



# PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.



## *“Tackling Digital Influences on Youth”*

**72nd Annual General Meeting & Convention  
Book of Reports**

**Saturday, April 12, 2025  
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, 20*

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION  
PRESIDENTS 1953-2025**

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 ( <i>Deceased</i> )
1979 - 1981	Stan J. Warwick
1981 - 1982	Lorne Morell
1982 - 1984	Inez Doiron
1984 - 1986	Melina Gallant
1986 - 1988	Marion Murphy
1988 - 1990	Jeannette Arsenault
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
2024 - 2024	Shannon Bruyneel (April-Aug)
2024 -	David Schult



Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation  
72nd Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, April 12, 2025  
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, 75 Kent Street, Charlottetown, PEI

**“Tackling Digital Influences on Youth”**

Agenda (*DRAFT*)

A.M.

08:00 Registration – Victorian Room /Visit Displays – Provinces Room (downstairs)

08:45 Welcome/Business Meeting Chair: David Schult, President

Parliamentarian: Bill Whelan

1. Adoption of Agenda 2025
2. Adoption of Minutes 2024
3. President’s Report
4. Finance Report
5. Other reports accepted as circulated
6. Resolutions/By-Law Revisions
7. Nominations Report/Elections
8. New Business
9. Adjourn Business Meeting

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

10:30 Keynote speaker: Carl Burke, Online Harms Act

**WORKSHOPS:**

**\*\*Victoria Room (offered for all 3 sessions) |\*\*Provinces Lounge (offered only 1 session)**

11:00 Table I. **Artificial Intelligence, Paul MacLeod, Dept. Education and Early Years**

*Table IV-A. Communications & Volunteers - Kate Drake, Vernon River Home and School*

11:20 Table II. **Gaming Addictions, Chad Morash & Shelby McCarron, Health & Wellness**

*Table IV-B. Finances - Craig Goodick*

11:40 Table III. **Student Behaviour Intervention Supports, Meghan Etchell, PSB**

*Table IV-C. Food Programs - Bev Campbell*

P.M.

12:00 Delegates & Guests move downstairs to the Georgian Room and be seated by 12:15 p.m. for the entrance of The Lt. Governor, Dr. Wassim Salamoun and Her Honour Marie Salamoun-Dunne

12:15 Luncheon/Award/Greetings/Hon. Robin Croucher, Minister of Education and Early Years

01:25 Departure: Lt. Governor, Dr. Wassim Salamoun and Her Honour Marie Salamoun-Dunne

01:30 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.  
2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<u>Name</u>		<u>Term Ends</u>
President	David Schult	(AGM 2026)
Past President	Dionne Tuplin	(AGM 2026)
Vice President	Vacant	(AGM 2026)
Treasurer	Craig Goodick	(AGM 2025)
Secretary	Bev Campbell	(AGM 2025)

**REGIONAL DIRECTORS – Families of Schools:**

Bluefield	Andrea Kelly	(AGM 2025)
Charlottetown Rural	Tom Deelstra	(AGM 2026)
Colonel Gray	Stephanie Chaloner	(AGM 2026)
Kensington	Mikayla Paynter	(AGM 2025)
Kinkora	Mary MacDonald-Pickering	(AGM 2026)
Montague	Sylvie De Sousa	(AGM 2026)
Morell	Vacant	(AGM 2024)
Souris	Kelly Steele	(AGM 2025)
Three Oaks	Jannett Jones	(AGM 2025)
Westisle	Erin Veale	(AGM 2025)
Executive Director	Shirley Smedley Jay	

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**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.  
2024-2025 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  
 Eilerslie Elementary

**PRESIDENT/CO-CHAIR**

Mandel Fraser  
 Laurie Muttart  
 Jennafer Lynch-Bernard  
 Sylvie De Sousa  
 Mike Redmond  
 Brandy Rogers  
 Amanda Doherty-Kirby  
 Mandy Acorn/Haley McKenna  
 Patty Jo Hickey  
 Natalie Fraser  
 Rob MacAdam (*Contact*)  
 Nancy Power  
 Amy Gaudet  
 Jacinta Andrews  
 Penny Newcombe

Elm Street Elementary  
Englewood Consolidated  
Georgetown Elementary  
Glen Stewart Primary  
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  
Three Oaks Senior High  
Tignish Elementary  
Vernon River Consolidated  
West Kent Elementary  
West Royalty Elementary  
Westisle Composite High  
Westwood Primary

Amanda DesRoches/Brye Caissie  
Rachael Cameron  
Sarah Sampson  
Emily Owen/Angie McCarthy  
Heather Sheen  
Dorothy Wakelin  
Vanessa Mallett/Krista Newman  
Bev Campbell (Contact)  
Tracey Nichol  
Cara Dempsey/Katheryn MacKay  
Carrie Ann Dunbar  
Tracy Jones  
Paula O'Brien  
Debra Matheson  
Robyn MacDonald (*Contact*)  
Kelsey MacIntyre  
Leanne Feehan  
Katelyn Good  
Myra Barquilla  
Kristi Paynter  
Tanya Arsenault  
Heather Mullen MacLaren  
Coreen Pickering  
Sarah Borsos  
Rachel Waugh/Megan Drummond  
Jessica Townsend/Paige Gardiner  
Krista Sheppard  
Sjors Reijers/Jen Howard  
Michelle Dunlop  
RaeAnne Arsenault  
Sara MacDougall  
Femke Hakkers/Vanessa Campbell  
Russ Kelsey/Crystal MacEwen  
Stephanie Gaudet  
Kate Drake  
Renee Harper/Diana MacLennan  
Stephanie Chaloner  
Brian Gard (*Contact*)  
Emily Cannon Pres (*Contact*)



Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.  
(Draft) Minutes of the 71st Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, April 13, 2024  
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI

1. Welcome/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: Owen Parkhouse, Parliamentarian; Shannon Bruyneel, Vice President; and Bev Campbell, Secretary. She welcomed over 100 delegates representing 35 Home and School Associations and guests.

Adoption of Agenda 2024

**MOTION:** To adopt the 71st Annual General Meeting's agenda, April 13, 2024, as circulated.

Moved by Jannett Jones (Three Oaks)

Seconded by David Schult (Colonel Gray)

**Motion Carried.**

2. Adoption of Annual General Meeting's Minutes, April 23, 2022

**MOTION:** To adopt the minutes of the 70th Annual General Meeting, April 15, 2023, as amended, Pg. 12 Motion Carried.

Moved by Shannon Bruyneel (Queen Charlotte)

Seconded by John Munro (Belfast)

**Motion Carried.**

3. President's Report

President Dionne provided highlights from her report. Refer to the 2024 Book of Reports (pgs. 16-19).

4. Financial Report

Craig Goodick, Treasurer presented the report on the financial position of the PEIHSF fiscal year 2023, referencing the Book of Reports (pgs. 21-30).

**MOTION:** To adopt the presented 2023 Fiscal Year Financial Review and report.

Moved by Craig Goodick (Montague Intermediate)

Seconded by Coreen Pickering (Queen Elizabeth)

**Motion Carried.**

**MOTION:** To appoint Tara Wheeler, Arsenault, Best, Ellis, and Cameron accounting services for the next year of operations, 2024.

Moved by Craig Goodick (Montague Intermediate)

Seconded by Shannon Bruyneel (Queen Charlotte Intermediate)

**Motion Carried.**

5. Other Reports

Local Association Annual Reports are submitted by Association presidents (pages 31-99). Dionne encouraged everyone to review reports to learn more about Home and School activities in other school communities across the island. All annual reports are accepted as circulated.

## 6. Resolutions

David Schult chaired the resolution portion of the meeting. The following Proposed Resolutions were presented for consideration.

### **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 – 68 °F or 25-20 °C (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 20 °C in every school to reduce heating costs, overall operating expenses, energy emissions and optimize the learning comfort for students and staff.

DESTINATIONS:      Minister of Education and Early Years

Public Schools Branch Director and Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action  
Minister of Health and Wellness

**MOTION:** To move Resolution 2024-1 to the floor for approval.  
Moved by Erin Veale (Hernewood). Seconded by Lindsey Lidstone (Hernewood).

VOTE to approve amendment:  
Majority in favour; Against = 3; Abstentions = 2

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

VOTE on amended resolution.  
Majority in favour; Against = 0; Abstentions = 2  
**Motion Carried.**

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

**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 35°C 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 35°C.

DESTINATIONS: Minister of Education and Early Years  
Public Schools Branch Director and Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action  
Minister of Health and Wellness

**MOTION:** To move Resolution 2024-2 to the floor for approval.

Moved by Christina Sidwell (Ellerslie)

Seconded by Jess Persad (Ellerslie)

VOTE: Majority in favour; Against = 2; Abstentions = 1

**Motion Carried.**

### **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 consolidated, intermediate and high schools, with the goal of investigating the feasibility of installing vape detectors in Island schools to assist administrators and teachers with enforcing substance use

regulations on school properties.

