and Shirley met with the CPHO Vaping Prevention group Feb. 26. Campaign with social media messaging and fact sheets distributed to schools for teachers, students and parents. CPHO is hoping to make amendments to the federal act to put vapes behind store counters the same as cigarettes. There is concern about a new Vape “Sonic” which has a high level of nicotine; advocacy to get this item off the store shelves and out of the hands of youth. Students are going to suspension when caught vaping which is not the answer; need to work with administrators to not take this personally; find a way to help students to not start or quit. Smoke alarms go off when vape is detected; vaping detectors have limited effectiveness; need research for PEI. Student Advocacy through STOMP (Students Moving Together to Stop Tobacco Use); in two schools: Queen Charlotte Intermediate and Westisle High Schools; funding by Physical & Health Education Canada; STOMP groups receive \$7,000 per year to produce videos, poster campaigns, Westisle Peer students go to Hernewood with information. Parent awareness is key; talk about adult influencers; share the posters and other information; mentorship is key component; Write letters to federal government when debated legislation changes; Laura Lee will circulate CPHO letters sent to federal minister re legislation.

Public Schools Branch: Board of Trustees’ meetings are held monthly in schools across the province. Find trustees' names, respective zones, and email addresses on the PSB website at: <https://psb.edu.pe.ca/board-of-trustees>.

ADVOCACY THROUGH RESOLUTIONS

The PEI Home and School Federation brings together parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff to advocate for positive change using a resolution process to advocate about educational issues affecting children and youth's learning success. Issues focus on the total health and well-being, safety and educational needs for students. Over the years, action has been taken on issues including fines for motorists passing buses when red lights are flashing, class sizes lowered in early grades, and increasing the number of educational assistants, thereby helping with class composition to a new healthy school food program. Resolutions and policies have been discussed and are recorded in our historic "Book of Reports." Statements of policy advocate for the best possible educational experience for students, past, present, and future!

COMMUNICATIONS/MEDIA

The Federation speaks to the media on behalf of its membership regarding current topics and issues that relate to policy. A monthly column is published on the first Friday of every month in The Guardian throughout the school year to inform members, education partners, and the general public about the Federation’s activities. Association Presidents are updated regularly about provincial meetings and workshops and are asked to share these details with their local Home and School communities. Social media helps get messages out quickly. The September school year start-up package is mailed to presidents. Monthly newsletters and the newspaper columns are emailed to presidents and schools.

The website (<https://peihsf.ca>) is a resource for our membership and others seeking information about PEIHSF, generally, including resolutions, policy, by-laws, awards, training workshops, meetings, and events. Facebook and X (Twitter) platforms are posted with pertinent information to further advertise events. Contact the office if you find errors on these platforms.

Volunteer leadership training workshops were held in November to help local Home and School communities (parents and educators) better understand their roles in a local association and how they connect with the Federation. Presented by Vicki Bryanton and Stephen Gould, assisted by Shirley and myself, these workshops

were held at Miscouche Consolidated on November 6 and West Royalty Elementary School on November 7. Individual training is available upon request when a local association requires additional assistance.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Thirty-five members of home and school associations from across P.E.I., including parents/ guardians, educators, and guests from education sector unions, the University of Prince Edward Island, and the Chief Public Health Office attended the Semi-Annual Meeting on Monday, Oct 23, 2023, at Central Queens Elementary in Hunter River.

The focus of the meeting was a 90-minute panel discussion titled “Help My Child.” Speakers presented three topics: Home and School’s advocacy role to address gaps and effect change for students in the education system through its resolution process; the new COMPASS student health survey 2022-23 study results for P.E.I. students in grades 7-12 tell the story of Cannabis use, Obesity, Mental health, Physical activity, Alcohol use, Smoking, and Sedentary behaviour; Use of screens in schools, how to manage related mitigating factors and international recommendations for school-related sedentary behaviours. The discussion focused on “how we impact change.” Collaborative steps were taken to advocate for better ways to improve the health and well-being of P.E.I. students, a true reflection of parents and educators working together. Speaker presentations are posted at: <https://peihsf.ca/semi-annual/>

SHARING HUBS

The Federation introduced Sharing Hubs to invite home and school representatives to share ideas about what works, what could be improved, and how to collaborate more as a community. Led by Tammy Norden, former Federation director, two sharing hubs were hosted in the fall; one for the Three Oaks Family of Schools at TOSH on September 26 and one for the Westisle Family of Schools at Hernewood on November 28. The goal is to have all the families of schools come together and share their ideas on how to improve their associations and do more collaborative work. This template can be used in other families of schools across P.E.I. We would love to host more sharing hubs across the island. Contact the office for more information.

TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

Home and Schools across the province took time to recognize and show appreciation to staff members during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, February 12-16, 2024. Local associations found a variety of ways to acknowledge school staff for their contributions. Our island teachers and school staff members are the backbone of children’s education and growth into their futures. Thank you for all you do.

PARENT LEADERSHIP GRANTS

The Federation’s Parent Leadership Grant Program helps local Home and Schools access grants up to \$500. Project activities are designed to train and educate parents about the school system so they, in turn, can help their children navigate their learning paths, K to 12. Students perform better when parents are involved in their education. In addition, parents can advocate for positive changes in PEI’s school system to benefit all students through the PEI Home and School Federation.

P.E.I. SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM

"BON APPETIT" is the provincial school lunch program that offers all island students K-12 a daily healthy and affordable lunch option. Meal ordering began on September 20 and runs on a 2-week ordering schedule. Updates and reminders are sent via email and/or text to parents who signed up on their website, <https://peischoolfood.ca>.

The website provides information for parents to see the menu, how to order food and more. The "pay what you can" program is still the only one of its kind in Canada. Show your support by purchasing meals for your students and/or donating to help feed children through this food program.

RECOGNIZING SPECIAL PEOPLE/AWARDS

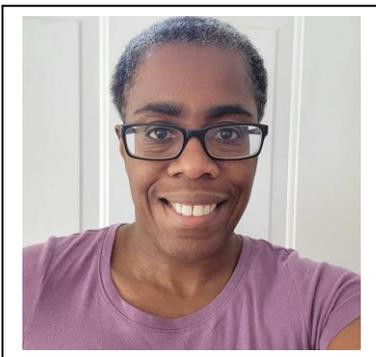
Retiring Board Members: Special thanks to the outgoing board members who have made strides during their tenure. Thank you, for your dedication, input, and overall service to the Federation. Getting to know, working with, and being in your presence this term was an honour and pleasure. Your contribution during your term helped make the decision-making process run smoothly.

Extra Mile Award: This award recognizes teachers and/or school staff who exemplify going the extra mile - over and above the call of duty. We had an overwhelming number of applications for the 2024 Extra Mile Award. Two recipients were selected, one from the Western and one from the Eastern school regions.

School Bus Driver Award: This award recognizes school bus drivers on Prince Edward Island for their service in keeping our students safe as they travel on the school buses daily. Consider nominating a school bus driver who keeps your children safe and goes above and beyond his or her duty. The nomination deadline is May 3, 2024.

Volunteer of the Year and Life Membership Recognition: The Volunteer of the Year Award is presented during an Annual General Meeting. A Life Membership is awarded to individuals who have volunteered at the local and provincial levels; this is not an annual award. The nomination deadline is March 8.

On behalf of the Federation Board of Directors, thank you to local associations, educators, staff, school bus drivers, and guests; thank you to Danielle Duplessis, an administrative assistant working on the annual meeting and other office tasks until mid-May; thank you to Kelly Bush, who worked in this position in December before moving on to a new place of employment. These individuals are an asset to the work of the Federation, helping to keep the lines of communication open with local association presidents. I want to send a special THANK YOU to Shirley Smedley Jay, our Executive Director. Shirley is certainly the glue that holds us together. If you've ever had the pleasure of speaking with her, you know that she loves her job and is one of the biggest advocates for our students and local Home and Schools across the province. Shirley has been my saving grace this past year during my first term as president. We have a standing morning call, Monday to Friday, and are available evenings, weekends, and even during her vacation to assist when needed and without complaint. The Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation is very fortunate to have you in our corner, and thank you once again for being you. You, indeed, are amazing.



In closing, this is the end of my term as Federation president. The past two years went by very quickly. Starting out scared, with some experience volunteering in Home and School locally and two years provincially, this has been one of my most enjoyable life-learning experiences. I have learned and grown as a person, a leader, a wife, a mother, and an advocate. Working with fellow board members and meeting with various government officials during my term has been an honour and pleasure.

Volunteering can sometimes be a thankless job, yet the rewards far outweigh the benefits. When you are passionate about something, and it tugs at your heart, you do everything in your power to help make changes for the better. Step up when given the chance.

Never be afraid to ask questions, and always do what's right. *"Right is right even if no one is doing it; wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it."* - Saint Augustine.

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS
SCHOOL CALENDAR COMMITTEE REPORT
David Schult, PEI Home and School Federation Representative**

The School Calendar Committee comprises representatives from various stakeholders. The members include:

- Tamara Hubley-Little, Director of English Education, Programs, and Services
- Ghislain Bernard, Director of La Commission scolaire de langue française (CSLF)
- Kelly Matheson, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)
- Tracy Beaulieu, Director of the Public School's Branch (PSB)
- Anastasia DeRoches, La Fédération des parents de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard (FPIPE)
- Shanna Perry representing Elementary School Principals
- Robyn MacDonald, representing High School Principals
- Patrick MacFadyen, PEI Teacher's Federation
- David Schult, PEI Home and School Federation

Purpose of the Committee

The committee's objective is to gather input from all stakeholders to formulate a school calendar that aligns with the requirements outlined in the “Education Act School Calendar Regulations” (see https://bit.ly/calendar_regulations).

Recent Developments and Challenges

Over the past three years, two additional statutory holidays (Islander Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation) have been incorporated into the school calendar. According to the Calendar Act, the school year must consist of a minimum of 195 and a maximum of 197 school days.

There is notable pressure to include a two-week winter break in the calendar to accommodate and attract teachers and instructors teaching in French-language schools who come from outside the region. In recent years, a combination of Professional Education Days and School Goal Days, where teachers have the option to attend virtually or take leave, has facilitated the maintenance of the two-week winter break, albeit not in an ideal manner.

Committee's Recommendations to the Minister

In a letter addressed to the Minister of Education, Ms. Natalie Jameson, the committee proposed reducing the required number of school days to 193-195 or incorporating some paid holidays as school days, as was done in Newfoundland. For detailed information, refer to the letter to Ms. Jameson in **Addendum A** (p. 112, 113).

Minister's Response

Ms. Jameson responded by instructing staff at the Department of Education to conduct a review of the Calendar Committee's work to explore potential solutions for the 2025-2026 school year calendar. Ms. Jameson's letter can be accessed in **Addendum B** (p.114).

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

Financial Statements
(Unaudited)
December 31, 2023



February 20, 2024

Independent Practitioner's Review Engagement Report

To the Members of PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of PEI Home and School Federation Inc. that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Basis for Qualified Conclusion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, PEI Home and School Federation Inc. derives revenue from donations and fundraising activities, the completeness of which is not susceptible to us obtaining evidence we considered necessary for the purpose of the review engagement. Accordingly, the evidence obtained of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of PEI Home and School Federation Inc. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donations and fundraising revenue, excess revenue and cash flows from operations for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, current assets as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and net assets as at January 1 and December 31 for both the 2023 and 2022 years. The predecessor practitioner's conclusion on the unaudited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 was modified because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.



ArsenaultBestCameronEllis
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Qualified Conclusion

Based on our review, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Conclusion* paragraphs, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of PEI Home and School Federation Inc as at December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations

Other Matter

The financial statements of PEI Home and School Federation Inc for the year ended December 31, 2022 were reviewed by another practitioner who expressed a qualified opinion on those financial statements on April 15, 2023 for the reasons described in the *Basis of Qualified Opinion* paragraph

Arsenault Best Cameron Ellis

Chartered Professional Accountants

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

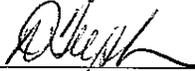
Statement of Financial Position

(Unaudited)

As at December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and deposits	74,029	64,396
Accounts receivable	1,367	2,920
Administration fee receivable	-	1,485
HST receivable	1,441	14,442
Prepaid expenses	1,295	1,295
	<u>78,132</u>	<u>84,538</u>
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,590	2,886
PEI School Food Program Inc. loan payable (note 3)	-	15,619
Deferred revenue (note 4)	21,000	19,250
	<u>23,590</u>	<u>37,755</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	<u>54,542</u>	<u>46,783</u>
	<u>78,132</u>	<u>84,538</u>

Approved by the Board of Directors

 Director

 Director

(3)

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Net assets - Beginning of year	46,783	38,914
Excess revenue for the year	7,759	7,869
Net assets - End of year	54,542	46,783

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

Statement of Operations

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Revenue		
School Food Program	-	221,388
Government grants	82,250	77,398
Membership dues	9,540	7,100
Donations and fundraising	7,369	4,349
Administration fee	-	931
Investment income	2,466	216
	<u>101,625</u>	<u>311,382</u>
Expenses		
School Food Program	-	221,463
Bad debt	1,486	-
Insurance	1,531	1,219
Meetings	7,505	7,683
Parental engagement	592	3,424
Postage	407	542
Professional fees	4,999	3,107
Supplies and miscellaneous	8,091	7,608
Telephone	839	1,680
Training and education	1,550	1,090
Travel and conference	3,100	2,800
Wage and benefits	63,766	52,897
	<u>93,866</u>	<u>303,513</u>
Excess revenue for the year	<u>7,759</u>	<u>7,869</u>

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Cash provided by (used in)		
Operating activities		
Excess revenue for the year	7,759	7,869
Net change in non-cash working capital items		
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	1,553	(1,420)
Decrease (increase) in administration fee receivable	1,485	(931)
Decrease (increase) in HST receivable	13,001	(9,739)
Increase in prepaid expenses	-	(153)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(296)	638
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	1,750	(171,718)
	25,252	(175,454)
Financing activity		
Increase (decrease) in loan payable	(15,619)	15,619
Increase (decrease) in cash and deposits	9,633	(159,835)
Cash and deposits - Beginning of year	64,396	224,231
Cash and deposits - End of year	74,029	64,396
Cash and deposits consists of:		
ID Canada Trust investor account	1,000	1,012
ID Canada Trust operating account	21,091	27,520
ID Canada Trust term investment account	51,938	35,864
	74,029	64,396

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2023

1 Nature of entity

PEI Home and School Federation Inc. is a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the Province of Prince Edward Island and is a registered charity for federal income tax purposes. The Federation's principal activities include the promotion of the total well-being of children and the highest standards of education for each child in the Province. The Federation works in partnership with other organizations who foster this ideal. The Federation encourages and, whenever possible, assists in the development of policies related particularly to quality education for each child and generally to the total well-being of children in Prince Edward Island.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. These financial statements include the following significant accounting policies:

Cash and equivalents

Cash and deposits are made up of cash in bank accounts and term deposits with a maturity of less than twelve months.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognized using the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Donations and fundraising revenues are recorded when received.