**DESTINATIONS:** Minister of Education and Early Years  
Public Schools Branch Director and Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Minister of Health and Wellness  
Chief Public Health Office

**MOTION:** To move Resolution 2024-3 to the floor for approval.  
Moved by Shannon Bruyneel (Queen Charlotte Intermediate)  
Seconded by Craig Goodick (Montague Intermediate)

**VOTE:** Majority in favour; Against = 0; Abstentions = 0  
**Motion Carried.**

**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 time<sup>1</sup>, 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 learn<sup>2</sup>; 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 online<sup>7</sup>, and

WHEREAS reports from the Quebec National Institute of Public Health<sup>3</sup>, the Sedentary Behaviour Research Network<sup>4</sup>, and Departments of Education<sup>5-6</sup> 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 Society<sup>7</sup>, Canada's Food Guide<sup>8</sup>, and the Sedentary Behaviour Research<sup>4</sup> 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”<sup>7</sup>, and

WHEREAS other jurisdictions in Canada<sup>9</sup> and abroad<sup>10</sup> 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.

DESTINATIONS: Minister of Education and Early Years  
Public Schools Branch Director and Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Minister of Health and Wellness  
Chief Public Health Office

**MOTION:** To move Resolution 2024-4 to the floor for approval.

Moved by Sjors Reijers (Spring Park)

Seconded by Travis Saunders (West Kent)

VOTE: Majority in favour; Against = 9; Abstentions = 6

**Motion Carried.**

## **LATE RESOLUTION 2024-5 KINDERGARTEN EXEMPTION FROM SPLIT-LEVEL CLASSROOM COMPOSITION**

**Submitted by Bloomfield Home and School Association**

To recommend that the Department of Education and Early Years conduct a review of the appropriateness of kindergarten inclusion in split classes.

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 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 classes with the intent of creating a policy that in elementary schools, split classes shall only include grades one through six.

DESTINATIONS: Department of Education and Early Years  
Public Schools Branch Director and Chair of the Board of Trustees

**MOTION:** To move the Late Resolution 2024-5 to the floor for discussion.

Moved by Brandy Rogers. Seconded by Julie Ramsay.

VOTE: Majority in favour; Against = 0; Abstentions = 0

**Motion Carried.**

**MOTION:** To move the Late Resolution 2024-5 to the floor for approval.

Moved by Brandy Rogers (Bloomfield). Seconded by Julie Ramsay (Bloomfield).

VOTE: Majority in favour; Against = 0; Abstentions = 2

**Motion Carried.**

**Vote of Thanks** from Miscouche Home and School Association

“The PEI Department of Education and Early Learning is to be commended for its investment in Structured Literacy, which opens the world of fluent reading skills to the majority. Individual Islanders, and the province as a whole, will greatly benefit from the change in the coming decades. Miscouche

Home and School looks forward to a bright and fulfilling road ahead for students, parents, teachers, administrators, and department personnel in the world of reading literacy.”

## 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. The slate of officers was nominated as follows:

<u>Executive Position:</u>	Name:	Term expires:
President	Shannon Bruyneel	2026
Vice President	David Schult	2026
<u>Regional Directors:</u>		
Charlottetown Rural	Vacant	2026
Colonel Gray	Stephanie Chaloner	2026
Kinkora	Mary MacDonald-Pickering	2026
Montague	Sylvie De Sousa	2026
Morell	Vacant	2026

**MOTION:** To call for nominations to cease.

Moved by Leanne Feehan (Mount Stewart)

Seconded by Craig Goodick (Montague Intermediate)

**Majority in favour; Against = 0; Abstentions = 0**

**Motion Carried.**

**MOTION:** To approve the P.E.I. Home and School Federation board of directors for 2024-2025 as presented.

Moved by Matthew McNally (Mount Stewart)

Seconded by Coreen Pickering (Queen Elizabeth)

**Majority in favour; Against = 0; Abstentions = 1**

**Motion Carried.**

Other one-year vacant positions are filled by the Federation Board.

The new P.E.I. Home and School Federation Board was inducted by Owen Parkhouse, Parliamentarian. Outgoing board members, Matthew McNally and Elina John, were thanked for their contributions to the Federation during their terms of office.

## 8. New Business

There was no new business.

**Announcement:** The Bookmark draw for seven \$1000 in-store gift cards from the Bookmark bookstore will be drawn for and announced during the luncheon.



9. Adjournment

**MOTION:** To adjourn the 71st Annual Business Meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Moved by Dionne Tuplin. No seconder is required.

The business meeting was followed by a nutrition break in the Provinces' Room, then round-table discussions in the Victoria Room. The day concluded with the president's luncheon in the Georgian Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Campbell  
Recording Secretary  
PEI Home and School Federation

# **Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.**

## **2024 Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

**Monday, October 21, 2024, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Central Queens Elementary School, Hunter River, PEI**

### 1. Call to Order

President, Dave Schult, called the business meeting to order at 6:00 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 69th 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 21/24, as circulated.

Moved by Luanne D. Seconded by Stephanie B. Motion carried.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the Semi-Annual meeting's minutes dated October 23, 2023, as circulated.

Moved by Craig G. Seconded by Sjors R. Motion carried.

### 4. Treasurer's Update

Craig Goodick, Treasurer, presented a financial update, Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 2024

Revenues are invested in GICs; Annual grant from Dept. Education \$92,507.58

Expenses - \$65,470.59 Net Income - \$27,036.99

MOTION: To approve the financial update as presented.

Moved by Craig G. Seconded by John D. Motion carried.

### 5. President's Report

President Dave reported on activities since the Annual Meeting in April.

- Met with Minister Jameson and Deputy Minister to discuss approved resolutions

- Dept. Education School Calendar rep: Erin Veale, Westisle Director

- Dept. Education Diversity Committee rep: Dionne Tuplin, Past President

Announcements: Resolution deadline - Jan. 31, 2025

### 6. Motion to adjourn the business meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Speaker Presentations focused on the COMPASS Student Health Survey results and School Breakfast Programs & Food Safety.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Campbell, Recording Secretary

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION**  
**David Schult, President**

We extend a warm welcome to all attendees at the 72nd Annual General Meeting of the PEI Home and School Federation. This year's meeting focuses on “Tackling Digital Influences on Youth” is crucial to the well-being and education of our children.

We are actively advocating for the reduction of screen time and phone use among children. This initiative aligns with the growing concern about the impact of excessive screen time on children's health and learning outcomes. Recent efforts in Prince Edward Island include the introduction of new screen time guidelines to promote healthy screen use behaviors in schools.<sup>1</sup>

We are committed to supporting the directives of the Minister of Education and Early Years regarding inclusive education. This involves fostering an educational environment that is equitable, culturally responsive, and supportive of diverse student needs.

We also emphasize the importance of school bus safety. Following up on the strong recommendations of the school bus safety task force some three years ago, we continued to advocate for additional bus monitors, in-bus cameras to monitor students, external cameras to monitor traffic, and capacity limits on overcrowded buses.

I would like to express our gratitude to Shannon Bruyneel, who resigned as President to accept a position in the Office of Child/Youth Advocate Group. We wish Shannon all the best in her new role. I also wish to thank those board members retiring this year, Mikayla Paynter, Kensington, Jannett Jones, Three Oaks, and Erin Veale with Westisle.

Thanks to Jeana MacIsaac, our office administrative assistant for all her hard work organizing and preparing to ensure that this AGM is a success. And my greatest thanks to our Executive Director and the backbone of the Home and School Shirley Smedley Jay whose dedication to the Home and School might only be surpassed by her passion for Bluegrass Festivals.

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 2024 annual meeting are outlined in this report.

## Partner Meetings & Advocacy

### 1. Department of Education and Early Years

Throughout the year, the provincial federation has engaged in several meetings with key officials from the Department of Education and Early Years to advocate for local associations and ensure that the collective voice of education stakeholders is heard. These meetings have been instrumental in fostering a collaborative relationship between the federation and the ministry.

In May and July, meetings took place with Minister Natalie Jameson and Deputy Minister Erin McGrath-Gaudet to discuss various educational matters arising from AGM resolutions of 2024 and other concerns. Additionally, a January meeting with the new Minister Rob Lantz and Deputy Minister Erin McGrath-Gaudet followed the same theme. And a meeting with Minister Robin Croucher is planned.

The discussions during these meetings covered several key topics. Resolutions from the Annual General Meeting (AGM) were reviewed, ensuring that these are considered in policy development. The federation also provided input on the draft Inclusive Education Action Plan, which aims to ensure equitable educational opportunities for all students. Furthermore, the Directive on Responsible Use of Communication and Information Technology was discussed, aligning with broader efforts to manage screen time and technology use in schools.

School bus safety was another area of focus, with an emphasis on enhancing safety measures for students using school buses ensuring safety protocols are in place for students using school transportation. Moreover, the federation has raised awareness about the importance of maintaining comfortable learning environments by addressing classroom temperature and humidity concerns.

Additionally, strategies for securing playground funding were explored, along with proposals for administrative staffing, such as having one full-time principal and one half-time vice principal. The importance of integrating outdoor learning experiences into the curriculum was also highlighted, and concerns regarding classroom air quality and the need for regular air testing were addressed. These engagements reflect the federation's commitment to influencing education policy and advocating for the needs of local associations across Prince Edward Island.

### 2. PEI Teachers' Federation

In October 2024, a meeting was held with President Andy Doren and General Secretary Patrick MacFadyen of the PEI Teachers' Federation. The topics of discussion included the role of the Child and Youth Advocate, resolutions related to heat stress, a review of Public Schools Branch (PSB) school facilities, concerns about student absenteeism and bullying, and initiatives such as CosPEI/Gold Rush.

Additionally, the use of cameras for one-on-one meetings in schools was explored, along with policies on cell phone and screen time management.

#### Participation in the PEI Teachers' Federation Annual Convention

On November 7, 2024, representatives attended a reception hosted by the PEI Teachers' Federation, where they had the opportunity to meet Cornelius Minor, a keynote speaker at the event. Furthermore, the PEI Home and School Federation set up a display for the two-day conference held on November 7 and 8, 2024, at the Prince Edward Island Convention Centre in Charlottetown. This participation highlighted the collaborative efforts between the PEI Home and School Federation and the PEI Teachers' Federation to promote educational excellence and student welfare in Prince Edward Island.

### 3. Tobacco & Vaping, CPHO

On December 2, 2024, a collaborative meeting was held involving key stakeholders to address tobacco and vaping concerns. The participants included representatives from Lungs PEI, the Chief Public Health Office (CPHO), PEI Health (IHIS), Cancer Canada, Heart & Stroke, and Dr. David Sabapathy, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer.

This collaboration aimed to leverage the expertise and resources of these organizations to develop comprehensive strategies for addressing the public health challenges posed by tobacco and vaping. The meeting provided a platform for discussing current initiatives, sharing best practices, and exploring opportunities for future collaboration to reduce the prevalence of tobacco and vaping among Islanders, particularly youth.

This collaborative approach aligns with broader provincial and national efforts to combat the growing issue of youth vaping and smoking, which have been exacerbated by the increasing popularity of vaping products. By working together, these organizations can more effectively advocate for policy changes, support cessation programs, and educate the public about the risks associated with tobacco and vaping. We look forward to our ongoing collaboration with these groups.

### 4. Screen Break Project

Representatives from PEI Home and School Federation attended a roundtable discussion March 6, 2025 at the University of Prince Edward Island hosted by Rajender Singh from the Dais at Toronto Metropolitan University and UPEI professor Dr. Travis Saunders. We discussed the implementation of Prince Edward Island's phone restriction policy in K-12 classrooms.

The discussion highlighted the importance of parental support and consistent enforcement in maintaining the policy's effectiveness. The meeting underscored the need for ongoing evaluation and support to ensure the policy's long-term success in creating healthier learning environments.

## 5. School Calendar Committee

In January 2025, the School Calendar Committee convened to plan future school calendars for the next two academic years. This committee meets annually to ensure that the school calendar aligns with the educational needs of students and the operational requirements of schools. The committee comprises representatives from key stakeholders, including the Department of Education and Early Years, the Public Schools Branch, La Commission scolaire de langue française, the PEI Teachers' Federation, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the PEI Home and School Federation, and the Fédération des parents de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard.

This year's meeting focused on creating a comprehensive calendar that balances instructional days with professional learning opportunities and holidays. The resulting calendars incorporate various professional learning days, holidays, and parent-teacher interview days. The committee's efforts ensure that the school calendar supports student achievement and well-being while providing educators with opportunities for professional development.

## 6. PEI School Food Program & SFIF

The PEI Home and School Federation is part of a collaborative effort with Food First Newfoundland, Food For All New Brunswick, and Nourish Nova Scotia to enhance school food programs across Atlantic Canada. This partnership is supported by the Atlantic School Food Infrastructure Fund (SFIF), which was awarded \$1 million to develop and expand breakfast and snack programs in the region.

To ensure equitable distribution of funds, members from each province will join a grant selection committee. These committees will be responsible for reviewing applications from non-profit school food organizations and allocating funds to support the development of necessary infrastructure. This infrastructure may include kitchen equipment, food preparation facilities, and other resources essential for providing healthy meals to students. Collaboration with these groups is ongoing.

## 7. Kindergarten Readiness Working Group

The PEI Home and School Federation is participating in a think tank focused on enhancing kindergarten readiness. This collaborative group, composed of educators and stakeholders in early childhood education, meets regularly to develop strategies for a smooth transition from early learning to public schools. The think tank's objectives include increasing developmental readiness by enhancing self-care, social-emotional, and motor skills; improving screening processes to address individual student needs; and strengthening family involvement through effective parenting programs and resources. By addressing these areas, the think tank aims to create a supportive framework that empowers children to thrive in kindergarten.

## 8. Memorials and Grief Support in Schools

Responding to an invitation by Acting Assistant Director of the Public Schools Branch, Dominique Lecours, Federation board members are invited to join a committee to analyze data collected from consultations with focus groups responding to a draft policy for Memorials and Grief Support in Schools. The committee will review the draft policy and provide recommendations and amendments to the PSB Policy and Planning team.

## 9. Diversity Education Committee, Dept. Education and Early Years

Four meetings have been held since the Diversity Education Committee's inception in May 2024. The priority has been creating the terms of reference and building cultural and psychological safety for committee members. This committee is also working on updating the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement that is housed in the Front Matter of curriculum documents, which guides the creation and delivery of curricula, and the position statement housed in the program of studies, which communicates the education department's commitments on matters such as DEI, Reconciliation and sustainability.

### I. Communications & Media

#### 1. Media Engagement:

Throughout the year, the PEI Home and School Federation actively engaged with local media outlets to provide insights on various educational issues affecting Prince Edward Island. Key interviews included discussions with the Eastern Graphic about safety inspections of school playground equipment and with the West Prince Graphic on the topic of the origins of Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. The federation also participated in multiple interviews with CBC, addressing topics such as the new cell phone use policy in schools and the budget for three new schools in the Charlottetown area.

Additionally, we shared perspectives on cell phone use in schools with CBC Radio's Island Morning and Maritime Noon programs. The Guardian featured the federation's comments on issues related to school heating systems during cold weather and school capacity reports. Furthermore, the federation provided input on staffing level concerns and cybersecurity breaches, such as the Powerschool incident. These engagements highlight the federation's commitment to informing and engaging the public on critical educational matters.

#### 2. Guardian Newspaper Articles

Monthly articles in the local Guardian newspaper have covered a range of topics, including "Parent Involvement Requested" in September, which highlighted the role of parents in enhancing educational outcomes. In October, we explored key factors influencing student success in "Focusing on education's impact: Essential factors that drive student achievement." November's article critiqued the practice of

"Extra credit" as disingenuous, encouraging parents to inquire about grading practices during parent-teacher interviews. December's piece, "School Bus Safety a Driving Issue," underscored concerns about school bus safety and the need for improved measures. January's focus was on "Communication needed to protect schoolchildren," emphasizing the importance of communication in safeguarding students. February introduced "New Guidelines for Promoting Healthy Screen Time," discussing strategies for managing screen use. Finally, March's article, "P.E.I. Home and School presents on online harm," addressed the critical issue of protecting children from online risks.

## **II. Key Initiatives & Actions**

### **1. CosPEI/Gold Rush Fundraising Initiative:**

The PEI Home and School Federation (PEIHSF) has been approached by the Public Schools Branch (PSB) regarding concerns about schools benefiting from the CosPEI/Gold Rush fundraising initiative, which involves a form of gambling. The PEIHSF clarified that it is not involved with CosPEI and expressed support for a pause until issues surrounding this fundraiser are resolved. The initiative allows schools to receive funds, with a revenue breakdown where 30% goes to the school, 20% to CosPEI, and 50% to the winner. Concerns have been raised about the ethics and regulation of this fundraiser, particularly given its gambling nature and potential impact on families with gambling addictions. In response, the PEIHSF reviewed its fundraising guidelines to assess alignment with such initiatives and gather feedback from local Home and Schools regarding their involvement.

Local Home and School associations are strongly encouraged to follow the Fundraising Guidelines that can be found on the PEI Home and School website:

<https://peihsf.ca/prince-edward-island-home-and-school-federation-fundraising-guidelines-2010/> .