Investment income is recognized in the period in which it is earned.

Amounts that have been recorded in advance of services being rendered are recorded as deferred revenue until the Federation discharges the obligations that led to the collection of funds.

Capital assets

Capital assets are expensed in the year of acquisition. There were nil (2022 - nil) capital assets expensed during the year.

Contributed services

Volunteers contribute a significant amount of time each year to assist the Federation in carrying out its programs and services. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in these financial statements.

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2023

Use of estimates

The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the current period. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the valuation of accounts receivable. These estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made to income as appropriate in the year they become known.

Financial instruments

(a) Measurement of financial instruments

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.'s financial instruments consist of cash and deposits, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The Federation initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value adjusted by, in the case of a financial instrument that will not be measured subsequently at fair value, the amount of transaction costs directly attributable to the instrument. This fair value amount is then deemed to be the amortized cost of the financial instrument.

The Federation subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

(b) Impairment

For financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost, the Federation determines whether there are indications of possible impairment. When there is an indication of impairment, and the Federation determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows, a write-down is recognized in excess revenue. A previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement. The carrying amount of the financial asset may not be greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in excess revenue.

(c) Risks

Transacting in financial instruments exposes the Federation to certain financial risks and uncertainties. These risks include:

- i) **Credit risk:** The Federation is exposed to credit risk in connection with the collection of its accounts receivable. The company mitigates this risk by performing continuous evaluation of its accounts receivables.
- ii) **Liquidity risk:** The Federation's exposure to liquidity risk is dependent on the collection of accounts receivable, receipt of grants and raising of funds to meet commitments and sustain operations. The Federation controls liquidity risk by management of working capital, cash flows and availability of borrowing facilities.

PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2023

3 PEI School Food Program Inc. loan payable

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
PEI School Food Program Inc. loan payable, non-interest bearing, repaid during the year	-	15,619

4 Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue represents core funding received in the current and prior fiscal years for expenditures that will be incurred in future fiscal years. Revenues reported in the statement of operations revenues have been adjusted accordingly.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Provincial government core funding	21,000	19,250

5 Economic dependence

The PEI Home and School Federation Inc. receives significant funding from government sources. Because the Federation's main source of income is derived from government funding, its ability to continue viable operations is dependent upon maintaining these funding sources from government.

AMHERST COVE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Laurie Muttart, President

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We meet a total of 8 times during the school year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

- Breakfast program.
- Our school needs more playground equipment for kids with higher needs.
- Bus safety for kids with higher needs.
- Sensory room.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

Yes, for more EA's in the schools and bus safety.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

No, we did not.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using email, social media.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We have been fundraising for new swings that include a swing for children with disabilities. We did an online auction. We also sold tickets on a weekend getaway to Mill River.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone for awards.

(Cont'd Amherst Cove Consolidated)

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We provided a meal every Wednesday for the month of February – a full meal. We also gave them two 25-dollar gift cards to have draws each Wednesday. We gave special gifts to the bus drivers and the night cleaning lady.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

No one attended.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

No, I was not aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

No, we do not need guidance.

Additional information and/or comments.

Things are going very well. We have a great group of people. We all pitch in and have one goal in mind – improving our school.

ATHENA CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Jennafer Lynch-Bernard & Marissa Jordan, Co-Presidents****Melissa Woodacre, Treasurer****Lorelei MacArthur, Elementary Liaison**

Athena's Home & School meetings are held on the first Monday of each month from 7-8pm. To date, five meetings have been held, with four more planned for March, April, May & June. In addition to these meetings, Home and School members are active with special events and other initiatives throughout the year. We have had a consistent turnout this year at most meetings, which is encouraging.

Communication:

We make use of the following means and opportunities to convey information to parents at Athena:

- We eliminated most paper handouts over the past number of years, relying on the "Hawks Highlights" newsletter that is emailed to each family on Sunday afternoons from our principal. Home & School news is always included at the bottom of this newsletter to keep parents informed of events H&S are hosting for each month, as well as our monthly meetings and contact information for people to reach out or get involved.
- Information is shared via email, posted on our Athena H&S Facebook page and the Athena Consolidated School Facebook page and Instagram page.
- As required, like during Staff Appreciation week, paper handouts do go home to encourage strong participation.
- We continue to operate an internal Home & School Facebook group for regular, active members working on fundraising efforts to discuss details about activities between meetings. The internal Facebook group for Breakfast Program volunteers to share vacancies and ask questions is also still in operation.

Special Events & Fundraising:

- For the third year, we had a customized Athena School Calendar made with sponsors for each month. This year we increased the number of sponsors per page to (4) – giving a total of 48 sponsors. It continues to be a very effective fundraiser, and we sold the most calendars this year (\$10/calendar). It has generated approximately \$5000 this year.
- Thanks to provincial funding as well as funding from both Athena Consolidated School and Home & School fundraising efforts, we were able to build and install (2) Accessible Gaga ball pits on the playground. A local landscaping company performed the groundwork levelling the ground, placing a sand pad, and then installing turf. There is a gravel walkway leading to the door of each Gaga ball pit. They have proven to be a big hit!
- In September, Home and School hosted a school wide "Welcome to Athena" night where students attended with their families and took them on a tour of the school and their classrooms to meet the teacher. They received a coupon after visiting their class – where they then went outside and received fries from the Cavendish Farms Fry Truck, a beverage (water or juice box) and a piece of cake. Students played on our school playground while adults mingled! We received a lot of positive feedback from families and staff and already have the Fry Cart booked for 2024-2025!

(Cont'd Athena Consolidated)

- In June 2023 Athena Home & School joined the CGS Goldrush Fundraiser. It is an easy and effortless way to fundraise money for Athena Home & School.
- Sally Bernard, former H&S president took on the role of Coordinator of our Breakfast Program for 2023-2024. We had enough volunteers to have (3) people volunteer each day, 5 days per week. Grades K-3 continue to have breakfast items delivered to their classrooms, while grades 4-6 can visit the cafeteria to get their breakfast and return to class and grades 7-9 can enjoy their breakfast in the cafeteria. Real fruit smoothies and yogurt parfaits were added to the menu this year and the students love these new selections!
- A wheelchair ramp was provided to Athena School as requested by a parent at our October Home and School Meeting. Principal, Jason Cormier worked with staff members at the PSB to make this happen. It was the first time that students who have accessibility issues were able to perform with their classmates ON stage during our Christmas concert. What a beautiful sight it was!
- For the week of Halloween H&S set up a Halloween "Guess How Many" activity in the front lobby of the school. Students could enter ballots with their guesses of how many "spiders" were in the slime. There were 12 different jars for students to guess the items. The student with the closest guess won the contents in the jar! A variety of sensory and edible items were chosen.
- We also hosted a Pumpkin Carving Contest where students carved pumpkins at home and entered them into one of five different categories to win a \$25 gift card!
- In October, two representatives from H&S attended a TOSH sharing Hub meeting with other local home and school associations to discuss the goals of home and school, how to foster engagement and participation and making social connections within our school community.
- Our annual "Holiday Gift Card Raffle" kicked off in November where we sold the most tickets to date and raised over \$3000!
- This is the third year that H&S have purchased Grad Sweaters for the Grade 9 graduates. Sally Bernard coordinated this project and sourced the sweaters from a local company based out of Hunter River. The sweaters arrived in January and the students were thrilled to receive them!
- Home & School purchased a new 7-foot pre-lit Christmas tree for the front lobby of the school.
- In December, Athena had our first "Elf of the Shelf" visit the school each day and students could search to see where the Elf was hiding. They submitted a ballot with the location and their name for a chance to win a new book. Home & School purchased over \$800 worth of new books to be given out to one student per day in each of the grade categories (K-3), (4-6) and (7-9). This activity was magical to watch each day and students were so excited to receive a new book! Our amazing custodians Trevor & Troy made this activity possible by creating hiding spots for our Elf each night!
- We subsidized the admission fee to the movie theater (\$3 per student to reduce the admission fee to \$3 for students) to attend the movies on the last day of school.
- Home and School provided hot chocolate, whip cream, candy canes and cups for the leadership students to host a "Hot Chocolate" social for the grades 7-9 students and teachers the last week of school.
- We did the Athena Gift Mart again this year which was a huge hit! We had a record number of volunteers and received generous donations from our families. The students had such a wonderful time shopping. This year the students could shop for "FREE"!!
- To express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all breakfast program volunteers, H&S provided \$10 gift cards inside a handwritten Christmas card that were made by Athena students!

(Cont'd Athena Consolidated)

- In January, to celebrate Family Literacy Day, the school invited family members to come into each classroom to read to the class or play board games with students. Home & School provided drinks and snacks for this special event.
- To celebrate Staff Appreciation, we opted for a month-long event rather than one week. Home and School catered a Coffee & Sweets bar, provided by Samuel's Coffee House for all staff to kick it off. Then we kindly asked families to send in treats each week on Wednesday's, according to the grade levels. Home and School also provided a catered lunch from "Ship to Shore" to end off the month celebrations.
- Our principal hosted Staff Trivia during the official Staff Appreciation week (Feb 12-16th), with one trivia winner per day. H&S sponsored the prizes of a bag of chocolates & \$25 gift card to local stores! It was a big hit with the staff and students had a fun time cheering their teachers on!
- On Valentines Day, we hosted a school wide pancake breakfast, including fresh berries, whip cream and syrup. We accommodated all food sensitivities and purchased small gifts for students who can't eat so they too, were included.
- We were the recipient of the PEI Wellness School Grant for our project titled "Limitless Inclusive Play" – where our goal for this project is to work in collaboration with a recreation consultant to assess our current playground structure and space and make recommendation for creating more inclusive accessible and equitable play spaces for all children. In March, we are hosting our first "Committee Meeting" inviting parents, students, outside agencies, teachers & EA's to attend to share their feedback and get involved.
- One of Athena's families has volunteered to construct two sandboxes outside. One will be raised and fully accessible while the other will be located on the ground. These are expected to be built and installed in the spring! H&S will provide materials while the family has agreed to donate their time in constructing the sandboxes!
- In February, we celebrated a special staff member, Elaine Smith who was the recipient of the 2023-2024 Home and School Extra Mile Award. We honored her with a school wide assembly, inviting her family members to attend and had a link for her children from afar to join in via Skype. Home and School purchased cake for the students and guests to enjoy!
- In March, we plan to host a "Family Art Night" at the school. A free event for families to attend – with door prizes to be won!
- We are planning an Easter Candy Gram fundraiser for the students at the end of March.
- It was discussed at the beginning of the year, that we would like to have a "Spring BBQ" for all families to attend, to create another opportunity for people to come together and make connections. Possible bike rodeo for students and/or Holman's Ice Cream Cart.
- In May, we plan to host another pancake breakfast for the school.
- In June, we usually provide a cold treat for students during our outdoor activity day in the final days of school.

BELFAST CONSOLIDATED HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Sylvie De Sousa, President**

Executive :

Caitlin Bradley, Vice President

Tracy Knox, Treasurer

Melanie Harris, Secretary

Our Home & School Association meets every second month during the school year. This year, all four executive positions had reached the end of their term, so we saw the election of some new members, which brought fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm. We also saw an increase of parent involvement and parent volunteers.

MID-YEAR ROUNDUP

We started the year off with a pancake raffle. We ran a pancake raffle from September to December and raised approximately \$1000, by auctioning off 2 different gift certificates (a \$500 Lululemon gift card and a \$500 Superstore gift card). This money will be used to fund several projects and activities throughout the year. We also continued with our FlipGive account so families can shop their favorite merchants online, while the school receives a percentage of the sales.

In October 2023, the Home and School with the help of some great parent and student volunteers, put on our first Spooktacular Halloween Dance. The evening was filled with music (with our very own DJ), games for all ages, dancing and even some karaoke. Home and School also ran the canteen with goodies donated by parents and the executive. It was a huge success, raising over \$1100, and we are very grateful for the numerous hours volunteers put into organizing this event.

On November 10th, we ran our annual Bingo Night for families to attend. Staff, Home & School and parents alike approached businesses for donations to offer as door prizes. Businesses were extremely generous and the support was overwhelming again this year. Money raised from Bingo Night will go towards our annual Spring Fling as well as to help cover the cost of other school activities.

In December 2023, Belfast Consolidated held their Christmas Concert, which families were also able to attend in person. Students also got a chance to go ice-skating on the last day of school and enjoy some holiday activities. Home and School supports these initiatives by helping cover the cost of bussing.

In January 2024, we submitted a nomination for the Extra Mile Award, by gathering letters from staff, parents and students in support of the nomination.

In February 2024, we held a very successful Staff Appreciation week with hot meals, treats and desserts delivered daily throughout the week. This included a catered meal and a bouquet of tulips on Valentine's Day. Staff was very appreciative.

Toonies for Trayton was also held in February. This has become a yearly tradition and helps raise funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Home and School held their first (and hopefully, annual) Valentine's Dance in support of Toonies for Trayton with money raised going towards the Heart and Stroke Foundation in Trayton's name. The Valentine's Dance was held in conjunction with the Grade 7 and 8's Explorations Class. Several students from this class helped run the canteen and collect admission fees.

(Cont'd Belfast Consolidated)

This year, Home and School has also donated money to the Belfast Music Department to help with the purchase of musical instruments so that the music department can continue to grow. We hope to be able to support Belfast's music teacher in this initiative for many years to come.

We also purchased twelve new basketballs for the gym department as many were in need of replacement. We partnered up with the Point Prim Women's Institute who offered to cover the cost of six of the twelve basketballs.

We continue to have a very active and involved community in Belfast. Our breakfast program continues to be partially sponsored by the Montague Rotary Club. The Belfast Lions Club and Point Prim/Mt Buchanan Women's Institute also make donations on a regular basis to the school. We are very appreciative of their support!

As we look ahead to the remainder of the year, we plan to hold a family games night in April and hold our annual spring fling in June. We also hope to be more involved in issues directly affecting student life and giving them a voice at our meetings.

Sylvie De Sousa
President
Belfast Home & School Association

BIRCHWOOD INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Mike Redmond, President**

It was a pleasure to be involved with such a professional supportive group of teachers, admin and support staff of Birchwood Intermediate. A special thank you to Principal Luanne Inman for her tireless commitment to creating an inclusive supportive learning environment. We are aiming to have 5 meetings for the school calendar year; however, the weather must certainly have not cooperated to that end. A special thank you to Linda MacLean our Treasurer and multi-media person, without her efforts we would have a huge void of communications.

Providing a brief overview of the 2023/24 School Calendar Year. A year of challenges, successes and areas of future concerns. The school student population continues to grow from approximately 540 to 593 as per my enrollment numbers. Birchwood celebrates a diversity unlike any others with some 43 different countries represented and accounting for almost 145 students of diverse cultural backgrounds. While this is certainly something to be celebrated it also is a concern that we have the appropriate support in the classroom.