All CosPEI funds must be deposited into a local Home and School account, ideally one that is designated for such funds and not one that is controlled by the PSB school. School administrators may request funds from this account in writing, and the request then ought to be voted on in a local Home and School meeting. Invoices must be received for requests, receipts provided and any funds not used, returned to the Home and School CosPEI account. We strongly encourage all local Home and School Associations to follow these best practices. At this year's AGM, Federation treasurer Craig Goodick will be on hand at one round table discussion group to review best practices for fundraisers and local association treasurers. All local association treasurer and executive members are encouraged to join Craig during his roundtable for Home and School finances.

### **2. Cyber-Bullying Awareness:**

The PEI Home and School Federation has identified cyberbullying awareness as a critical area for education among young people and families. To address this, the federation explored potential speakers to share insights at its Annual General Meeting (AGM). Notably, Carl H. Burke, a retired Registered Nurse, agreed to be our keynote speaker. Mr. Burke has dedicated himself to educating the community



about the dangers of cyberbullying and sextortion following the tragic loss of his son Harry, who was a victim of online extortion. His personal experience and advocacy efforts aim to prevent similar tragedies by raising awareness and promoting safer online practices.

### 3. Cell Phone Restrictions & Screen Time

The PEI Home and School Federation is involved in ongoing discussions regarding responsible use policies for communication and information technology in schools. On July 16, 2024, a directive was released to restrict cell phone use in classrooms, aligning with national trends to enhance student focus and reduce distractions. In Prince Edward Island, students in Grades K-6 are required to keep their phones silenced and out of sight during school hours, while older students (Grades 7-12) must turn off their devices during instructional time, with exceptions for educational purposes or special needs. This policy aims to promote healthier learning environments and support students' mental well-being by minimizing the impact of excessive screen time and cell phone use during school hours.

## Ongoing Activities

### 1. Semi-Annual Meeting (October 21, 2024)

The PEI Home and School Federation held its Semi-Annual Meeting on October 21, 2024, at Central Queens Elementary School in Hunter River. The meeting featured presentations on student health surveys, school breakfast programs, and food safety. Speakers included Courtney Shaffer from the Chief Public Health Office, who discussed food safety guidelines; Samantha Dougay, a dietician with PEI School Food Program Inc., who outlined healthy breakfast menus; Heather Walker, a parent from Spring Park, who shared insights into their successful breakfast program; and David Schult, who presented data on school breakfast programs from the Department of Education and Early Years. The meeting also highlighted the importance of following the PSB's Nutrition Policy Guidelines and Canada's Food Guide.

### 2. Recognitions

#### Crossing Guard Awards

Crossing Guard Recognition Award recognizes deserving individuals in our school communities. The P.E.I. Home and School Federation Crossing Guard Award celebrates individuals who help keep students safe every school day. This year we recognized John (Red) Cheverie at Sherwood Elementary School in Charlottetown and Arlene McKenna at Elm Street Elementary in Summerside.

#### Extra Mile Awards

The PEI Home and School Federation presents awards of recognition to deserving individuals who work and volunteer for the benefit of children and youth in PEI's school communities. This year we recognized Anita Smith-LeClair of West Royalty Elementary School and Kelly Ramsay of Kensington Intermediate & Senior High School.

## Student Prizes

The Home and School Federations sponsors two 25\$ specialty prizes at both the Science Fair in April and Heritage Fair in May.

## Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

For School Staff Appreciation Week we urged local members to form committees to plan simple yet meaningful ways to thank school staff for their contributions. For example, organizing a potluck lunch, creating a “wall of appreciation” with student messages, or arranging for local businesses to offer special discounts to school staff can all show our gratitude for their hard work.

## Volunteer of the Year and Life Membership Recognition

The Volunteer of the Year Award is presented every year during the Annual General Meeting. The Life Membership Award recognizes outstanding individuals who have volunteered at the local levels.

### 3. Parent Leadership Grants

Parent Leadership Grants of up to \$500 are available for local Home and Schools to organize parent education sessions on topics like mental wellness, cyberbullying awareness, and school food programs.

### 4. Volunteer Leadership Training

The PEI Home and School Federation conducted Fall Volunteer Leadership Training Workshops in November 2024, aiming to equip Home and School volunteers with practical knowledge on collaborating with school staff and supporting their schools effectively. The workshops were held at Ellerslie Consolidated School for the Western region on November 4th and at Eliot River Elementary School for the Eastern region on November 5th, both running from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Facilitated by Vicki Bryanton and Stephen Gould, these free sessions provided valuable insights for volunteers in executive positions and general roles, enhancing their ability to support schools and collaborate with staff.

## III. Looking Ahead

### Advocacy Through Resolutions

The PEI Home and School local chapters proposed resolutions for the 2025 Annual General Meeting address key issues in Island schools: incorporating milk products into the Pay-What-You-Can school food program to combat child food insecurity, adding Student Behavior Intervention Resource positions to schools to support student behavior management, supporting the enactment of Canada's Online Harms Act to protect children in digital spaces, and strengthening data protection measures for student, parent, and teacher personal data following a cybersecurity incident with PowerSchool. These resolutions point to the Federation’s continuing resolve to enhance the education and support all our children here on Prince Edward Island.

## School Board Elections

Elections will be held in the fall of 2025. The PEIHSF agreed to assist with posting candidate profiles on the Federation website and arranging Meet the Candidate Nights in zones where elections will be held.

Together We Build Better Schools

# Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

Financial Statements  
(Unaudited)  
December 31, 2024



March 7, 2025

## **Independent Practitioner's Review Engagement Report**

### **To the Members of Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.**

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc. that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, 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, Prince Edward Island 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 for these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of Prince Edward Island 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 year ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, current assets as at December 31, 2024 and 2023, and net assets as at January 1 and December 31 for both the 2024 and 2023 years.



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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* paragraph, 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 Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc as at December 31, 2024, 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

*ArsenaultBestCameronEllis*

**Chartered Professional Accountants**

# Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

## Statement of Financial Position

(Unaudited)

As at December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and deposits	86,188	74,029
Accounts receivable	2,691	1,367
HST receivable	1,390	1,441
Prepaid expenses	-	1,295
	<u>90,269</u>	<u>78,132</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,861	2,590
Deferred revenue (note 3)	21,000	21,000
	23,861	23,590
<b>Net Assets</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<u>66,408</u>	<u>54,542</u>
	<u>90,269</u>	<u>78,132</u>

Approved by the Board of Directors

 Director

 Director

**Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.**

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2024

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	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>Net assets - Beginning of year</b>	54,542	46,783
Excess revenue for the year	11,866	7,759
<b>Net assets - End of year</b>	<u>66,408</u>	<u>54,542</u>



# Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

## Statement of Operations

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Government grants	84,000	82,250
Membership dues	9,200	9,540
Donations and fundraising	5,578	7,369
Investment income	3,289	2,466
Miscellaneous	166	-
	<u>102,233</u>	<u>101,625</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Bad debt	300	1,486
Insurance	1,388	1,531
Meetings	7,949	7,505
Parental engagement	1,306	592
Postage	433	407
Professional fees	3,333	4,999
Supplies and miscellaneous	6,146	8,091
Telephone	765	839
Training and education	1,075	1,550
Travel and conference	2,322	3,100
Wage and benefits	65,350	63,766
	<u>90,367</u>	<u>93,866</u>
<b>Excess revenue for the year</b>	<u>11,866</u>	<u>7,759</u>

# Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

## Statement of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>Cash provided by (used in)</b>		
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Excess revenue for the year	11,866	7,759
Net change in non-cash working capital items		
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	(1,324)	1,553
Decrease in administration fee receivable	-	1,485
Decrease in HST receivable	51	13,001
Decrease in prepaid expenses	1,295	-
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	271	(296)
Increase in deferred revenue	-	1,750
	12,159	25,252
<b>Financing activity</b>		
Decrease in loan payable	-	(15,619)
	12,159	9,633
<b>Increase in cash and deposits</b>	12,159	9,633
<b>Cash and deposits - Beginning of year</b>	74,029	64,396
<b>Cash and deposits - End of year</b>	86,188	74,029
<b>Cash and deposits consists of:</b>		
ID Canada Trust investor account	1,000	1,000
ID Canada Trust operating account	21,960	21,091
ID Canada Trust term investment account	63,228	51,938
	86,188	74,029

# Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2024

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## 1 Nature of entity

Prince Edward Island 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 deposits

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.

Grants, membership dues and administration fees are recorded when received or receivable if the amount to be received can reasonably estimated and collectibility is reasonably assured.

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 (2023 - nil) capital assets expensed during the year.

# Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2024

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## 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.

## 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

Prince Edward Island 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:

# Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2024

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- 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.