Grade 9 Trip

The Grade 9 trip to Ottawa was once again hugely successful and we thank all the teachers who took the time to travel and support our graduating class. A big shout out to the school community supporting all the students who were able to travel.

Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities such as athletics, band, art, drama, BIPOC, and student leadership are vibrant and something to be celebrated at the school. It is critical that we offer a diversity in programming pieces to celebrate the passions of all students within the school community. Thank you to the staff who work tirelessly to administer these programs and to the countless volunteers who without them many of our programs would simply not operate.

Breakfast & Lunch Options

Our lunch menu options through Dave Mitchell (Famous Peppers Pizza) and company are hugely popular and real quality when it comes to addressing school nutrition. Our breakfast program remains very busy and we are thankful for all the volunteer support we receive. The students benefit from having access to nutritious food to start their day.

A Challenging Year

We as a school community, our student population, teachers and staff have faced a very difficult start to the year. Geographic challenges, not of our choosing, put our students and school staff at an elevated risk. We heard loud and clear from parents and staff that the Community Outreach Centers location on

(Cont'd Birchwood Intermediate)

Euston Street was a disastrous choice. It put our students in harm's way, caused enormous amounts of stress on the teaching, admin and custodial staff. There were no conversations about the choice of location, no direction on dealing with dirty needles, and little support on how to address individuals who were high or severely impaired.

The reaction from the Public Schools Branch was both disappointing, and unacceptable. There should have been an immediate school safety plan, a meeting with the teachers, staff, parents & Home & School. Unfortunately, moving the Center will not move the problem. We are dealing with an alarming mental health and addictions crisis. It is here and we need tools to combat the issues. This should and must be the priority of the PSB, and the Teachers Federation to step up and support our students, staff and school. We need safety measures, education and prevention.

Other related issues facing our students:

- Vaping
- Energy Drinks
- On-line and cyber bullying
- Nutrition
- Basic physical activity (intramurals, dance, fitness class)

We are here as a Home & School to support the school, admin, teachers and staff. The responsibilities placed on the schools far exceed what should be a teachers expectation. Issues of poverty, nutrition, and basic everyday needs are now a responsibility of our teaching staff. These are challenges the PSB and the Minister must address at the highest level. The greatest investment we can make is that of educating our future leaders. This is why teachers teach.

Thank you, and I look forward to some wonderful initiatives coming forward.

Best Wishes,

Michael Redmond
President
Birchwood Intermediate Home & School

BLUEFIELD HIGH HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Amanda Doherty-Kirby, President****Janice Corney, Vice President****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

Bluefield Home and School met three times in person (October, December, and February) and has plans to meet again in April.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

We discussed school and class size, changes to classes and staff, upcoming activities (e.g. concerts, exams, graduation, food drives, etc.), school concerns, staff development, fundraisers (school and Home and School initiated), provincial Home and School Federation updates, staff appreciation plans, activities that we would like to do/facilitate as a Home and School, award submissions, issues relevant to students such as vaping, physical activity (including facilities for and promotion of), sports teams, funding (grant) possibilities, etc.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

N/A

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

Yes. We did apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

Our Home and School Association applied for a Parent Leadership Grant. In order to do this, we requested feedback from the school community as to what types of activities or learning events the community would like to have. Plans are to have a fun event mixed with an information night with Julia Hartley from LungNS/PEI presenting on vaping.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

Bluefield Home and School communicates with the larger school community through E-mails via the principal and occasionally posts on the Bluefield Facebook group. If there is ongoing discussion among active members outside of in person meetings, E-mail is used.

(Cont'd Bluefield High School)

Did you hold fundraising initiatives and what were the funds raised for?

Current Home and School fundraising is solely the COSPEI Gold Rush fundraiser. Funds are to be divided between outdoor projects to encourage students to gather outside and to groups/initiatives within the school (e.g. bands, sports, arts, other clubs, etc). This year, funds will be used to purchase instruments for the band which has increased substantially in size since a new band teacher came to Bluefield in 2022.

Did you nominate anyone for PEI Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which awards(s)?

Yes, we nominated someone for the Extra Mile Award. We obtained feedback from the community as to who to nominate and had eight names to consider for the submission. Cards were written for all staff that had been suggested as possible nominees to thank them for going above and beyond for the students. We currently also have feedback from the community for the Bus Driver of the Year Award, so have plans to nominate a bus driver for this award too.

Did you hold an activity to thank school staff during Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week (February 12th-16th)? Briefly describe your activity plans.

Bluefield Home and School planned treats for staff for each day from February 12th-16th. This was similar to last year with a SignUpGenius being sent out for members of the school community to support this initiative either through providing treats or monetary donations.

Treats included fruit and veggie trays and yogurt (Monday), muffins, cinnamon rolls, and donuts (Tuesday), sweet treats for Valentine's Day (Wednesday), cheese and crackers, nachos and salsa (planned for Thursday, however, due to storm, were donated on Friday), and "Salty Sensations" (chips, cheesies, popcorn, Friday). Planning accounted for dietary needs such as allergies. Several small gift cards were purchased for an end of week gift card draw for staff.

In addition to Teacher & Staff appreciation week, Bluefield Home and School received support from the Bluefield community to provide a luncheon for staff during parent teacher interviews in the fall will do so again.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

N/A

CHARLOTTETOWN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Patricia Callaghan, Chair
Tracey Willoughby, Co-Chair
Wanda Daoust, Secretary

Our meetings continue to be small. We have a great team and share much important information when we get together.

As a home and school executive, we attended the *Meet the Teacher* evening to welcome all new and returning families. We took the opportunity to speak about what our chapter does, how often we meet, and invite everyone to attend.

We attended the semi-annual meeting. We took great interest in the *Compass Survey* discussion. We are very pleased to know our school's student participation was much higher this year compared to last.

We have had numerous discussions about class sizes and course unavailability due to lack of seats compared to student enrolment.

Staff appreciation was a huge success in 2024. Parents showed great support to all school staff in the way of monetary donations. We were able to provide all staff with a full meal, including drink and dessert, as well as a pizza luncheon. We also purchased Tim Horton gift cards for our bus drivers.

We are in the beginning stages of planning the 2024 prom.

The *Creating Opportunities for Students Goldrush* continues to grow and provide funds to our home and school so we can help support the students in our buildings.

This year at Charlottetown Rural we have supported items such as white boards for classrooms, breakfast program and grad gowns. We will also award graduation bursaries to some very deserving students in June of 2024. We will continue with this tradition in 2025.

DONAGH REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Nancy Power, President

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We meet once a month, less December.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Approval of previous meeting minutes, new school business, Treasurers Reports, major fundraising campaigns (community calendars, craft fairs, chocolate bar sales), new playground initiative (sourcing supplies, and fundraising activities), parent concerns, school activities (including dances), and end-of-the-year field trips.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

Donagh did not submit a resolution this year.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

We have applied in previous years, but not in the 23/24 school calendar.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

We did not apply for a grant this year.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via social media.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

Currently, Donagh is fundraising exclusively for a new playground for all of the students, although, we do fund throughout the year for our general spending account.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)?

(Cont'd Donagh Regional)

We did not have anyone to nominate this year, although we recognize how hard all of our staff members are working for the betterment of the students and school.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

Donagh recognizes all of the hard work the teachers and staff put in every year. With that, we try to encourage parent engagement every year for appreciation week. We ask the parents to sign up to provide a daily meal or snacks every day of teacher appreciation week. This year some examples were coffee and muffin day, charcuterie day, breakfast day and one day, a restaurant catered meal. These meals seem to be appreciated and go over well with the staff.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

Our vice president did attend some sessions previously and found it very helpful in networking with other school associations. We did get some great fundraising ideas from this.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, we are aware and have reached out multiple times.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

With our current fundraising goals for our playground, we would always encourage help from the Federation.

Additional information and/or comments.

Thank you.

EAST WILTSHIRE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Andrea Kelly, Chair

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We will have a total of 3 meetings.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

We discussed new staff and fundraising efforts for Christmas families.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not submit a resolution.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families. N/A

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate through email, social media and PowerSchool.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We raised funds for Christmas families this year with great success.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

(Cont'd East Wiltshire Intermediate)

Home and School raised funds to provide food/drink during the week and small prizes for those who participated.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

N/A

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

No, I was not aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

No, we do not need guidance at this moment.

Additional information and/or comments.

We are struggling with parent engagement at meetings, but we are hopeful that because of our Christmas fundraising through Facebook that we will be able to reach more parents and get them to join Home & School.

ELIOT RIVER ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Jacinta Andrews, President****Laura Steeves, Secretary/Treasurer****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We will meet a total of four times during the school year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

We spent a lot of time discussing the Parent Leadership grant and planning for upcoming parent engagement sessions that we will be hosting in the spring (see below).

Other topics included the school's continued work on children's self-regulation skills, and how we can continue learning at home. Other topics include the continued construction that is happening throughout the school, as well as ways the home and school can support the ongoing project.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not make any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

Yes, we did apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

Our engagement sessions will be held in the Spring through two evening events for parents. Sessions will be provided on the subjects of Social Media Awareness and Emotional Regulation. We will have one of the school guidance counselors present to parents on these topics, which are also information sessions provided to the students.

Our aim is to maintain consistent messaging from both parents and the school for students. In order to ease childcare worries for parents to attend, we will seek volunteers through other schools in the Bluefield family of schools to provide childcare, if required.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate with our members using email, social media, PowerSchool, and school newsletter.

(Cont'd Eliot River Elementary)

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We did not hold any fundraising initiatives.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone for awards.

2024 Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is the week of February 12-16. Briefly describe your activities.

We asked parents to sign up to bring in treats for the staff. This was done through signup genius. Each day of the week will have different snacks and treats brought in for the staff, as a thank you for their continued work and dedication to the learning and well-being of our children.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

No attendance.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, I was aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not currently.

Additional information and/or comments.

N/A

ELLERSLIE ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Christina Sidwell & Jessica Gillis, Co-Presidents

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We have been able to meet in person 4 times so far this school year. October, November, January and February. It is our hope to be able to meet another 3 times before the end of the current school year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Each meeting we begin by welcoming our committee members. We then have our Principal, Jaime Cole and Vice Principal, Sarah Totten, fill us in with what is happening at our school, at board level and within our community of schools. This often sparks open and active conversations between our committee.

Some additional topics we have included at our meeting this year are:

- * We reached out to local manors and Seniors homes asking if they would like the kids to make and deliver cards again this year. This was a huge success. They looked forward to them. We will continue to encourage this each year.
- * We are working on a plan to update/replace some of the outdoor playground equipment.
- * The Social Emotional learning program has become our main focus within our group. Many of our discussions are centered around this topic, where we even went as far as to donate \$500 in items for use in our classrooms.
- * We are working with our community groups to make sure our fundraisers are not overwhelming our school families.
- * We are looking at items and resources for the students outside so that they can be active and enjoy going out for recess year-round.
- * We actively stay on top of our Home and School committee members/volunteers completed Criminal Record and Venerable Sector Checks. We have a great group of volunteers.
- * Organizing a bake sale to help our Student Families in need during the holidays.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

Yes. To amend an addition regarding weather related cancellation, delay or early dismissal policy to include hot weather/heat when the humidex is over 35 degrees Celsius.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event? Yes.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

(Cont'd Ellerslie Elementary)

We received \$275 for a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Family Fun night. SEL is the Public Schools Branch goals this year for every school. Staff are being trained on how to incorporate strategies in their class and the Student Wellbeing Team joins each classroom to talk about emotions, regulation etc. We thought this would be a great way to bridge the gap to home, offering parents a few new ways to regulate at home. Activities will include: A feelings Check-in (directed drawing), Mindfulness (guided yoga), Focus on Friendship (making friendship bracelets), Reading stations with specific targeted books, Movement in the gym, and Creating Connections (A local farm will bring in animals to allow animal connection).

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via email, social media, school newsletter, and Home and School Newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

Ellerslie Home and School strives to provide all the extras that would not be made possible without our funding. We actively provide staff snacks to show appreciation not only during staff appreciation week, but all year round. We also provide a back-to-school BBQ for the students and caregivers and end of year field trip BBQ for all our students. We provide bussing for various extracurricular activities such as school skates, choir trips, movie theatre trips and end of year school trips. We also provide grade 6 clothing, so our senior class has something to represent their years with us. We strive to help on a literacy base too. During the holidays, we have provided books for both our primary and junior classes as an extra initiative to our students from *Elf on a Shelf*. We will also be providing every student with a \$5 voucher for the Scholastic Book Fair to ensure that every student has a chance to partake.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member) No, we did not have any nominations.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We provided a meal from a local business that included many different options.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned. N/A

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, we are aware that help is available.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

No, we are not in need of any assistance.

Additional information and/or comments. No comments.

ELM STREET ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Amanda DesRoches and Brye Caissie, Co-Presidents****Holly MacLeod, Secretary****Rylea Kember, Treasurer**

To date we have had three meetings with Home and School and one meeting with just the executives. In the initial executive meeting, we established that our primary fundraiser for the year would be a pie sale.

Our first meeting with all members of the home and school covered some of the events that took place and would be taking place in the coming weeks. We worked with the school representatives to come up with new ideas to entice parents to attend Parent Teacher Interviews, and together staff, and Home and School secured gift cards from local family-oriented businesses that were given out to students by draw. This generated an 80% turn out from parents at interviews.

Our pie fundraiser generated a \$4,640.50 profit.

Our Home and School baked over 400 cookies for each child to receive a homemade chocolate chip cookie for National Child Day, we also arranged to have ADL donate a chocolate milk for every student.

In December, we had *Elmer the Elf* surprise every class with a new book purchased by the Home and School. These books were chosen by teachers to suit the needs of each class. Before Christmas Break, the students were rewarded with their large incentive to fundraise when Erin (Principal) kissed a goat on stage at a school assembly.

In January, we met again to plan Winter Wellness Week and School Staff Appreciation Week which occurred the same week. Home and School paid for each student to attend bowling which they did in shifts all throughout the week. Monday, the Home and School provided and distributed a treat trolley to each staff member. Tuesday, the Home and School assembled small thank-you treats to be deposited into the teachers' mailboxes. Wednesday, Home and School arranged for a fruit tray for every class for students to enjoy a healthy snack. Thursday, we provided coffee, tea and muffins for the entire staff. Friday, gift cards were distributed to bus drivers and crossing guards.

We also have parents who help weekly for the Breakfast Program. One of our Presidents, Amanda, bags all cereal to be distributed every Monday. The school distributes a healthy snack (yogurt, muffins or fruit) every Wednesday. On Fridays a parent helps prepare scrambled eggs for the school breakfast.

Before the end of the year, we hope to have two more meetings, provide hot dogs for the end of year barbecue and arrange another snack for all students.

ENGLEWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Rachael Cameron, President****Executive:**

Secretary: Krystal Rice

Treasurer: Krista Millar-Smith

IT Advisor: Kyle Ferguson

Introduction

Englewood Home & School has had a busy and successful year! Englewood School has a small student population (~170 students), and we feel fortunate to have a dedicated group of parents who regularly attend meetings. We have a terrific working relationship with our school administration, which we don't take for granted and we are very grateful for. We have had wonderful success obtaining volunteers for events this year and we have a lot of community support. We attribute that to increased communication between school, home, the Home & School Association, and our community being thrilled to come together again after COVID-19.

Meetings

Our meetings occur the second Tuesday of every month, from 6:30-8:00pm. We offer a virtual option for attendance through Microsoft Teams. Attendance at the meetings ranges from 5-12 people per meeting. We have had six meetings this year to date.

Communication

We post regularly on our Home & School Facebook group about school and community events and help keep the school website Google calendar up to date. We're also cognizant of families who don't check those resources regularly and who would benefit from a paper newsletter, so we've been sending out monthly paper newsletters since October, and we also add them to our school website.

Breakfast Program

Englewood has a breakfast program that runs every morning. Our Vice Principal Michaela Richards organized our volunteers (which consist of parents and grandparents) and they meet in our school kitchen each morning and assemble the rotating menu of toast, yogurt tubes, and fruit. We are investigating options for expanding this program and improving our kitchen space. The students look forward to their breakfasts and we are grateful for our volunteers.

Milk Program Website Administration

Our technology expert, Kyle, runs our milk website. Our milk program has steady customers with an average of 28% of our student body ordering milk every day.

Fundraisers

Our Pam's Playground fundraiser was COMPLETED after only one calendar year! We are thrilled to announce that we've raised \$227,000 for this project, the lion's share coming from provincial grants and

(Cont'd Englewood Consolidated)

corporate sponsors. We found these two angles were key when doing such a large fundraiser with such a small playground committee. Former teacher Pam Kelly would be so excited to see this project come together in her honor! Play structure installation is slated for the spring of 2024. Our current play areas aren't accessible, and we're excited that the location of this structure (as well as the elements it includes) makes it much more accessible and inclusive for students, staff and the public. While we count down the days to the structure installation, we've upgraded our playground basketball court: we have weeded the perimeter, had the pavement cracks filled, had the surface resealed, had the lines repainted, and added eight benches and a storage box containing sports equipment. It has become a very inviting space and gets quite a bit of use during our outdoor playtime.

We were so successful with our playground fundraiser that we used some extra Home & School funds to purchase two new FM audio systems for our classrooms.

We also purchased two stand up freezers for our kitchen/canteen area, to replace the smaller, ageing freezers that we had. We are enjoying great success with the ongoing COSPEI fundraiser, and are now earning between \$400-\$500 per month for our Home & School. We raised a total of \$4600 in the 2023 calendar year! This is HUGE for a small school like Englewood. We love these fundraisers because they are low effort on our part: they require regular social media posting and promoting, but don't have any large events to coordinate or volunteers to recruit.

We held our second annual student Christmas Flea Market in December that consisted of community donated items and gift bags. We learned a lot from our experience last year (for example, we only wrapped with gift bags this year to speed up the wrapping process). We sold everything for \$1 each, and the children loved shopping for their family and friends. We feel very fortunate to have had a lot of parent & grandparent volunteers for this event, and we raised just over \$800 for the Home & School!

Staff Appreciation

We held our annual Staff Appreciation week from February 12th-16th, and it was a success! We asked our school families for gift card donations and between donations and chipping in with some Home & School funds, we had enough for every staff member (teachers, admin, EA's, custodians, and bus drivers) to win a gift card in our daily draws. We also hosted a potluck by parent volunteers on Wednesday at lunchtime for the staff that was well received.

Summary

We have had a busy year at Englewood and it's not over yet! We look forward to the grand opening of Pam's Playground in June, and are incredibly grateful for all of our school & community support!

GEORGETOWN ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION**Sarah Sampson, President****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We meet a total of 4 times per year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Meeting discussion included: Updates and brainstorming on school issues (student safety, new band program, communication practices), the development of a pilot 'After School Program' in partnership with UPEI, field trips, after school activities, homework practices, fundraising and school improvements.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

We did not submit any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No. We did not apply for funding.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

N/A

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via social media.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

This year, there have been three major fundraising initiatives: Rotary Grant (pavement games), Spring Bingo (field trips) and Christmas Fair (band program).

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

(Cont'd Georgetown Elementary)

We did not nominate anyone this year.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

This year, the GES Home and School Association presented the staff with a Gift Certificate for a 'Staff Night Out' at The Alley (bowling) in Charlottetown.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

We were unable to attend.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, thank you.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at the moment – many thanks!

Additional information and/or comments.

Thanks so much!

GREENFIELD ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Sarah Boeker & Heather Sheen, Co-Presidents

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We meet once a month from September until June, and have one or two executive meetings for planning.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

We have discussed many topics throughout the school year so far, including the results of the COMPASS survey and the concerns about screen time at school; our breakfast program and how to improve on the program and ensure healthy options for our students, as well as ensuring we have enough volunteers and support to continue offering the current structure of our program; programs and initiatives we can create or support to encourage parent involvement and recognizing students and staff for excellence throughout the school year.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

We did not submit a resolution this year.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

Yes. We applied for funds to host a Parent Leadership event and were awarded funds for it.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

We have planned an art night that involves parent and child teamwork in creating a piece of art. A parent volunteer is taking on the project and we are supporting with many aspects behind the scene in preparation of the evening. We have low numbers of parent participation in our meetings and many of our events, so we thought this would be a wonderful idea to get families in the door of the school and involved in something creative with their children. Our art night will be happening in March and we look forward to report on how it went!

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using social media, school newsletter and information emails from the principal.

(Cont'd Greenfield Elementary)

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

This year was the first time in years we held only small fundraising initiatives, now that we have completed our playground fundraising. We had a bake sale at the Christmas concert, and a portion of the funds raised went to the Christmas Hampers school fundraiser and the rest was donated to local food banks and community fridge. Any other funds raised throughout the year through calendar sales etc. went back into our Home and School fund, which we use to support our Greenfield students with various school events and initiatives throughout the school year.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

We did not nominate anyone this year.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We like to spread the appreciation out over a few weeks in February, by offering food and snacks to staff on various days throughout the month. Food and snacks were provided by our Home and School Association the first week, and the rest of the month we received snacks and treats donated by Greenfield parents. We also collected \$5 gift cards for local establishments, which were handed out to all staff during the Staff Appreciation Week.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

Heather Sheen and Sarah Boeker, Co-Presidents attended both the training workshop and the Semi-Annual Meeting. We came out of both meetings having learned a lot and feeling motivated to get to work with our fellow executive members and parents! We found both sessions to be helpful and full of very useful information to guide us forward.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, we are aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at this time!

Additional information and/or comments.

With our playground projects finally complete, we look forward to the years ahead. We are able to shift our focus back to events and initiatives that are student-centered and work to grow our parent involvement in years to come!

GULF SHORE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Marsha LeBlanc, President****School Year Kick Off**

The Gulf Shore Home & School kicks off the school year with the Terry Fox run. We were able to proceed with our annual tradition of having our Terry Fox BBQ for the students on October 6, 2023, the day of the Terry Fox run. The North Rustico Food Market generously donated all the hotdogs and buns for this year's BBQ.

Halloween Fall Fling Dance

On October 26, 2023, we hosted two separate Halloween dances on the same night. We started with one dance for grades K-6, then after a half hour clean up and restocking of snacks and prizes, we held a dance for the grades 7-9. It went very well with the students. Everyone got dressed up and had a wonderful evening.

Presentations

We have had a few presentations so far this year. The students had the opportunity to hear a vaping presentation, a MADD presentation, a presentation from Marlene Bryenton featuring her book *The Magic Toothbrush*.

Food Programs

Our school continues to run a milk and pizza program in addition to the PEI School Food Program. Milk is available for purchase each school day, with pizza reserved for Fridays only. The online platform and ordering are handled by a single volunteer. The Food for Thought cupboard is also stocked by our Home & School association. The cupboard is used by students that may not have access to enough food from home or those that may have forgotten their lunch on a specific day. Again, the North Rustico Food Market has been a great support with the supplies for the cupboard. The stocking of the cupboard is maintained by volunteers, while the food is distributed by staff members. We also started a small breakfast basket program this year containing some grab and go items prepared by a small group of volunteers.

Christmas Tree Fundraiser

We also launched our annual Christmas Tree fundraiser in November thanks to the continued generosity of Smith's Tree Farm. Students were able to sell tree tickets to their family and friends virtually and the appropriate number of tickets sent home to be distributed.

Potluck/Memorial 'Soup for Shirley'

Our Home & School association organized a potluck for the teachers during the student lead conference days. This allowed the teachers to grab a quick, hot meal in between their meetings on Thursday evening and the leftovers were enjoyed throughout the next day. We are fortunate to have enough volunteers to

(Cont'd Gulf Shore Consolidated)

keep our teachers fed. In past years we held an event in memory of a previous Gulf Shore parent that has passed away. In the past, this has been in the form of “Soup for Shirley”, as Shirley was a strong advocate for all children to have a warm meal in their stomach. This event is usually in the month of February. This year we will be having it in March in the way of Blueberry smoothies and pancakes for lunch before they go for a school skate.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Home & School organized a sign-up roster, and the staff was provided with baking and treats on each day of the week. The staff is always thankful and appreciative of the efforts put into the week.

Communication

We communicate with our members and school through email, social media, etc. Our primary form of communication is the Gulf Shore Home & School Facebook page. Our monthly updates are also included in the school newsletter that is emailed out to all registered families. Important announcements are sent out via PowerSchool as required.

HERNEWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Vanessa Mallett, President
Sabrina Sharpe, Vice President
Lindsay Lidstone, Treasurer

The Hernewood Home and school continue to meet every 6 weeks. Our first meeting in October was centered around activities, fundraising and projects in the upcoming year. This first meeting was also a meet and greet, and to recruit a new committee. We like to thank Lindsay Lidstone (Treasurer) for staying on the association from the previous year. New to Hernewood Home and School is Sabrina Sharpe and Lisa Banks.

At the beginning of the year our committee was brainstorming new ideas for fundraising to gain some monies for school functions such as winter carnival, and end of year the breakfast program, Teacher Appreciation week, and for other items that Hernewood could use for the different groups that are organized within the student body.

We decided with the success of “Spin the Wheel” we would continue that into the 2024 year. We also joined PEI Gold rush, and signed up for local fundraisers such as I Pizza gives back. Our end of year goal is to be able to bring in new books, furniture and chess tables to the library.

The Home and school association prepared a hot meal for the staff of Hernewood during Christmas, and also made a week of meals, and snacks for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week with the support and help of parents. We also gifted the students with a 12-day giveaway along with cookies and milk during the month of December. The Parent Council contributed to buying new Christmas I to the school, and helping with the fundamental class for supplies they were needing.

We put in for funding to do cookie decorating with our Hernewood family, we will be doing a seminar on power school during this event. This may only happen now, in September.

Breakfast program started up in December. We have recruited a small number of volunteers, and are working on recruiting more volunteers to make this program successful. The breakfast program is offered to the students, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The end of the year we hope to do a school BBQ for the students sponsored by the Parent Council Association.

The Principal and Vice Principal are very helpful, in providing information on what is happening at Hernewood and what they would like to see coming forward in terms of presentations, and seminars. We would like to thank them for the many hours they put into our students and the school and we will also like to thank all the teachers and students for their support.

LUCY MAUD MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Cara Dempsey & Kate MacKay, Co-Chairs

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We had a total of 5 meetings, plus a few playground committee meetings, as needed.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

It's very generic as we don't have a lot of parents participating in meetings. If issues to come up, they are discussed at the meeting with school administration.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not have any resolutions to submit.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

Not this year. We are looking at holding a Parent Engagement session with the Student Wellbeing team. We are also looking to reach out to two other elementary schools in the area, similar to what we did last year.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families. N/A

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using social media, PowerSchool and School Newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We have multiple fundraising initiatives on-going. We participate in the Gold Rush weekly draws and we hold monthly draws via our Lucky Fox Facebook page. We now split the coupon booklet fundraiser with the school (they run the fall event and we run the spring event). This year we are also coordinating with the school to sell tickets on themed baskets, with funds going to a new outdoor gazebo.

Most of the money is going to the installation costs of playground equipment that was purchased this year, as well as to maintain the various initiatives we support during the school year.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which

(Cont'd L.M. Montgomery Elementary)

award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, not yet.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We maintained a similar structure as last year. On the Monday/Wednesday, our leadership students took a "Snack Cart" around to all staff. We had parents donate fruits, water, yogurt, and granola bars. On Tuesday/Thursday (Thursday was cancelled due to the weather) we organized a coffee break for staff (we brought in hot coffee/tea, muffins and cookies). With the support of parents and the community, we were able to supply 3 gift cards or gifts to be drawn each day (minimum value of \$15 for each item). We set this up using the SignUp Genius system. Any shortages, the H&S was able to cover with funds from one of our Lucky Fox draws and parents who sent in monetary donations. We also recognize our leadership students and got them a \$10 gift card to Indigo.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

We had two members attend, our treasurer and secretary. They found the training workshops very helpful and have put some of what they learned to use already. Our treasurer has found the financial tracking sheets especially helpful.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes. We are aware of this offer.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at the moment.

Additional information and/or comments.

We are having a good year. We are well aware that there are financial struggles everywhere, so we are trying not to dump too much on our parents. We are hoping this year will be the last big year of fundraising, since our main goal the last 4-5 years has been acquiring new playground equipment.

That has been purchased and delivered and we are now working on the installation process. Although, it would be great if schools/H&S who have gone through the process created a "How-To" document of sorts, to help others in the planning process. We've received lots of mis-information from the school and PSB, so it would be nice for others starting the process of playground planning to have a document to help them.

M.E. CALLAGHAN HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Carrie-Ann Dunbar, President

Christina Blanchard, Vice President

Our board members are as follows this year:

Carrie-Ann Dunbar (President) & (Secretary / Treasurer)

Christina Blanchard (Vice President)

We schedule home and school meetings about every 2 months; however, we have not had a lot of new people come out, and our meetings are not very well attended.

We communicate to parents primarily through our Home and School Face book page for parents, as well as general emails which are sent out by the school.

We continue to have great success and feedback with our summer tutor program which we offered once again 2023. We hope to continue that again this coming summer.

The school has provided opportunities for the Student Well-Being Team to present workshops and information sessions on several topics such as vaping & online safety to students.

The industrial arts class made a new gaga pit for the playground in 2023, and is used often! We continue to discuss the needs of the school in regard to play equipment, and as items come up, our home and school is happy to help provide support where we can.