### 3 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.

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Balance - Beginning of year	21,000	19,250
Add: Provincial government core funding received	84,000	84,000
Less: Government grants recognized	(84,000)	(82,250)
Balance - End of year	<u>21,000</u>	<u>21,000</u>

### 4 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.

**ALBERTON HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Mandel Fraser, President**

Executive:

Vice President – Kendra O’Brien

Treasurer – Cora Lee Stewart

Volunteer Coordinator – Ferran Brown

Fundraiser Coordinator – Jillian Costain

We are happy to introduce three new members of Alberton Home and School this year, with Mandel Fraser taking on the role of president, Ferran Brown in a new role as volunteer coordinator and Jillian Costain in a new role as Fundraiser Coordinator. We hold meetings once a month but have not had great turnouts. We continued to work on communicating with family members and caregivers through social media. Here, we post about upcoming events, school-related needs, calls for volunteers, etc. We hope that by posting frequently we get more engagement from family, caregivers, and friends.

Alberton Home and School began this school year by having a BBQ at the back-to-school event the school puts on. This is free for students and parents. The same week as the school’s Terry Fox Walk, we held a corn boil and BBQ for the students.

December is a busy month for our Home and School. We began the month with a Christmas Bazaar where students could purchase gifts for their family and friends for only \$1. Ten volunteers helped this year; students would pick gifts, and volunteers wrapped them. We raised \$700. We finished off the Christmas season with a Christmas dinner. There is always lots of excitement around these two events.

For Valentine’s Day, each student was given a candy gram from Home and School. We filled gift bags with goodies and left them on each student’s desk. Because of the school closures, they only received them the following Thursday after Valentine’s Day, but staff said they were very excited to arrive at school to find treats on their desks.

The school held winter carnival week from February 17 to 21. Home and School participated in winter carnival week by holding a movie night in the gym. We played Dog Man and provided popcorn and snacks throughout the evening. We had 42 students sign up, and everyone had a great time. We plan to do it again before the school year is over.

Our breakfast program has been a huge success this year. We have two dedicated volunteers who help make this program possible. Each week, we provide breakfast bins and baked goods to each classroom. We also have hot breakfasts on Wednesday. If students choose, they can go to the kitchen to pick up their breakfast; most students participate in it.

*(Alberton Cont'd)*

We also provide macaroni each Tuesday for lunch. We have, on average, 40 students that purchase this each week.

This year, our Home and School committee has decided to purchase inclusive playground equipment for our school. We have a fundraising goal of \$100,000 and an installation goal for October 2025. We are in the early stages of fundraising but have held a couple of campaigns thus far. We began our fundraising efforts by having two galas, the first being a Daddy & Daughter Gala and the second being a Family Gala. The venue was very generous and donated their space and food, so the total raised was \$7000. We also held a raffle with all winnings donated by local businesses. This raised \$3,200. Our next initiative is to deliver letters to local businesses asking for monetary donations. We will continue to plan and implement different fundraisers throughout the year.

During Staff Appreciation Week, staff members were provided with meals and goodies. On Tuesday, we made breakfast sandwiches in the morning and provided soup and biscuits in the afternoon. On Friday, we had a catered meal planned, but that was postponed until Wednesday because of the weather. We also invited parents to drop off treats for the staff throughout the week; coffee, dips, and snacks were generously donated. Finally, we created an appreciation wall in the gym; we asked students to participate by writing down or drawing out reasons why they appreciate their school staff and then hung each one up for the school to see. The staff greatly appreciated all that was done over the week.

Overall, Alberton Home and School has had a successful start to the year, and we look forward to continuing to support the school and students for the remainder of the year.

**ATHENA HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Jennafer Lynch-Bernard, President**

Treasurer - Melissa Woodacre  
Secretary - Marissa Jordan  
School Administration - Jason Cormier, Principal  
Elementary Liaison - Lorelei MacArthur

Athena's Home and School meetings are held on the first Monday of each month from 7-8pm. To date, six meetings have been held, with three more planned for 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 and School news is always included at the bottom of this newsletter to keep parents informed of events Home and School 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 Home & School Facebook page and the Athena Consolidated School Facebook page and Instagram page.
- We continued to operate an internal Home and 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 fourth year, we had a customized Athena School Calendar made with sponsors for each month. This year we were fortunate to have a total of 42 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.
- 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. After visiting their class families were invited outside for 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 2025-2026!
- Athena Home and School is still a member of the CGS Goldrush Fundraiser. It is an easy and effortless way to fundraise money for Athena Home and School.
- Amanda Stewart-Barlow, took on the role of Coordinator of our Breakfast Program for 2024-2025. 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



*(Athena Cont'd)*

- cafeteria to get their breakfast and return to class and grades 7-9 can enjoy their breakfast in the cafeteria.
- We 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 to local vendors!
- This is the fourth year that Home and School 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 December and the students were thrilled to receive them!
- In December, Athena had our second annual “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 and 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.
- We did the Athena Gift Mart again this year which was a huge hit! The students had such a wonderful time shopping. This year the students could shop for “FREE”!!
- 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 Knead-A-Brake 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 “Pita Pit” to end of the month celebrations.
- Our principal hosted Staff Trivia during the official Staff Appreciation week (Feb 12-16<sup>th</sup>), with one trivia winner per day. Home and School sponsored the prizes with over \$200 of gift cards to local stores! It was a big hit with the staff and students had a fun time cheering their teachers on!
- On April 2nd, we will be hosting a school wide pancake breakfast, including fresh berries, whip cream and syrup. We accommodate all food sensitivities and will purchase small gifts for students who can’t eat so they too, were included.
- 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! Home and School will provide materials while the family has agreed to donate their time in constructing the sandboxes!
- In March, we hosted a “Family Art Night” at the school. A free event for families to attend. We had over 75 people turn out for this night of fun! It was a wonderful way to celebrate Valentine’s Day!
- It was discussed at the beginning of the year that we would like to have a “Spring BBQ/Spring Fling” 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 June, we usually provide a cold treat for students during our outdoor activity day in the final days of school.

**BELFAST HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Sylvie De Sousa, President**

Executive:

Caitlin Bradley - Vice President

Tracy Knox - Treasurer

Jenna White - Secretary

Our Home and School Association meets every second month during the school year. The executive usually meets every month to plan for the month ahead.

**Initiatives:**

**Breakfast Program:**

Every week, Jenna and Caitlin with the help of some parent volunteers go into the school to prepare breakfast buns for the students. Muffins, smoothies, pancakes and other breakfast items are also prepared occasionally (for instance: pink pancakes and Rice Krispies squares for Valentine's Day).

**Lunch Program:**

Every month, Jenna and Caitlin with the help of volunteer parents either pick up or prepare hot meals for the kids, this includes doing groceries in preparation for these hot meals. So far this year, these ladies have spoiled the students with a home-made pasta dish, Chinese dish (which included rice with veggies, egg rolls, and chicken balls), baked potato with the works, pizza day (ordered from our local pizzeria), Lebanese take out day, freshly made Mac n Cheese, etc. The idea is to offer the students diversity and healthy choice. Students pre-order and pay for these hot meals.

**Fundraising:**

We ran a pancake raffle in November and another one in January. We will also hold an on-line baked good auction in March. 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.

**Events:**

**Halloween Dance:**

In October 2024, the Home and School held a Halloween Spooktacular Dance in the school gym. The evening was filled with music (with our very own DJ), games for all ages, dancing, Halloween costume

*(Belfast Cont'd)*

contest, photo op stations and a 50/50. It was a very successful event and we are very grateful for the numerous hours volunteers put into organizing this event.

### **Bingo Night:**

Our annual Bingo Night was scheduled for November, but due to a power outage, it has been postponed to April. Staff, Home and School and parents alike approached businesses for donations to offer as door prizes. Businesses were extremely generous and the support was overwhelming. Money raised from Bingo Night will go towards our annual Spring Fling as well as to help cover the cost of other school activities.

### **Staff Appreciation Week:**

In February 2025, we held our Staff Appreciation Week where staff were treated to a hot meal, and treats and desserts delivered throughout the week. This included a Jamaican-themed catered meal, and yummy homemade desserts. We had lots of volunteers to help prep and prepare this meal which was a two-day process (half day of prepping and a second half day of cooking), led by one of our parent volunteers. We also had a few student volunteers hand deliver a bouquet of tulips to every staff member, again this year.

### **Kindergarten Orientation:**

Every year, Home and School delivers a bag of goodies to incoming kindergarten students during their kindergarten orientation, which includes their own Belfast Consolidated T-shirt with their graduating year printed on the back. We also purchase and prepare snacks for this day.

### **Spring Fling:**

Our annual Spring Fling is held every June. This is a free event for students and their parents and the community. The Spring Fling is usually held outdoors, weather permitting. There are games for all ages, face painting, balloon twisting, the infamous dunk tank, Nerf games, and a BBQ (which includes fries from the Cavendish Fry truck). It is always a fun evening for everyone.