We continue to have a breakfast program operating 3 times per week, by which we offer breakfasts such as: smoothies, bagels, toast, yogurt, etc. We are very thankful to our dedicated volunteers who make this happen week after week! The students have access to the school cafeteria. The PEI Healthy Lunch program is also available, however, the uptake on it is not great, and only about 12 students per day (or less) access this.

Our teacher appreciation is planned to occur over the next 2-week period, where we will celebrate our staff with coffee, snacks, lunches, etc.

In conclusion, we as the Home & School Committee feel that we've been successful in providing positive, meaningful supports to the staff and students of M.E. Callaghan and we hope to continue this in the days and weeks ahead.

Respectfully submitted by:

Christina Blanchard

On behalf of the M.E. Callaghan Home and School Association.

MONTAGUE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Julie Brittain, President****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We have had a total of 10 meetings this year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Some of the topics on our agenda for discussion have been our breakfast program needs, front entrance green space, music program in need, athletic fees, and craft fair preparation.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not submit any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funding.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

Projects include, green space outside the front door, which is a major need for this school. Fundraising still in the works.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using email.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We have talked about fundraising plans at the meetings.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone for these awards.

(Cont'd Montague Intermediate)

2024 Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is the week of February 12-16. Briefly describe your activities.

We will be providing meals weekly, all through February, to show our thanks as a community.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

No attendance.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, I was aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at this time.

Additional information and/or comments.

Thank you.

MORELL CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Kelsey MacIntyre, President****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We meet bi-monthly, starting in September for a total of 5 meetings.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Topics on our meeting agenda's this year have included: Student Well Being – Lunch Program – School Safety – Current activities going on at the school – Areas the school can use support – Any needs of the school H&S can help with.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

N/A

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

Yes, we applied for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

We received funding from the Parent Leadership grant funds and Home and School hosted a Family Literacy night in January. We had a really great turn out for our event with over 100 students, parents, and caregivers. Teachers from the school also showed their support by attending. Upon arrival, stations were set up for students to make their own bookmarks and design their own book cover. We had student volunteers from Grade 8, who helped with the stations. The main event of the evening was trivia. Attendees formed teams and we had literacy-based trivia questions, MC'd by two Grade 8 students from the school. Healthy snacks were served.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via social media and School Newsletter.

(Cont'd Morell Consolidated)

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

Morell Home and School held a successful ADL Cheese fundraiser in September and have been participating in COSPEI since September. We have used these funds to buy snow shovels and ice blocks for the school, which have been a huge hit with the students this winter! In Spring, we will be painting 4 square games on the parking lot for the students, as well a sandbox. We also use these funds to offset the cost of the year end field trips, provide a monetary award at the Grade 8 graduation and for staff appreciation week.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No. We did not nominate anyone.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

For Staff Appreciation week, we held a gift card elimination draw for all the staff at the school. We heard this was fun for the students to hear which teachers were eliminated over the announcements! We also stocked the fridge with sparkling water, pop, provided a chili lunch and dropped off a variety of snacks on other days.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

We had two Home and School members attend the Semi-Annual meeting, and the biggest take away was technology.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

No. We were not aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at this time.

Additional information and/or comments.

N/A

MOUNT STEWART CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Leanne Feehan, President
Katie McNally, Vice President
Crystal Jay, Secretary
Jennifer Handrahan, Treasurer

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, with usually 10 + people in attendance. Topics discussed at every meeting include occupational health and safety concerns, parent engagement and our breakfast and lunch programs. We also discuss things like report cards, parent questions and/or concerns, fundraising, special events and other things happening around our school and community.

Staff Appreciation Week – We served snacks and treats all week, with coffee/tea and donuts/muffins one morning, and a hot lunch (homemade soups, chillis with rolls and biscuits) one day. Throughout the week we do daily draws for gift cards to random local stores/restaurants. This year we did a “Staff Shout Out” wall, in the lobby of the school, where students and their families could post positive messages and thank-you’s about our school staff.

Our fundraisers this year have been BOGO Fall coupon books and we will be participating in our annual Summer Saver BOGO Coupon books, as well. We also held a Christmas Shopping Party Fundraiser. All items are donated by school families and then the children get an opportunity to shop for their families. This event is loved by all and the money raised goes towards the school’s *Christmas Families* program. We have joined the COSPEI weekly draw as well, and we will also be having our “Pot of Gold” 50/50 draw on St. Patrick’s Day (squares are sold by students for the 2 weeks leading up to St. Patrick’s Day).

Parent Engagement Events – Home and School and Staff partnered up to hold a “Halloween Family Dance”. This event was well received and everyone had a great time. Our Home and School will also be partnering with the school staff to hold a “Winter Family Fun Night”. The evening will consist of outdoor winter activities for the whole family (snow shoeing, skiing, sledding, ball hockey and a bon fire). The purpose is to try to engage as many families within our school to come together for an evening of well-being (physical, emotion and mental). We had hoped to have this mid-February, but had to postpone due to weather. We are still hoping to have it in March. Our engagement grant money will go towards food and refreshments (hot chocolate and s’mores), as well as door prizes.

We continue to run a Facebook group, that we share news from the provincial office, events happening at the school, events taking place in the community and any other school related news. If a parent has a question, they can ask it here. This has also been a great help in connecting with volunteers. It is well run and very well received. Parents, guardians, volunteers and staff members use it often.

We have a great group of volunteers; this includes parents, grandparents, community members and seniors that help out with our breakfast/lunch program. We continue to try to build up our volunteer list and parent engagement the best we can.

Our Home and School works very closely with the Administration and staff of our school and we have a great working relationship. The staff are very supportive of our association and vice versa.

O'LEARY ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

**Katelyn Good, President
Sam Shaw-Veniot, Treasurer**

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We meet once a month making it a total of 8 times.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Breakfast program, fundraisers, school updates, and what our school is in need of.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

N/A

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No. We did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

N/A

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using social media, and school newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

Yes. We use funds for breakfast programs and we are also trying to raise funds for more outdoor equipment and new soccer nets.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

N/A

(Cont'd O'Leary Elementary)

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We provided a lunch from Backwoods Breakaway, and parents brought in treats.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

No. Dates were given, however, was at too late of a day and we didn't have anyone available to attend.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

N/A

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

We would like to know what grants are out there and what they are for. I am new to the province and trying to find and raise funds for our school in a few different areas. We don't know what's out there for grants and what fundraisers are available.

Additional information and/or comments.

I am new to this role and this province. We haven't had a ton happen this year. We've done some fundraising and staff appreciation. We are gearing up for new soccer nets this end-of-year and hopefully much more!!

PARKDALE ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Myra Barquilla, President****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We have had 6 meetings (3 formal, 3 informal) to date, and plan to have 2 more before the end of the school year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Our H&S met with our school principal and vice principal in August to discuss the main focus for the school year. This year was all about building a community and bringing our families together. We have decided to approach H&S "meetings" by alternating formal and informal meetings. Formal meetings were held in August, November and January, where we talked about plans for the school year, fundraising initiatives, plans for Staff Appreciation Week, and events for the "informal" meetings.

There was also a presentation about Social Emotional Learning that was presented by our school counsellor. In our attempt to get more families involved in the school, we held informal meetings, aka, events. We had a play date event for Kindergarten and Grade 1 students and their families, where we all met at the school playground for an hour and the kids were also treated to ice cream sandwiches.

In October, we had a Halloween Night Chocolate Bar Bingo, which turned out to be very successful. A Parents vs Kids Gym Night was also planned for the end of February for our Grades 4-6 families. We are hoping to hold one more event in April and a formal meeting in May.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not make any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

N/A

(Cont'd Parkdale Elementary)

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using PowerSchool, school newsletter and through Class Dojo via the school principal.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We did a 50/50 draw during the Winter Concerts, the funds raised were used to treat the staff to a luncheon during Staff Appreciation Week. COSPEI Goldrush is another on-going fundraising initiative.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

With the help of our amazing parent volunteers, we were able to treat the school staff to different things throughout the week: Monday was Coffee and Donuts Day, Tuesday was Salty Snacks Day, Wednesday was Thank Your Favourite Staff Day (where parents and students were encouraged to send out a token of appreciation via paper notes, email, crafts etc. to the staff of their choice). Thursday was supposed to be Raffle Draw Day, where random draws for gift cards (generously donated by our families) were made throughout the day, but was moved to Friday due to school closure. Friday, the staff were treated to lunch provided by the Home and School.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

N/A

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, we are aware of this.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at this time.

Additional information and/or comments.

No additional comments.

PRINCE STREET ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Tanya Arsenault, President****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We meet a total of 3-4 times per year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

At our meetings we discussed the Youth Center and the impact it has on our school. We discussed fundraising ideas and school needs.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not have any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

No, we did not receive any funds.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via email, social media and school newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We did a coupon book in the fall. The funds were raised for a math program. We have one planned for March called *Fill the Jar*. The money will be used for a Gaga Ball pit.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone.

(Cont'd Prince Street Elementary)

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

- Monday was coffee and sweet day
- Tuesday, we gave surprise bags.
- Wednesday was Pizza Day.
- Thursday was Send-a-Card in day.
- Friday was Potluck Day.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

Nobody attended the meeting.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, we are aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Yes please. Getting parents involved is our main issue.

Additional information and/or comments.

No, comments.

QUEEN ELIZABETH ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Coreen Pickering, President

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

We will meet a total of 5 times during the school year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

QEES Home & School Meeting Monday Feb 12 2024 – 6pm

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the agenda
3. School Updates from Rodney and/or Colleen
4. New business
 - 4.1 Financial update
 - 4.2 Breakfast club
 - 4.3 Update Playground equipment fundraiser
 - 4.4 Update Field Trips
 - 4.5 Graduation
 - 4.6 Spring activities for students
 - 4.7 Fundraising
 - 4.8 Other
10. Correspondence
 - 5.1 Home and School Federation – Extra Mile Award
 - 5.2 Home and School Feb Newsletter
 - Next Meeting – Proposed April 8th 2024

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not submit any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not. Can you tell me more about this?

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

N/A

(Cont'd Queen Elizabeth Elementary)

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via social media.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We currently are raising fund for the General Account, Breakfast Program, and Playground Equipment

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

Yes, The Extra Mile and Home and School Volunteer of the Year awards.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

A member took the lead and organized that 2 parent/guardians would prepare and drop off a snack each day for the staff to enjoy. Also, 2 members prepared a luncheon for the staff.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

Two of us attended the workshop in Miscouche. We learned about resolutions and preparing for a meeting.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Did not know this, but I have called Shirley several time this year, and I find her to be very helpful. Thank you.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Thank you.

Additional information and/or comments.

No comments.

SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Sarah Borsos, President****Sam Gallant, Co-Author****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We will meet a total of eight times.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Our agenda included items related to our new school construction and the need for a new playground to accompany it.

We discussed our school breakfast program and initiatives that we can tackle to improve the nutritional value and food selection available to the students that use the program.

We also discussed and organized community engagement activities throughout the school year.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not submit any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

We did not apply for these funds this year.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate with members using email, social media, PowerSchool, and school newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We held one annual cash draw fundraiser in the spring. The funds are going to support our community engagement activities as well as our new playground build.

(Cont'd Sherwood Elementary)

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone.

2024 Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is the week of February 12-16. Briefly describe your activities.

We hosted a week-long event to celebrate our school staff. We chose the theme “Sherwood Sweethearts” because day in and day out they show us just how sweet their hearts are. A group of parents decorated the staff room, this included a candy bar. We made posters and placed them around the school for staff and students to enjoy. Parents signed up and brought treats throughout the week. The home and school supplied a pizza lunch on Friday.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

One parent attended the training in the fall.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

No, I was not aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

No, thank you.

Additional information and/or comments.

Thanks for always being available!

SPRING PARK ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Sjors Reijers, President

Executive:

Sjors Reijers – President

Jen Howard – Vice-President

Cathy Lowe – Secretary

Brandy MacLellan-Stewart – Treasurer

Heather Walker – Breakfast Program Co-Chair

Elizabeth Gallant – Breakfast Program Co-Chair

This report was prepared by Jen Howard, Vice-President on our behalf and with our gratitude.

This year we have some new and returning members for our Home and School Executive. We are excited to have a full suite of enthusiastic members to share ideas about how to better support and engage with our school since our Home and School Association has been less active since 2020.

Initiatives:

Breakfast Program:

Heather & Elizabeth continue to coordinate a large number of volunteers so that we are able to offer the breakfast program 5 mornings a week. On average we serve 150-200 students out of the 400+ who attend Spring Park School. We have a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers and students who help make this program succeed. We had the pleasure of the Delta Prince Edward providing hot breakfast sandwiches leading up to Christmas. We also were gifted a donation of \$750 from local business, Apex Auto, to supplement our budget for breakfast program.

Health and Wellness:

School Health Grant:

We applied and were successful in receiving a Live Well PEI School Health Grant for the full amount of \$7,500. In collaboration with staff at Spring Park we chose to apply for a grant to purchase sensory paths for both inside the school and outside on the playground. We plan to have teachers and staff trained on the best use of these new learning tools, and our goal is to help support Spring Park in creating a inclusive learning environment for all kids.

Staff Appreciation Week:

Staff Appreciation Week is one that our executive is very supportive and enthusiastic about. We see daily how hard all the staff of Spring Park work, and we decided to allot \$1,500 for this week. We chose a variety of surprises for staff to celebrate each day of the week:

- Monday - Treat Bags (assembled the day before by parent volunteers)
- Tuesday - Taco Tuesday (lunch purchased from Taco Boyz, lunch playground duty covered by parent volunteers)
- Wednesday - Warm Beverages (coffee donated by Starbucks, tea/hot chocolate purchased from Sobeys) set up in staff room.
- Thursday - Fruit Trays purchased from Sobeys, after school yoga for staff lead by local instructor Kate Forget.
- Friday - Sandwiches and wraps purchased from Sobeys for lunch in the staff room.

(Cont'd Spring Park Elementary)

Additionally, we asked parents to donate modest gift cards the week prior so that the office would do daily gift card draws for staff.

Award Nominations:

We nominated Kyle Wilkie for the “Extra Mile Award” for all of the work he contributes for the Breakfast Program. He helps with setup, tear down, and ensuring the kitchen space is satisfactory per our guidelines. Though he was not selected for the award, we had many letters of support for all the hard work “Mr. Kyle” does for our kids and our school.

Committees:

A goal our executive has set is to engage and recruit as many parent volunteers to help throughout the year. We see so much value in having parents help with our various projects, and we’ve been working hard to make it as easy and exciting as possible. We have created committees that are active throughout the school year and have used these as a way to have parents help with areas they are interested in, or have skills in. Our current committee list is:

- Culture and Inclusion Committee
- Garden Committee
- Graduation Committee
- Spring Coupon Committee
- Staff Appreciation Committee

These committees have allowed us to connect with more parents, and we hope we will be able to carry them forward for years to come.

Public School Branch Policies & Resolutions

Following the semi-annual meeting of the PEI Home and School Federation, our executive became very interested in the lack of policy surrounding screen use in the classroom. As a group, along with other H&S associations, we chose to submit a resolution to have a policy created based on professional recommendations. Our resolution was submitted in collaboration with Dr. Travis Saunders from UPEI.

Communication:

Since September, following the selection of our executive, we have made greater effort to connect with parents and caregivers through social media. We are much more active on our Facebook page, have created and maintain an Instagram page where we keep parents posted on events, needs, and school-related content. We also had Dalmac create a logo for our H&S Association and a banner for us to use at events to make sure we are as visible as possible to parents.

Fundraising:

Starting in January of this year, we are now participating in the COS PEI Goldrush draws.

SOURIS REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Krystal Jamieson, Chair****Treasurer: Liz Chaisson****Members at Large:**

Susan Haley, Rachel Dunphy, Jessica Townshend, Heidi Cahill, Crystal Greencorn, Chelsey Gregory, Katie MacCormack, Janelle Birt, Kelly Steele, Laurel Fraser, Megan Roberston, Megan Carter, Marla Townshend, Stephanie MacPhee, and Paige Gardiner.

We started the 2023/2024 school year with everyone in the committee maintaining the same positions as last year, however, we're hoping that some of our current members will be interested in taking over the executive positions next year. As with every year, our goals have consisted of focusing on the needs of all students from grades K-12. Our principal, vice-principals, teacher representatives and parents discuss a variety of issues/topics each time the committee meets. Some of these include teacher/classroom needs, playground development, fund raising opportunities, grant applications, school/education enrichment, and our school goals.

This year, we continued to focus on the topic of volunteer recruitment. Although our committee has enjoyed many dedicated members in the past, many have begun to phase out as their children advance on in school or as schedules become busier. Therefore, we really felt the need to expand our group in the hope of gaining fresh ideas and perspectives. In the last few years, we've consistently found it difficult to attract new members. Therefore, one of our goals was to continue our efforts using different strategies. As a result, this year we've gained some new members which has been great. Due to the busy schedules of our current members we decided to continue to offer the option to either attend meetings via zoom or in person. This idea has been well received but technology and internet connections don't always cooperate.

Another focus for our group this year was fundraising. During the pandemic we weren't allowed to carry out our usual activities. Therefore, making it difficult to financially help out the school. We're happy to report that we ran a very successful bar campaign and are planning a spring carnival. Although we are still unsure of where we'll use the money, there is still some work to be completed to the exterior grounds namely to our "back playground". We are looking into some possible grants and partnerships from within our community. In the future, we are looking into purchasing more equipment that will be suitable for children of all abilities.

The Souris Home and School received a Parent Leadership Grant. With this money we'll be hosting a trade show style information session with information on a variety of topics. For this event parents will be invited into the school to learn and gain resources from professionals in fields of drug use/vaping, mental health, gender/consent, and online safety/literacy. These topics have been identified by our school community as areas of concern and it is our hope to provide parents with the knowledge and skills to address these issues in their own homes should they arise.

We are happy to say that this year we had a very successful Staff Appreciation Week. We provided many treats to the staff throughout the week and wrapped up the festivities with a soup and salad lunch for the entire staff. In addition, a local potato farming family donated a bag of potatoes to every staff member of the school for a third year which was met with excitement and appreciation. In addition to these activities, we planned an assembly to present the Souris Excellence Award to this year's recipient which will be in March. We truly enjoy this week every year and take full advantage of the opportunity to show our teachers, support staff and bus drivers how much we really do appreciate all that they do for our children.

The Souris Regional Home and School Council has a wonderful group of educators and parents on our committee. This group continues to work hard so that our children and teachers have a positive environment for learning. This group of individuals have allowed us to form a strong Home and School connection. We look forward to continuing our efforts and achieving our goals in 2024/2025.

SOUTHERN KINGS CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Krista Sheppard, President****Gena Miller, Vice President****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

Our Home and School has met a total of five times during the 2023-2024 school year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Each meeting, we go over our financials. The principal gives her report and we update this with fundraising, school, and government lunch program details. We open up to the floor for matters of discussion.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in the government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline?

We did not submit a resolution.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

We did not receive this grant

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using email, social media and school newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We held a fundraiser in October. All money raised went towards our school and anything they needed. We also do an online auction every April and all money raised goes back into our school. We use funds for class books, gym equipment, Chrome Books, etc.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

We plan on nominating this year.

(Cont'd Southern Kings Consolidated)

2024 Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is the week of February 12-16. Briefly describe your activities.

Our staff is treated with breakfast and lunch every day during the week. We also purchased key chains for all our staff and bus drivers as well.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned. –

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, I was aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

No, we do not need any assistance.

Additional information and/or comments.

We started off to a great year in 2023 and can't wait for what the rest of the year brings!

ST. JEAN ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Michelle Dunlop, Chair****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We will meet a total of two times.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

We discussed many topics including: curriculum, fundraisers, the rationale and things the money is used for, and the need to create a new Facebook page to communicate with parents.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) was also discussed, what it is and the five domains. The goal is to focus on staff this year and students next year and how that will be implemented in the school.

Many families at St. Jean have moved here from another county, so part of Home and School discussions center around how things run in a PEI school (Parent / teacher interviews for example).

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not submit any resolutions.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

N/A

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate through email and social media.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We participate in the Goldrush, which has been a successful fundraiser for our school. Home and School was able to co-sponsor snacks at Christmas for the staff, a whole school bowling event, and a whole school swimming event. There is an upcoming writing celebration and a reading celebration, both of which are sponsored by Home and School.

(Cont'd St. Jean Elementary)

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not have any nominations this year.

2024 Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is the week of February 12-16. Briefly describe your activities.

Yes, each day has a different treat. Monday is coffee/tea and muffins, Tuesday is ice cream sundaes, Wednesday is a valentine treat, Thursday will be scratch tickets and Friday will be a Pizza lunch.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

No one was available.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, I was aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at this time.

Additional information and/or comments.

N/A

ST. LOUIS HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

RaeAnne Arsenault, President

We are happy to inform that our Home and School Group has been quite active once again this year.

Our board has remained the same with 4 active members:

RaeAnne Arsenault (President); Erin Doucette (Vice President); Lacey Gaudet (Treasurer) & Christina Blanchard (Secretary).

This will be RaeAnne's last year as a part of our Home and School Board and her participation and volunteering within the school will be greatly missed.

We continue to communicate through our Home and School Facebook page for parents, and the board through Facebook Messenger & telephone.

We are happy to confirm that the Gaga Pit, Disc golf and a new 8-person swing set has been installed this past year on the school grounds. There is still some landscaping and seeding of grass to be done in the spring, and these projects will be completed.

We continue to offer our breakfast program daily by offering snack boxes, and once a week we offer a 'prepared' breakfast such as: smoothies, bagels, toast, etc.

We have contributed treats &/or lunches where we have been able to for the entire school (i.e. Hot chocolate, cookies, pizza parties), in addition to sponsoring events (i.e. Mad scientist, Winter wellness day, etc.)

We were excited for the opportunity of the 2nd annual 'Christmas bazaar' where items were donated, and students could find a gift for a loved one for \$1 per item. Gift wrapping and bags were provided by community donations and the Home & School. The positive feed back on this event from teachers, students & parents continues to be tremendous!

Our teacher appreciation is planned to occur over the next 2-week period, where we will celebrate our staff with coffee, snacks, lunches, etc.

In conclusion, we as the Home & School Committee feel that we've been successful in providing positive, meaningful supports to the staff and students of St Louis Elementary and we hope to continue this in the days and weeks ahead.

Respectfully submitted by:

Christina Blanchard

On behalf of the St. Louis Elementary Home and School Association.

STONEPARK INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL

Sara MacDougall & Katelyn Arnold, Co-presidents
Cheryl Abbott, Treasurer

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

Six, as we meet every six weeks.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

The Stonepark Home and School tries to meet every 6 weeks. Each of our meetings begins with Principal Maria Lavoie and Vice Principal Jill Burry sharing what is happening in the school, as well as updates from the PSB which always creates great open discussions for our committee.

Some of the topics that have been discussed include new school photography company, ever increasing enrollment at Stonepark, the need to update the lobby and make it more welcoming, the library is also in need of books/supplies. We discussed having a parent engagement evening in the spring.

The issue of racism has also been discussed and the Home and School applied for a grant through the Anti-Racism microgrant program.

On December 2, 2023, Stonepark held an open house to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The Home and School supplied the food for the event. A new school sign was purchased for the lobby.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not submit a resolution.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

N/A

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via email, social media and school newsletter.

(Cont'd Stonepark Intermediate)

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We participate in Creating Opportunities for Students PEI Gold Rush Draw. We are using this money to update the lobby.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone this year.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We provided ingredients for yogurt parfaits on Tuesday. Wednesday was Valentine's Day – a thank you note and a sweet treat for everyone. Friday the staff enjoyed lunch from Famous Peppers and there were a few prize draws. The bus drivers all got a coffee gift card.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

N/A

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

No, I was not aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

N/A

Additional information and/or comments.

The Home and School submitted a grant application for the Anti-racism microgrant.

STRATFORD ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Vanessa Campbell, Co-Chair

Femke Hakkers, Co-Chair

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?

So far, we have met in person Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, and Feb. We plan to meet 3-4 more times this year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

September focus points:

- Increasing parent involvement within the school. We developed a volunteer form to be sent to all parents at the beginning of the school year as well as creating a Home and School email address to allow for better communication.
- Safety of our playground equipment. Who is responsible for ongoing maintenance of the equipment (PSB or Home and School?)
- A Fall seasonal activity was planned at Fullerton's Marsh to increase community connection. Unfortunately, due to bad weather it had to be cancelled in the end.
- Idea for a teacher's wish list. Parents could donate items to their children's classroom during "Meet the Teacher" in November.
- Starting up a breakfast program one day per week with Toast and Fruit which began at the end of November.
- Fundraising: Gold Rush 50/50 to support the breakfast program.

October focus points:

- Fundraising: Christmas Craft Fair with Glen Stewart School

November focus points:

- Social media safety. RCMP coming to talk to students.
- Library needs to renew Britannica subscription.
- Phys Ed. Dept looking for money to purchase some equipment to be used by students at recess.
- SES co-chairs attended the PEI Home and School Federation Semi Annual Meeting in October and relayed information gleaned at that meeting. We discussed screens in classrooms at length, especially when used during the lunch hour, as this was one of the presentations at the Semi-Annual meeting. Possibility of having a school dance for students (March).
- Ways to improve communication between classroom teachers and parents so they are aware of different events happening in the classroom and in the school.

December focus points: No meeting.

January focus points:

(Cont'd Stratford Elementary)

- Planning for Staff Appreciation week.
- Winter Carnival Day for students (in February)
- Planning a Winter Fun Day since we had to cancel our Fall walk at Fullerton's Marsh.
- End of year field trips.
- Grade 6 end of year items.

February focus points:

- Follow up on outstanding action items from previous meetings and determined the status of each item.
- Fundraisers: Coupon Booklet sales and Blaze Pizza to offset end of year field trip costs.
- Spring BBQ planning.
- Bike rack repairs.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

No, we did not submit a resolution.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funds.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

N/A

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate through email, social media and school newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We encourage our school community to participate in COSPEI each week to raise money for our breakfast program. We have also co-hosted a Christmas market with Glen Stewart that raised money for each of our schools. This money was put towards renewing our library's Britannica membership as well as new sports equipment to be used by the students at recess and also for supplies for a Winter Carnival Day that was held for students in February. We are going to be selling coupon booklets and doing a fundraiser with Blaze Pizza (April) to help offset the cost of end of year field trips for students.

(Cont'd Stratford Elementary)

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone for the PEI Home and School Federation Awards.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We organized a Staff Appreciation event at our school to acknowledge and thank school staff for their tireless work throughout the school year. This was held from Feb. 12-16, 2024 at the school. Our Staff Appreciation sub-committee organized special treat days for each day of the week. Things like muffins, coffee, biscuits, a pizza lunch, a candy bar and a loaded baked potato lunch were organized throughout the week. We also organized a daily draw for a variety of gift cards for staff members. Gift cards and thank you cards were also given to all bus drivers. The front lobby and staff room were decorated, and students and families created thank you notes for staff. This was all done thanks to the financial support from parents/guardians, donations and support from local businesses, volunteer time from our subcommittee members, and with the support of our Home & School.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

SES co-chairs attended the PEI Home and School Federation Semi Annual Meeting in October. We were informed about the COMPASS student survey and the different data they have collected. We learned about the research that is being done on using screens in schools as well as general screen use. We also learned how to write a resolution.

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, we are aware.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

We have contacted Shirley Smedley-Jay directly on different occasions to gain clarity on finances and other matters we were unsure about (banking records, previous meeting minutes etc.)

Additional information and/or comments.

N/A

TIGNISH ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Stephanie Gaudet, President
Krystal MacDonald, Vice President
Monika Morrissey, Secretary
Melissa Handrahan, Treasurer

Tignish Home and School had changes in our executive board for the 2023/2024 year. We bid a fond farewell to Teena Callaghan and Nicole Ready Doucette. Teena will still be involved with the organizing of our Reading Program. Teena has dedicated many years to growing the program and making it a success. Nicole will stay on as a volunteer in our Thursday snack program.

Tignish Elementary uses email and FB messenger to keep in touch with parents. We have a Home and School group which we use to update parents with upcoming events. We have met in person twice so far this year. We use FB messenger often. This works well for us.

Fundraisers this year:

- We participated in the Dieleman online catalog fundraiser. It was a huge success. We gave prizes to our top 10 sellers.
- Once again, during Co-op week paper apples were sold for \$2 each and all money went back to the Tignish Elementary home and School. Community support was overwhelming.
- We received a donation from Sobeys Toonies for Tummies program.
- We recently joined COSPEI Gold Rush. Home and Schools across the Island are collaborating to raise funds to Create Opportunities for Students. Creating Opportunities for Students on PEI (COSPEI) Gold Rush is an ongoing year-round weekly raffle to raise funds for participating Home and Schools across the Island.

Monies raised in our fundraisers go towards the healthy snack program which we do every Thursday. Some of the snack options we provide are veggie trays, fruit tray, cheese/crackers/grapes, fruit and yogurt parfaits just to name a few. With the generous donation of blueberries from Wyman's we make the students favorite, smoothies. We are lucky to have dedicated volunteers for our snack program.

We donated money to help with the purchase of new books, soccer balls or other supplies the school needs. We donated money to have a gazebo placed on school grounds. Students and staff can enjoy this outdoor area on summer and spring days. We have had such positive feedback. Students use it for reading time. We provide funding for the summer reading program. This past summer we had 3 university students hired as our number of summer students was higher than previous years. Our school enrollment is at 220!!!