Sylvie De Sousa, President  
Belfast Home and School Association

**BLOOMFIELD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Brandy Rogers and Paige Hackett, Co-Presidents**Executive:

Co-Vice Presidents – Jill MacPhee and Katherine Ellis

Co-Treasurers – Wendy Adams and Cindy Doyle

Co-Secretaries – Amy Ramsay and Kristen Hardy

Co-Communications – Amy Ramsay and Kyla Ellis

This year we have some new and returning members for our Home and School Executive. We have a very engaged group and everyone works well together. There have been a lot of creative ideas thrown out so far this year that have been beneficial to our association as well as the students and staff.

**Meetings:**

We usually meet once a month with an exception of December and May. In December we try to get an extra meeting in because of the Christmas Turkey Meal we provide for the whole school. In May we also meet an extra couple of times because we started last year with a “Big Rigs” fundraising event which takes a lot of planning. It went well so it is going to be an annual event for our school.

We usually cover quite an agenda for our meetings. We have a lot of discussions. We like to see how our breakfast program is going. See if we need to make any changes or if it is going well as is. We discuss any upcoming events at the school that we will need volunteers for. We are always brainstorming new, fun ways to fundraise. We discuss our account balance and the school’s wish list. We talk about ways we can help out families with paying for certain things for the school such as fun field trips as well as providing the office with extra outdoor winter gear for students who may need it.

**Communication:**

We use social media to communicate with our home and school association. We use email and phone for communication with the school. We also send out a Home and School newsletter.

**Fundraising:**

We are currently participating in the COS PEI Goldrush draws which has been a huge positive to the home and schools throughout PEI. We also do multiple little fundraisers throughout the year just within the school as well as our new annual Bloomfield Big Rigs event which was a huge success last June. With our funds so far we have purchased picnic tables for classes to use outside. We purchased toys for all classrooms for recess as well as each classroom received a couple of gifts for Christmas for indoor recess. We covered the cost for the whole school to go skating before Christmas. We are helping cut down the cost for each student for their upcoming winter field trip. We are purchasing a new smart board for one of our classrooms. We are also in the works of furnishing our Library. We bought a new BBQ for the school at the start of the year to help out with different events we hold.

**Staff Appreciation:**

We provided meals and treats for the staff throughout the week as well as covering outdoor duty one of those days.

**BLUEFIELD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Amanda Doherty-Kirby, President****Andrea Kelly, Vice-President****Attendance**

Attendance at Bluefield Home and School meetings has increased overall this year with a dedicated core of people being present and new people always welcome. The association has had three meetings this year and will have two others before June 2025.

**Discussions**

Discussions at the meetings usually include a school update, provincial Home and School news, local Home and School initiatives, and other business/concerns. We have discussed topics such as class changes and size, staff changes and development, staff appreciation plan, activities or projects that we would like to facilitate as a Home and School, award submissions, resolutions, school fundraising initiatives (Bluefield has amazing staff and student-led initiatives), COSPEI allocation of funds, COMPASS survey results and other topics as needed.

**Communication**

Communication within the Home and School is done by Email outside of meetings when needed. Communicating to the larger school community is done via Emails sent by the principal or one of the vice-principals as an add on to the weekly Email or as Home and School specific Emails forwarded by one of the vice-principals when needed. Occasional posts are also made on the Bluefield High School Facebook page to inform the community of upcoming meetings or any special initiatives.

**Grants and Awards**

This year we did not submit a Parent Leadership Grant, but we did submit a nomination for the Extra Mile Award. Although the nominee did not receive this award, it was amazing to see the support for their nomination from staff members and students they have interacted with (past and present) and parents. This person is well regarded in the school and the community and is appreciated so much.

**Staff Appreciation**

Bluefield Home and School planned treats for staff for each day from February 10-14<sup>th</sup>. This was similar to the last two years with a SignUp Genius being sent by email and posted in a closed Facebook group for the community to show support for this either by providing treats (different types of treats for different days) or monetary donations. Bluefield Home and School also received support from the community to provide a staff luncheon during parent teacher interviews and will do so again. The culinary class at Bluefield prepared the luncheon for teachers.

**Looking Ahead**

Bluefield Home and School is planning two additional meetings before June and is also planning ahead for the 2025-2026 school year.

**CARDIGAN HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Hayley McKenna / Mandy Acorn, Co-Presidents**

Patti MacKenzie – Vice President  
Vanessa MacDonald – Treasurer

This year we bid farewell to our amazing President Twila Palmer, who spent many years in her position and is greatly missed. We now have a co-chair presidency with myself, Mandy Acorn and Hayley McKenna. We have our returning executive team, and our home and school has grown in members with the new school year and has been very active! We have been meeting once a month.

**Breakfast Program:**

We have a very dedicated group of parent volunteers for our breakfast program. We offer breakfast program Monday, Wednesday and Friday and the school provides healthy snacks on Tuesday and Thursday. The majority of students (about 124) participate in the program at least several times a week. We offer toast, fruit and yogurt, muffins, cinnamon buns, English muffins, bagels etc. Our baked goods are purchased from the Kingswood Center in Montague, which supports another great community program. We are fortunate to receive funding from our local rotary for our breakfast program. We are looking into purchasing some industrial blenders to provide smoothies as an option to the children, and have purchased an industrial toaster in the past year to help make toast/bagel etc. days more efficient.

**School Skates**

We have been fortunate to have two school skates this year that have been sponsored by local businesses- Cardigan Bearing and Steel and Clamdiggers Restaurant. The children look forward to the skates and enjoy their time at the rink.

**Staff Appreciation Week**

We had a busy staff appreciation week this year. There were treats for staff each day from nacho dip, baked goods, coffee and other snacks provided by our Home and School members. Home and School also sponsored a pizza and ice cream sundae day for all staff and students during the week, and each staff was given a small personalized gift (tumbler, door sign, pens etc.) to show our appreciation for their hard work and dedication to our students.

**Turkey Dinner Day**

We had our annual Turkey dinner day in December of this year. The Home and School successfully prepared and fed all of our students and staff a full turkey dinner. We had donations from McKenna Brothers produce for our potatoes and carrots, and a \$300 donation from the Montague Legion. Home and School funds were used to purchase the remaining supplies. This is a day enjoyed by everyone at the school!

*(Cardigan Cont'd)*

### **Fundraising**

We have had two fundraisers this year so far- our Christmas wreath sales which are successful each year, and we have an ongoing fundraiser via the COS PEI Goldrush which has been bringing in about \$400/month to our Home and School funds.

### **Home and School Purchases**

Along with above mentioned activities, Cardigan Home and School has also purchased the following items for the school:

- An ocean drum and wind chimes for our Music classes
- Cardigan Consolidated T-shirts for the whole student body and staff
- New Jerseys for our sports teams
- Will be providing funds towards Grade 6 field trip, and end of the year trips for rest of students

Respectfully,

Mandy Acorn and Hayley McKenna  
President Co-Chairs  
Cardigan Consolidated Home and School

**CHARLOTTETOWN RURAL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Natalie Fraser, Chair**

Our meetings continued to be small and we have changed our meeting name to Parent Advisory Council. We have had numerous discussions about class sizes and course unavailability due to lack of seats compared to student enrolment. Staff appreciation was a success in February 2025. Home and School funds were used to provide staff with a pizza luncheon and a coffee break. We are in the beginning stages of planning the 2025 prom.

The Creating Opportunities for Students Goldrush continues to grow and provide much needed funds to our home and schools so we can help support the students in our buildings. This year at Charlottetown Rural we have supported items such as the breakfast program, fans for the classrooms, materials for new signage for inclusion activities and have other items planned for purchase to help improve the student experience at the high school. We will also award graduation bursaries to some very deserving students in June of 2025.

We have a very good working relationship with the administration team at Charlottetown Rural and appreciate their willingness to communicate regularly with our parent community. We are happy to be able to provide financial support for items needed within the school. We would not be able to provide for these needs without the parent and community participation in the COS PEI goldrush fundraiser which allows us to have a steady and reliable source of fundraised dollars.



**DONAGH REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Nancy Power, President**

The Home and School Association is delighted to provide the latest updates regarding our ongoing activities, initiatives, and future plans. Our school currently has approximately 230 children enrolled, spanning grades Kindergarten through 6th grade. At the Association, we continued to acknowledge the time and energy the teachers and staff put towards our children. We know that everyone is working towards the betterment of our students and for that we are grateful.

We continued to recognize the teachers and staff during the teacher appreciation week every winter. We have been asking parents and guardians to donate food and money to a weeklong buffet for the staff. We host days such as a bagel day or have a meal catered. This year we asked students during the week to offer little notes of appreciation to the staff by writing something friendly to the teachers or offering each other acts of kindness.

The Home and School Association holds monthly meetings to discuss and plan various initiatives. These meetings are a cornerstone for effective communication and coordination among all. We continued to collectively address the needs and concerns of our school community. Attendance and participation in these meetings are highly encouraged for all parents. During these meetings we encourage the school to address any concerns and listen to any experiences the school is implementing.