In December Tignish Home and School asked staff/students what class gift they would like for Christmas. We purchased a \$50 gift for each class. Some popular items were Lego, Rubix Cubes and various board games. We wrapped these and they were handed out the last day of school before

(Cont'd Tignish Elementary)

Christmas Break. Students and staff were very appreciative. Our Christmas concert was also a great success this year due to our Music Teacher. It was a wonderful production!

We also do special treat days throughout the year. We do a pancake breakfast before Christmas, students love this. Ice cream Sundae days are also a favorite of staff and students. During our local grocery stores "Citrus Week" we made lemonade and served it with a homemade trail mix.

Staff Appreciation week this year was successful. Monday was coffee/tea and muffins from our local coffee shop. Tuesday, we had subs/sandwiches and salads. We served chips that day too. Teachers are given an order form, the week prior. Wednesday was a healthy balance of fruit and veggie trays with homemade carrot cakes. We also had a gluten/dairy free carrot cake made by a parent. Thursday was a catered potluck from MJ'S bakery including chili, hashbrown casserole, meat balls, salad, rolls, and individual trifles. Friday was leftover day. Custodians and bus drivers are included all week.

Tignish Home and School has a Facebook page to circulate announcements. With the availability of Facebook, it has become very easy to connect with a large group of parents within a short period of time. We owe a big thank you to the volunteers who help with Home and School fundraisers and snacks. We are very proud of our school, teachers and students and staff. The Community of Tignish is very supportive of our School and it shows. Our children have a great community environment to live and learn in.

Stephanie Gaudet
President
Tignish Home and School Association

WEST KENT ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Renee Harper, President****Leigh-Ann Locke (Vice-President), Diana MacLennan (Co-Chair), Laura MacLean (Secretary), Ashley Macdonald (Treasurer), Jessica Flemming (Social Media)****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We meet a total of 6 or 7 times.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

We had a regular update from the school administration each meeting. We discussed school clothing, pizza, and poinsettia fundraisers. School fundraising events were planned and reviewed, including the annual Fall Fair and Holiday Shoppe. The growth/continuation for the breakfast program and the application for the Parent Leadership fundraiser were discussed through the fall, as well as the basketball court plans, West Kent staff appreciation week, and items needed for the creation of the outdoor kindergarten classroom initiative.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

We did not submit our own resolution, but did piggy-back on the initiative for the creation of a policy related to screen use in primary schools on PEI created and subsequently submitted by Spring Park Home and School Association and West Kent Home and School.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

Yes. We did apply for funding.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

We have not been updated as of yet on the status of our re-application for a school skating event. Our first proposal for a breakfast cart to support our breakfast program was denied, as it was submitted with the intent to purchase infrastructure.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate using Email, social media and School Newsletter.

(Cont'd West Kent Elementary)

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

We held various fundraising events including the Fall Fair, the Holiday Shoppe, bi-monthly pizza lunches, school clothing, and poinsettia sales. The funds being allocated to support Christmas

families in need, the proposed basketball court, West Kent's breakfast program, staff appreciation week, and the purchasing of outdoor winter equipment for recess.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We chose one to do something for each day. They included a light lunch, a coffee/tea bar, cards to express appreciation from students, which were sent home and then returned. A luncheon with a baked potato bar (graciously donated from the PEI potato bar), as well as sweets and flowers.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

N/A

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, we are.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at this current time.

Additional information and/or comments.

N/A

WEST ROYALTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Stephanie Chaloner, President

Submitted by: Stephanie Chaloner, President

Prepared by: Jimena Aristizabal, Treasurer

West Royalty Home & School will meet a total of nine times this year. Here are the highlights of some of the projects and initiatives we have been working on:

Breakfast Program

The program started in September and has continued throughout the year offering easy grab and go items like cereal bars, dry cereal, granola bars, fruit, yogurt tubes at the start of the year. Other items such as bagels, toast, and waffles started being offered in subsequent months with the help of one staff member and volunteers.

Healthy Snack

The healthy snack program has continued once per month for the 2023-2024 school year. It is facilitated entirely by volunteers.

Collaborating with Staff

A survey was created to gather information about the most pressing needs and challenges faced by teachers and staff. The responses were used to make decisions on purchases and initiatives that Home & School could implement. As a result:

- Guidelines were created for Home & School to evaluate teachers' requests for funding class needs and projects.
- Grade 1 teachers received funding for virtual science projects.
- Each classroom received \$100 to be spent on class needs at the teacher's discretion.
- Committees were created to plan and organize current and future initiatives. Each group has been asked to meet once per month and to assign at least one member to attend the Home & School monthly meeting to report on their progress. Newly formed committees include:

11. **Playground Expansion Committee:** The five-member committee is working to develop this long-term project. Additionally, the Department of Transportation is working on a site plan that will highlight the best location for a new playground.
12. **Kitchen Party Committee:** This event was well attended in 2018 but was paused due to the pandemic. It will resume this year with the help of six volunteer parents/caregivers and one staff member.
13. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee:** This group will focus on helping newcomer parents navigate the school system and any other DEI needs that arise within our culturally diverse school community.

(Cont'd West Royalty Elementary)

14. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee:** This group will focus on helping newcomer parents navigate the school system and any other DEI needs that arise within our culturally diverse school community.
15. **Fun Day Committee:** Will meet to plan and organize a BBQ lunch for all students near the last day of school.
16. **Staff Appreciation Committee:** This group successfully coordinated activities for the week of February 12-16th including snacks, keepsakes, cards of appreciation & draw prizes. Most of the expenses were covered by donations.

Award Nominations

- A nomination was submitted for teacher Anita LeClair for the Extra Mile Award.

Fundraising

- Gold Rush: we have raised over \$7,000. Funds used for new playground and other Home and School projects.

Volunteer Training Workshops

- A member of the Executive Committee attended the Home and School Volunteer training session that was held at West Royalty School on November 7th, 2023.

Communication

- A lot of our communication with parents is done via email, however, we have continued using our Facebook page for announcements and reminders with approximately one post per week. Currently, our page has 261 followers.

WESTWOOD PRIMARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Sara Beaton, Co-Treasurer****Emily Cannon, Co-Treasurer****How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2023-2024 school year, in total?**

We will meet a total of 4 times during the year.

What did you put on your meeting's agendas for parents and educators to discuss at Home and School meetings? Tell us about topics such as the student health survey, other health/well-being initiatives, healthy school food programs, bussed/walking student safety, etc.

Our first meeting on October 12th 2023, we welcomed new members to our Home and School team. This year we are mostly made up of new members and so we held a second meeting where we invited Shirley Jay, Executive director, and Dion Tuplin, President of the PEI Home and School Federation to come provide an overview of what Home and School does the importance of having the parent/teacher collaboration. Our third meeting was January 25, 2024. We had a presentation from Grade One teachers that had requested funding for some sensory items for their classrooms. We approved the request, and have invited them back later in the year to provide updates on the benefits of the items. We also discussed Teacher Appreciation Week.

Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Did your Home and School Association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31st deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

We did not submit any resolutions for this year, but we do have it on our April agenda to discuss a potential topic for next year's resolution, regarding school supplies funding.

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event?

No, we did not apply for funding.

If you received Parent Leadership grant funds, tell us about your project including how you engaged with families.

None to report.

Communication: How do you communicate with your members? School?

We communicate via email, social media and the school newsletter.

Did you hold fundraising initiatives, and if so, what are the funds raised for?

(Cont'd Westwood Primary)

We hold a monthly spin the wheel online draw, called Win with Westy.

Did you nominate anyone for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation Awards, and if so, which award(s)? (e.g., Extra Mile Award (School Staff), Crossing Guard, School Bus Driver of the Year, Home and School Volunteer of the Year, Life Member)

No, we did not nominate anyone at this time.

2024 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 12-16. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

We created a sign-up sheet for parents to drop off themed goodies each day of that week, and home and school sponsored one of the days and filled in any gaps to be sure the teachers had a great week.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2023. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

N/A

Are you aware that provincial Federation board and staff member will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization?

Yes, thank you, we very much enjoyed our meeting with Shirley Jay and Dion Tuplin.

Does your local Home and School Association need help or guidance? If so, in what areas?

Not at this time, thank you.

Additional information and/or comments.

Thank you.

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS 2024

RESOLUTION 2024-1 REQUEST AN INQUIRY INTO THE TEMPERATURE OF PEI SCHOOLS

Submitted by: Hernewood Intermediate Parent Council

- WHEREAS the Public Schools Branch should be concerned with reducing the carbon footprint of PEI schools, and the energy savings cost of heating island schools, (The Energy Star, 2019), and
- WHEREAS schools are being heated during unoccupied times, (CBC News, 2007), and in unnecessary places such as gyms, and
- WHEREAS island schools are being overheated to the point that windows are opened in the winter to let the excess heat out, (Government of Canada, 2023), *and*
- WHEREAS costs savings on heat could be used for much needed cooling systems in PEI schools due to climate change, (*PSB Policies and Procedures, 2024*), and
- WHEREAS data supports that student performance on numbered and language tests improved when the heat was reduced from 77 - 68f, (Regional Educational Laboratory Program, 2018), and
- WHEREAS staff and students can dress for the temperature instead of the Public Schools Branch incurring the costs of overheated schools, and
- WHEREAS UPEI has established standards of heating and cooling temperatures for both occupied and unoccupied spaces for both comfort and improved energy efficiency. (University of Prince Edward Island, 2024), and
- WHEREAS the PEI Public Schools Branch does not currently have a policy on the regulation of heat in PEI schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation request the Prince Edward Island Public Schools Branch conduct a survey to determine the temperature of PEI schools during occupied and unoccupied times and consider a governed temperature reduction at 20C in every school to reduce heating costs, overall operating expenses, energy emissions and optimize the learning comfort for students and staff.

DESTINATION: Public Schools Branch / Board of Trustees
 Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development
 Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action
 Minister of Finance

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RESOLUTION 2024-2 AMEND AN ADDITION TO PROCEDURE 205.1 OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BRANCH WEATHER RELATED CANCELLATION, DELAY, OR EARLYDISMISSAL POLICY TO INCLUDE EXTREME HOT WEATHER/HEAT WHEN THE HUMIDEX IS OVER 35C

Submitted by: Ellerslie Elementary Home and School Association

- WHEREAS climate change shows us that warmer and hotter temperatures begin earlier in the spring and can last well into the fall school year. These temperatures can create unsafe indoor temperatures for PEI students and staff especially when the humidex reaches 35c or above and there are no cooling systems in the schools, and
- WHEREAS extreme heat can pose health related injury to the most vulnerable populations which includes children, pregnant women, those with pre-existing health conditions as well as, behavioural diagnosis. (Morgan, 2023), and
- WHEREAS climate significantly affects more vulnerable populations than others. One of the key factors is the capacity to adapt. Social determinants of health are also exacerbated by heat which affects health outcomes when fewer resources are available to certain populations. (The Health Costs of Climate Change), and
- WHEREAS “educators say students can be unmotivated and distracted when sitting in a hot classroom and research shows that cognitive function declines during excessive heat, leading to slower reaction times” and the data also shows more instances of aggressive behaviour and violence when it’s hot. (Will, 2022), and
- WHEREAS protective measures need to be evaluated and put in place for students and staff for extreme heat the same way we do for cold or stormy weather and we need to ensure we are protecting everyone while they are in PEI school buildings, and
- WHEREAS Education Week says “public health experts warn that children are more susceptible to heat illnesses than adults and heat-related illnesses can include muscle cramps, heat exhaustion—which may come with nausea, vomiting, fatigue, and fever—and heat stroke, which in extreme cases can lead to seizures or even death” (Will, 2022), and
- WHEREAS a fan is not an acceptable solution for PEI classrooms, and
- WHEREAS “Poor air quality can severely impact the performance and health of all individuals” (SIRC, 2023), and
- WHEREAS the burden of heat related stress puts more pressure on the already strained health care system on PEI, and
- WHEREAS individual factors that influence heat vulnerability “include income, age, medications, personal behaviour, type of housing, fitness level, health status, acclimatization, and access to cool places” (Government of Canada, 2020);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation request the Prince Edward Island Public Schools Branch, Board of Trustees, Minister of Education and Early Years, Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action, and Minister of Health and Wellness work collaboratively to amend the PSB procedure 205.1 to include heat related closures, cancellations or delays when the humidex reaches 35C.

DESTINATION: Public Schools Branch / Board of Trustees
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development
Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action
Minister of Health and Wellness

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RESOLUTION 2024-3 FEASIBILITY OF INSTALLING VAPING DETECTORS IN SCHOOLS
Submitted by PEI Home and School Federation

BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation asks the Minister of Education and Early Years, the Public Schools Branch, the Minister of Health and Wellness and Chief Public Health Office to meet with the PEI Home and School Federation to discuss the prevalence of vaping in PEI's intermediate and high schools^{1,2}, with the goal of investigating the feasibility of installing vape detectors³ in Island schools to assist administrators and teachers with enforcing substance use regulations on school properties.

DESTINATION Minister of Education and Early Years
Public Schools Branch
Minister of Health and Wellness
Chief Public Health Office

¹ Miller A. May 17, 2023. *Canada has some of the highest teen vaping rates in the world, new data shows*. CBC News (Health) <https://www.cbc.ca/news/health/canada-teen-vaping-survey-e-cigarettes-1.6845408>

² Prince Edward Island COMPASS Health Survey 2022-2023. <https://www.livewellpei.ca/node/377>

³ Williams, E. September 3, 2023. *New detectors are sniffing out teen vape-users in these Northern Alberta schools*. CBC News (Edmonton) <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/vape-detectors-schools-youth-alberta-1.6954866>

RESOLUTION 2024-4 CREATION OF A POLICY RELATED TO SCREEN USE IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS ON PEI

Submitted by: Spring Park and West Kent Home and School Associations

RECOGNIZING the incredible efforts of our dedicated teachers, both parents and educators agree on the monumental work teachers undertake for the betterment of our children's education. Despite the challenges presented by the rapidly evolving technological landscape, teachers strive to provide the best possible learning environment, and

RECOGNIZING the evolving landscape of educational technology through the permeation of screen-based entertainment and education options alongside the introduction of smartboards and WiFi enabled classrooms, technology has outpaced policy, creating a need for updated and consistent guidelines across Island primary schools that address the current realities of screen use in education. See Appendix A for examples of policy catching up to technology.