Some committee members attend the AGMs to learn how to improve our meetings and association with the networking opportunities and ideas presented.

One of our primary focuses continues to fundraise for a new playground. A well-designed and safe playground is essential for the physical and social development of our children. We believe that these new structures will provide space where students can engage in outdoor activities, build friendships, and enjoy their time at school. Various fundraising activities are being planned, and we look forward to the enthusiastic support of our community to make this project a reality. Our community calendar campaign and Christmas craft fairs continued to be our biggest fundraisers. We have been trying hard to keep our status as one of the top earners through the Gold Rush game. We use social media and emails through the school to promote this.

Effective communication between the school and parents is key to our success. We strive to keep all lines of communication open and transparent. We are currently using social media to keep communication flowing between the school and parents. This ensures that parents are well-informed about school events, and any important developments. We are working with the school to figure out the best way to keep parents informed and up to date, including starting a school wide google calendar. We encourage parents to reach out with any questions or concerns they may have, as their input is invaluable to us on this issue.

We are pleased to announce that our wellness grant initiative is well under way. This grant is aimed at promoting the health and well-being of our students through various activities. These may include mental health workshops, physical fitness sessions, nutritional education, and more. Our goal is to create a supportive environment where students and parents can both learn and communicate more effectively with each other. This funding was granted through the government, and we are excited for the opportunity given to us and the community.

The Home and School Association is committed to working collaboratively with all members of our school community to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students. We are excited about the progress we are making and look forward to continuing our efforts to enhance the educational experience for every child.

**EAST WILTSHIRE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Amy Hughes, President**

This year we still struggle with parent engagement at meetings. However, our following on our Facebook page has grown some and we are hopeful that we will be able to reach more parents and get them to join Home and School.

**FUNDRAISING**

This year we had a very successful Christmas Fundraiser. We did a draw every week for 7 weeks with amazing prizes donated every week. We were able to raise \$7,000.00! This enabled us to help bring Christmas gifts to 47 East Wiltshire families.

We participate in the COSPEI Gold rush draws each week and are happy to say we are one of the top schools with participation.

**STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK**

Staff Appreciation Week is one that we are very enthusiastic about. We see daily how hard all the staff of East Wiltshire work. Parents and families were very generous and donated money to support this week. We chose a variety of treats to celebrate our staff.

Monday- chips and chocolate

Tuesday-fruit and veggies

Wednesday-nacho chips and salsa

Thursday-coffee, donuts and muffins

Friday- was a storm day but the school provided a treat for the staff when they came back

We also had gift cards donated and we bought others and did a draw for staff to win. It was a great week celebrating all the staff.

**MEETINGS**

At our meetings we have discussed new staff, a new mobile building that was opened in January as well as our Christmas fundraiser. A great discussion was held about the Social and Emotional Learning school goal and how it was being implemented into the classrooms.

**COMMUNICATION**

We have made more effort to connect with parents and caregivers through social media. Our Facebook page is more active and has gained more followers.

**ELIOT RIVER HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Jacinta Andrews / Laura Steves, Co-Chairs**

Executive:

Brittany Loughran – Secretary

Jacinta Andrews – Treasurer

This year, the Eliot River Home and School Association will host four meetings, providing a platform for the school administration to share exciting new initiatives. These include a student survey focused on their health and well-being, which will guide adjustments to the school environment, as well as grade-specific social-emotional learning programs.

On November 5, 2024, Eliot River Home and School hosted a training workshop for the Federation, led by consultants Vicki Bryanton and Stephen Gould. The workshop covered the roles and responsibilities of the executive team, as well as the work of both local and provincial levels of Home and School. Volunteers are interested in more networking opportunities and additional information about the broader aspects of the organization.

Our association actively engaged with families in various ways throughout the year. We encouraged parents to contribute donations of treats for the annual “Scream Park.” The proceeds from these treat sales supported the school’s fundraising efforts for an outdoor classroom. Additionally, we coordinated a “Staff Appreciation Week” in February, where parents signed up via SignUp Genius to donate different categories of treats each day for staff enjoyment. Both initiatives were met with great success, and parents enthusiastically contributed to the events.

During the Christmas season, we hosted a “Best Seat in the House” raffle for the parents and families of Grade 4 students. Parents purchased tickets to win front-row seats to one of the two Grade 4 Christmas concert performances. The funds raised from this raffle will help the Home and School Association cover fees and provide additional support to the school as needed.

In another initiative, we nominated Jamie Smith for the School Bus Driver of the Year award in recognition of his unwavering commitment to student safety and his genuine care for everyone he encounters. Since Jamie also drives students from Westwood Primary, we reached out to the school administration, asking families to submit notes in support of his nomination. We’ve received numerous heartfelt messages from families sharing how positively Jamie has impacted the school community, and we remain hopeful that he will receive this well-deserved award.

**ELLERSLIE ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Penny Newcombe, President**

**Executive:** Vice President Jessica Gillis, Treasurer Sam Doran, Secretary Laura Dillon

**Number of meetings and topics discussed**

The Ellerslie Home and School committee prioritizes meetings at least once per month. It is our hope to continue meeting each month for the remainder of the school year. The meetings took place on the following dates: September 18<sup>th</sup>, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, November 27<sup>th</sup>, February 6<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Our meetings begin with welcoming committee members and introducing any new members to the table. The Principal; Sarah Totten and Vice Principal, Jeff Grass share news from the school, updates to staffing or important information.

Additional topics include goal settings, both short and long term. We hope to continue to support the staff, students and community with new initiatives, funding and resources. We also hope to help support additional playground equipment in the next few years.

**Parent Leadership Project:** Family Games night with the focus of integrated Math- To take place in May 2025. \$400.00 awarded.

This evening is aimed at helping families enjoy and engage with math in meaningful ways. We will set up fun math-based games and activities both children and parents can enjoy together. This event will emphasize learning through play, encourage parental involvement in education and help children feel more confident and excited about numbers.

**Communication – local; Federation News Posts?**

Our communication is based on our school wide parent Facebook page. We also share important information through school email if needed. We share federation news in our school based monthly newsletter.

**Fundraising and initiatives:**

Ellerslie Home and School strives to provide all the extras that would not be made possible without our funding. We actively provide new initiatives and creatively find ways to support the school and staff. Here is a list by month of our contributions:

**March/April 2024:**

- Eagles Landing Craft Fair,
- Win4 All Grant: Awarded \$1000.00

**May/June 2024:**

- SEL Family Night
- Purchased grade 6 t-shirts

*(Ellerslie Cont'd)*

**July/August:**

- Oyster Festival 50/50

**September/October:**

- Helping at Welcome to Kindergarten
- Back-to-school BBQ
- Spooktacular Halloween fundraiser
- School Snack Bags fundraiser
- COS PEI
- RAK Donation of an outdoor bin filled with fall toys
- Donation of \$400 for additional outdoor bins for each grade (chalk, soccer balls etc.)

**November/December:**

- Donation of Hats and Mittens
- Whoville Christmas fundraiser
- Christmas Books for students
- Donation to whole school Christmas Dinner
- Christmas Bake sale at concert for Christmas Families
- COS PEI

**January/February:**

- COS PEI
- 

**March/April:**

- \$5.00 coupon for Book Fair to every student in school
- Easter Dance Fundraiser
- Donation to Easter Seals ambassador from Ellerslie School
- COS PEI

**May/June:**

- Parent Leadership Grant- Family Night
- Donation of BBQ items for whole school Shining Waters Field trip
- Donation of \$500.00 to Grade 6 Year end trip
- COS PEI

**2025 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week activities:**

- December: Christmas gifts to all staff,
- February: Staff appreciation week; catered meals and themed meals for each day of the week.

We have received grants for the following:

- Outdoor Education grant for Island Trails to the amount of \$450.00
- RAK donation of outdoor bins for school \$100.00
- Partnered with school to apply for LiveWell SEL Grant \$2000.00

**ELM STREET HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Amanda DesRoches / Brye Caissie, Co-Presidents**

Executive:

Rylea Kember, Treasurer

Katie Morrison, Christina Waugh, Co-Secretaries

To date, our Home and School Association has met three times. Our meetings are held in Elm Street School's library and are generally attended by the executive, principal, vice principal, a teacher representative, and a small but growing number of parents.

In October, we ran our annual Home and School fundraiser. This year, we sold Recipes in Jars. Multiple options were available for purchase, ranging from baked goods to soups to even dog biscuits. Additionally, the company that assembled the jars donated one soup mix for the food bank for every jar sold. We were able to sell 1,107 jars which meant over 1,000 soup mixes were donated. Our profit on the fundraiser was \$6,528.10. Gift cards for top sellers, as well as pizza parties for top selling classes, were provided by the Home and School, while the school provided incentives including the top seller being principal for the day.