WHEREAS PEI youth currently accumulate roughly 8 hours/day of recreational screen time¹, which is 4 times higher than Canadian public health recommendations, and which negatively impacts their physical and mental health, as well as their ability to learn²; although much of this screen use takes place outside of school hours, it highlights the need to ensure that school-related screen use is maximally effective while minimizing the likelihood of harms, and

WHEREAS three-quarters of Canadian parents and one-third of students are concerned about students' social media use and time spent online⁷, and

WHEREAS reports from the Quebec National Institute of Public Health³, the Sedentary Behaviour Research Network⁴, and Departments of Education⁵⁻⁶ in other jurisdictions have highlighted the impacts of school-related screen use, as well as offering guidance on ways to maximize the benefits and minimize the harms of school-related screen use (See examples in Appendices), and

WHEREAS the Canadian Pediatric Society⁷, Canada's Food Guide⁸, and the Sedentary Behaviour Research⁴ recommend avoiding the use of screen-based devices while eating, and the Canadian Pediatric Society encourages parents to "Advocate for schools, child care centres and after-school programs to consider developing their own plan for digital literacy and screen use"⁷, and

WHEREAS other jurisdictions in Canada⁹ and abroad¹⁰ have begun to institute policies to limit the harms and maximize the benefits of school-related screen use, including Quebec and

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island does not currently have policies to limit the harms and maximize the benefits of school-related screen use;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Public Schools Branch Board of Trustees and Minister of Education and Early Years to implement specific policies regarding the appropriate use of screens in Island primary schools with consideration of the historical shift toward interactive technology usage in classrooms and acknowledging the dedication of teachers and their commitment to adapting instructional methods to the ever-changing technological landscape.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Years
Public Schools Branch Board of Trustees

APPENDIX 1 – Examples of technology moving faster than policy

For reference when considering the value of creating policy around screen use in primary schools:

Social Media and Online Privacy:

- **Technological Advancement:** The rapid rise of social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram in the mid-2000s allowed individuals to share personal information, photos, and updates instantly with a global audience.
- **Policy Lag:** Privacy policies and regulations struggled to keep pace with the evolving landscape, leading to concerns about data breaches, unauthorized use of personal information, and the misuse of social media for cyberbullying.

Autonomous Vehicles:

- **Technological Advancement:** The development of autonomous or self-driving vehicles has advanced significantly in recent years, with companies like Tesla, Google's Waymo, and others conducting extensive testing and deploying semi-autonomous features in consumer vehicles.
- **Policy Lag:** Regulations and policies governing the use of autonomous vehicles on public roads have not kept up with the pace of technological innovation. Questions about liability, safety standards, and ethical considerations remain largely unaddressed, leading to challenges in widespread adoption.

ChatGPT:

- **Models like ChatGPT,** developed by OpenAI, leverage advanced natural language processing and machine learning techniques to generate human-like text responses based on input prompts. These models have shown significant improvements in understanding context, generating coherent responses, and performing a wide range of language-related tasks.
- **Policy Lag: Ethical Use and Bias:** The rapid progress in AI language models has raised concerns about ethical use, potential biases in generated content, and the need for responsible deployment. Policymakers face challenges in developing comprehensive guidelines to address issues such as misinformation, biased language, and the potential for malicious use of AI-generated content.
- **Legal and Accountability Frameworks:** As AI systems become more sophisticated, the lack of clear legal frameworks and accountability mechanisms poses challenges. Questions about liability for AI-generated content, accountability for unintended consequences, and ensuring transparency in AI decision-making remain areas where policies are still evolving.

APPENDIX 2 – Sedentary Behaviour Research Network Recommendations

A healthy school-day includes:

- Breaking up periods of extended sedentary behaviour with both scheduled and unscheduled movement breaks
 - At least once every 30 minutes for ages 5-11 years.
 - At least once every hour for ages 12-18 years.
 - Consider a variety of intensities and durations (e.g., standing, stretching breaks, moving to another classroom, active lessons, active breaks).
- Incorporating different types of movement (e.g. light activities that require movement of any body parts, and moderate to vigorous activities that require greater physical effort) into homework whenever possible, and limiting sedentary homework to no more than 10 minutes per day, per grade level. For example, in Canada this means typically no more than 10 minutes per day in grade 1, or 60 minutes per day in grade 6)¹.
- Regardless of the location, school-related screen time should be meaningful, mentally or physically active, and serve a specific pedagogical purpose that enhances learning compared to alternative methods. When school-related screen time is warranted:
 - Limit time on devices, especially for students 5-11 years of age.
 - Take a device break at least once every 30 minutes.
 - Discourage media-multitasking in the classroom and while doing homework.
 - Avoid screen-based homework within an hour of bedtime.
- Replacing sedentary learning activities with movement-based learning activities (including standing) and replacing screen-based learning activities with non-screen-based learning activities (e.g., outdoor lessons), can further support students' health and wellbeing.

How to Implement These Recommendations²:

Educators, school administrators, policy makers, parents/guardians, caregivers, physicians and healthcare providers can implement these recommendations using the Four M's approach:

- **Manage** sedentary behaviour.
 - See recommendations above.
- Encourage **Meaningful** screen use.
 - Prioritize face-to-face interactions over screen use.
 - Use screens when they are the best pedagogical tool for the job and likely to enhance learning.
 - Prioritize screens for mental and physical engagement, rather than for passive viewing.
 - Turn screens off when not in use, including background TV or videos while doing school or homework.
 - Avoid screen use during meal and snack times.
 - Avoid using screens as the default method for content delivery or classroom management.
 - Encourage students to review and self-regulate their screen use, and plan time for outdoor play and physical activity.
- Educators, healthcare providers, parents and caregivers should **Model** healthy and meaningful screen use.
- **Monitor** for signs of problematic screen use and follow-up with a physician or healthcare provider if concerns arise. Signs of problematic screen use can include:
 - Complaints about being bored or unhappy without access to technology.
 - Difficulty accepting screen time limits.
 - Screen use that interferes with school, family activities, sleep, physical activity, offline play, or face-to-face interactions.
 - Negative emotions following time spent playing video games, texting or using social media.

²Adapted with permission from the Canadian Paediatric Society (Canadian Paediatric Society, 2019).

Source: <https://www.sedentarybehaviour.org/school-related-sedentary-behaviour-recommendations/>

APPENDIX 3 – Recommendations from the Quebec National Institute of Public Health (translated via Google Scholar)

“It is generally recommended to limit screen time in class and in services offered before or after school, to take frequent breaks when using them and to incorporate movement during breaks in order to limit sedentary behaviors to school.

Screens should not be the default method of teaching and classroom management. Rather, they should be used when they improve teaching and learning. More specifically, their use should be meaningful, active and serve an educational objective.

Particular attention should be paid to lighting, ergonomics and posture when using screens in the classroom.

The analysis of the recommendations suggests ways to improve consideration of the risks linked to the use of screens in schools: define and consider all the different types of uses carried out in schools, adapt the recommendations according to the types of screens, devices and the age of the students, consider the question of cumulative screen time at school among others.

The recommendations identified in the literature are consistent with the approach to health promotion in schools that currently prevails in Quebec, namely the ÉKIP reference. In this context, this referent represents a supporting conceptual anchor for the development of an approach to reducing health risks associated with the use of screens in a school context and the development of a reference framework integrating a public health perspective.”

Source: <https://www.inspq.qc.ca/en/node/658031>

APPENDIX 4 – References

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LATE RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2024-5 SPLIT CLASSES **Submitted by Bloomfield Home and School Association**

WHEREAS the curriculum for kindergarten classrooms is a play-based learning model, and

WHEREAS this type of play based learning model includes a wide range of activities all of which have the concept of play at the centre of their design, and

WHEREAS the curriculum for the remaining grades of one through six is more of an academic model, which includes a more structured approach to learning, and

WHEREAS kindergarten and grade one classrooms are currently allowed to be split, and

WHEREAS a kindergarten and grade one split classroom could include children between the ages of four to seven, and

WHEREAS children at age four and five have quite different learning and social capabilities comparatively to a child who is six or seven, and

WHEREAS in older grades the age difference is less notable, and

WHEREAS this split classroom model requires a teacher to teach both classes with the differing education models and to deal with learning and social differences between the children of different ages, and

WHEREAS the two teaching models, of play-based versus academic are not conducive to a split classroom setting due to their vast differences in learning approaches, and

WHEREAS children in a grade one classroom should be in a learning setting that allows them to focus to the best of their abilities without distraction from a competing play based learning model, and

WHEREAS children in kindergarten should be allowed to utilize the play-based model to the full extent without concern for disruption to a grade one class;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation shall request that the Department of Education and Early Years Department conduct a review around the appropriateness of kindergarten being included in split-level classes with the intent of creating a policy that in elementary schools, split classes shall only include grades one through six.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Years
 Public Schools Branch

Addendum A

December 1, 2023

The Honourable Natalie Jameson
Minister of Education and Early Years
Department of Education and Early Years
P. O. Box 2000
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8

Dear Minister Jameson:

The Prince Edward Island School Calendar Committee met on November 27, 2023, to make recommendations for the 2024-2025 school calendar. The committee is comprised of representatives from the Public Schools Branch, La Commission scolaire de langue française, CUPE, Secondary School Principals Association, Elementary Principals, The Fédération des parents de l'Île-Prince-Édouard (FPIPE), and PEI Home and School. During the meeting, a lengthy discussion ensued about the now perennial difficulty of accommodating the number of school days required in the Education Act School Calendar Regulations, which is currently at 195-197 school days per school year.

When these school day ranges were originally put into the Regulations, there was some flexibility within the calendar. Since then, two Statutory Holidays that both occur during the school year have been added: Islander Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The addition of these holidays has made it difficult for the committee to develop a calendar that considers all interests of the education system and its various stakeholders.

One area of concern is the loss of the two-week winter holiday break. From a recruitment and retention standpoint, both Education Authorities employ a significant number of French teachers who have been recruited from outside the province and still have close family ties off island. In the CSLF, more than 50% of teachers are from out of province, and these teachers have brought forward the concern of not having ample time to travel home over the holidays. French Immersion teachers are in high demand, not only in our province, but nationwide. A calendar that cannot accommodate a two-week winter holiday break is one issue that will hurt teacher recruitment and retention in PEI, especially when other nearby provinces are doing what they can to keep and attract teachers.

For instance, in Newfoundland, the 195-school day mandate is achieved by including three paid holidays (Remembrance Day, Thanksgiving, and Victoria Day). With the addition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Newfoundland has most recently operated with 191 school days for the past couple of years, which may become permanent. In both Newfoundland and New Brunswick, the school calendar is always created with a two-week break over the winter holiday period. Over the past decade in PEI, teachers have had a two-week winter holiday break in only 3 out of 10 years and students have had a two-week break in 5 out of 10 years. Furthermore, outside of recruitment and retention, the parent groups within our School Calendar Committee have emphasized the importance of providing the two-week break for island students and families.

The Honourable Natalie Jameson
December 1, 2023
page 2/3

Another concern is one of professional development. Since the addition of the two newer holidays, the committee has sometimes used creative scheduling options to secure a two-week winter holiday break for Island families. The workaround, however, involves scheduling Professional Development days into the school calendar during one or two days at the beginning or end of the winter holiday period. While this scheduling decision provides a solution to the two-week break problem, there is concern among committee members that the timing of this PD is not advantageous, that it devalues the PD itself, and that it is perhaps not tenable as a long-term scheduling solution.

For the past two years (2021-2022 and 2022-2023), modifications and exceptions were made to lower the number of school days to 194. It is the opinion of the committee that this was a positive change. One reason for the change was the introduction of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in 2021, which has now become permanent. In the recent past, the number of instructional days per school year has ranged from 179-183 days.

The School Calendar Committee is unanimously requesting that a permanent change be made to the Education Act School Calendar Regulations section 2 (1) from the current range of 195-197 school days to a new range of 193-195 school days. Alternatively, we are open to maintaining the current school day range while aligning it with Newfoundland's statutory holidays, treating them as school days. With these proposed solutions, there will still be 180 instructional days next year, teachers and students will have a two-week holiday break, and PD will be scheduled at more desirable dates.

We believe this change is best for Prince Edward Island's public education system, and we appreciate your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any committee member.

Sincerely,
The Calendar Committee
PEI Home and School

FPIPE

CUPE

High School Principals

Elementary Principals

PSB

CSLF

PEI Teachers' Federation

David Schult

Anastasia Desroches

Kelly Matheson

Robyn MacDonald

Shanna Perry

Tracy Beauilieu

Ghislain Bernard

Patrick MacFadyen

Addendum B



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250 Water Street, Suite 101
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Canada C1N 1B6

Education and
Early Years

Éducation et
Petite enfance



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January 25, 2024

Dear School Calendar Committee Members,

Thank-you for your recent letter and requests related to the PEI School Calendar Regulation.

As you have noted, it has been nearly two decades since the last significant review of the school calendar and associated regulations. I understand that the additional statutory days have put pressure on the ability of the committee to meet the regulatory requirements of the school calendar. Nonetheless, I know we are all committed to providing Island students with a quality education that is globally relevant and that key to that is effective professional development opportunities for our educators and school staff.

I appreciate the work that the committee has done to look at some potential solutions and the points made in your letter about ensuring quality of learning and professional development opportunities. Rather than commit to a short-term solution, I would like to take the opportunity to explore a variety of related topics, including but not limited to the number of school days, instructional frameworks, professional learning models, and summer learning opportunities. I will instruct staff at the department to undertake such a review to help facilitate the work of the committee for the 2025-26 school year.

One thing that has stood the test of time for the Island community is the need for schools to be open for learning. I look forward to engaging with the committee, its representative organizations, and our stakeholders in a conversation and review of our current regulation. It will be an opportunity to ensure the policies and practices of our public education system reflect the Island's diverse needs and the expectations for public education.

Thank-you for your commitment to developing the PEI School Calendar.

Sincerely,


Natalie Jameson
Minister

Resolution Response (2023)



Education and
Early Years

Éducation et
Petite enfance



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May 2, 2023

Ms Dionne Tuplin
President
PEI Home and School Federation Inc
PO Box 1012
Charlottetown PE C1A 7M4

Dear Ms. Tuplin:

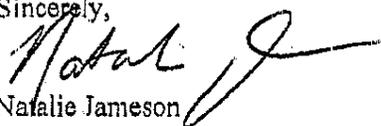
Thank you for the opportunity to attend your recent Annual General Meeting where resolutions addressing education-related issues of concern were discussed and approved

The Department of Education and Early Years will be holding meetings with Elections PEI in the coming weeks to discuss the successes and challenges of the 2022 school board elections. We will be examining ways to improve the process and one of the discussion points will be looking at the feasibility of your resolution to connect school board elections to municipal elections. The option has been explored in the past and there are several obstacles that have prevented it from being implemented. We will discuss this topic and others as we look to improve the process going forward. I can commit that your organization will continue to be consulted as we make adjustments in preparation for the next school board elections slated for 2025.

The Department has made strides in recent years to increase the number of school-aged childcare spaces across the Island. The Department has worked with providers to establish these programs in schools, where possible, to make it convenient for students and families. The Government is committed to continuing to work with providers to expand this service. Again, we will continue to consult with your organization as discussions in this area unfold.

Thank you sharing your organization's ideas with us and we look forward to working together on these and other initiatives in the future.

Sincerely,


Natalie Jameson
Minister

RECEIVED MAY 11 2023

Response to 2023 Resolutions