In November, we celebrated National Child's Day. Our Home and School Association coordinated with ADL for a donation of chocolate milk for students to enjoy, while Community Connections Inc. in Summerside provided a Tim Hortons smile cookie for every student.

Also in November, Elmer the Elf returned to Elm Street and began his rounds! Elmer, the school's "Elf on a Shelf", visits each classroom and leaves a book and candy canes for the students. Given the number of classrooms, he starts his visits before December. While largely supported by Scholastic funds, our Home and School Association also contributed by purchasing some of the books.

During the fall, our Home and School Association nominated Arlene McKenna, one of Elm Street's crossing guards, for the PEI Home and School Federation's School Crossing Guard of the Year award. In December, Elm Street was able to surprise Arlene at an assembly to celebrate that she had been selected as a recipient of the award! Many of Arlene's friends and family were invited to the assembly, students all made cards to congratulate her, and representatives from the PEI Home and School Foundation, the school board, and the City of Summerside were also in attendance.

In December, the whole school attended a hockey game to support our local Summerside Western Capitals. Our Home and School Association supported this outing by contributing \$2 towards the ticket price for each student. In January, we met to discuss Teacher (Staff) Appreciation Week and Winter Wellness Week, both of which occurred in February. Based on feedback from previous years, it was

*(Elm Street Cont'd)*

decided that our Home and School Association would provide a hot meal for all staff members. The meal was prepared by a chef from a local restaurant and transported to the school for the staff to enjoy along with multiple drink options. Additionally, the Home and School provided staff members with a popcorn treat in their school mailboxes, and Tim Hortons gift cards for the school bus drivers and crossing guards to show our appreciation for them as well.

For Winter Wellness Week, our Home and School Association had planned to provide a pancake and sausage breakfast for all students and staff on Valentine's Day – the Home and School purchased the ingredients for the pancakes while the sausages were donated. Unfortunately, the breakfast had to be postponed due to a weather-related school cancellation; however, it has been rescheduled to occur in March.

Additionally, this year our Home and School Association began promoting the COS (Creating Opportunities for Students) PEI Gold Rush, which is a gold rush fundraiser involving multiple Home and School Associations across PEI. We have seen an increase in participation in this fundraiser throughout the year which has been a great source of fundraising.

We also have members of our Home and School Association assisting with our school's breakfast program by ordering/shopping for the groceries and by portioning cereal to be delivered to classrooms for students to enjoy.

During our January Home and School Association meeting, attendees discussed safety concerns surrounding Elm Street's limited parking options. In follow-up, we provided a letter of support that documented our concerns for the school to use in its proposal to improve the situation. Between now and the end of the year, we plan to hold additional meetings where we will discuss assisting the school with items/events that align with Home and School initiatives. In the past, this has looked like providing a healthy snack for students, supporting prizes for the school's spring fundraiser, and supporting year-end field trips.

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

Treasurer - Karen Rivero  
Secretary - Joeleen Fox  
IT Advisor - Kyle Ferguson

**Introduction**

The Englewood Home and School Association is thriving and we are so grateful for our parents' involvement. Englewood School has a small student population (~175 students), and we feel fortunate to have a small dedicated group of parents who regularly attend meetings as well as a terrific working relationship with our school administration. We welcomed two new executive members this fall: Karen Rivero, who took over as Treasurer for Krista Millar-Smith, and Joeleen Fox, who took over as Secretary for Krystal Rice. Krista was our Treasurer from Spring 2022 until the fall of 2024, and she was a gigantic part of our Pam's Playground fundraiser. Krystal was our Secretary for several months last year. Thank you, Krista and Krystal!

**Meetings**

Our meetings occur the second Tuesday of every month, from 6:30-8:00 pm. We offer a virtual option for attendance through Microsoft Teams. Attendance at the meetings ranges from 5-10 people per meeting. We have had six meetings this year to date.

**Communication**

We post regularly on our Home and School Facebook group about school and community events and help keep the school website and school Google calendar up to date. We also send out (almost) monthly newsletters via paper copy with the students, and electronic copies via PowerSchool and our school website. We are also investigating other means of communication and would love to speak with other Associations who have adopted other options.

**Breakfast Program**

Englewood has a breakfast program that runs every morning. Our Vice Principal Michaela Richards organizes 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. The students look forward to their breakfasts and we are grateful for our volunteers!



*(Englewood Cont'd)*

### **Milk Program Website Administration**

Our technology expert Kyle runs our milk website. Our milk program has steady customers with an average of just over one quarter of our student population ordering milk every day.

### **Fundraisers**

The COSPEI fundraiser is our biggest fundraiser and has essentially eliminated the need for our Home and School to run small scale fundraisers during the year, with two exceptions: our Coupon Book Fundraiser has remained for the fall & spring, and we have kept our Christmas Flea Market because the students love it so much! We are so appreciative of the COSPEI program because it is low effort on our part and we do not need to coordinate events or recruit volunteers. This time last year we were averaging \$500/month through this fundraiser; we're now up to \$1000/month which is more funding than our Home and School has ever had access to in the past. As a result, we've improved upon our processes for financial accountability and transparency. We take all funding requests to our monthly meetings for proposal and voting purposes, and have had a lot of good discussions about which projects to finance and why.

We held our third annual student Christmas Flea Market in December that consisted of community donated items, gift bags and tissue paper. 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 \$700. At our December Home and School meeting we voted unanimously in favor of topping up this amount to \$1000, and we were able to donate that money to the "Englewood Elves" campaign, which helps out local families who need a boost around the holiday season.

### **Pam's Playground**

Our memorial playground - in honour of former Englewood teacher Pam Kelly - was installed this November, and the students have been loving having a new space to play. We are awaiting the spring time to complete some final touches including landscaping, installing an accessible Gaga Ball Pit, benches and a picnic table. We will also host an official grand opening in the Spring.

### **Project Funding**

We have been open with our school staff about the additional funding we're receiving through the COSPEI draws, and our desire to help financially support projects that help improve the quality of life for students and staff at Englewood. This has resulted in funding requests from the school staff. Sometimes these requests are granted immediately at the next Home and School meeting; sometimes we ask for more information or postpone until we obtain additional funding. The school staff have been receptive, flexible and accommodating to this process.

For the last several years, the Englewood school staff have hosted a Christmas Pancake Breakfast for the students in December. This year two of our school staff approached the Home and School with a funding

*(Englewood Cont'd)*

request for several pancake griddles, to help streamline the pancake production process. We were happy to oblige.

Our K-3 teachers and our Resource teachers came to us with the news that they were creating a “K-3 Learning Centre” in a classroom on our lower floor (which houses our K-3 classrooms). This play-based space is available to be used by all K-3 students as necessary, and will also serve as a space for our students with extra needs to spend time in as needed. The teachers requested some funding for supplies for the space, and after some discussions at several Home and School meetings and viewing their Amazon Wishlist, we decided to offer \$1200 in funding. This was happily accepted. We are thrilled to be able to support our students and staff in this way!

In December, we were able to pay the attendance fees for our students to see a Summerside Western Capitals hockey game. The students enjoyed the trip very much.

### **Staff Appreciation**

We held our annual Staff Appreciation week from February 10th-14th. For the last several years, we have asked our school community for gift card donations and they have always come through for the school staff. Between donations and chipping in with some Home and School funds, we had enough for every staff member (teachers, admin, EAs, custodians, and bus drivers) to win a gift card in our daily draws. We also planned to host a potluck on Thursday at lunchtime for the staff. Unfortunately, an early school closure threw a wrench in those plans this year!

### **Resolutions**

This year our group submitted a resolution to the PEI Home and School Federation Annual General Meeting. It calls for milk ordering added to the PEI School Food platform, to streamline ordering accessibility for families and negating the need for a separate website and ordering system. We currently only use the Hot Lunches website for milk ordering, which we find is confusing for new families. As mentioned above, our Home and School runs the milk website which is all done on volunteer time.

### **Summary**

We are so grateful for our supportive Englewood community and our great relationships with school staff. We look forward to putting the finishing touches on our Pam’s Playground project in the springtime, and celebrating another successful year with the Englewood Home and School Association.

**GEORGETOWN HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION**  
**Sarah Sampson, President**

**Executive:**

Vice President - Charlene Hebert

Secretary - Haley Zavo

Treasurer - Mallory Peters

DAC Rep - Peggy McInnis

School Administration - Sheryll O'Hanley

The Home and School Association met once in October 2024. At the meeting, concerns were raised about children's behaviour. There is a real problem this year with behaviour issues. Home and School are trying to work together with GES to brainstorm ideas of what can be done.

**Breakfast program**

Home and School volunteers prepared healthy morning meals 5 days/week. Charlene Hebert and Santana Parsons are the 2 volunteers who prepared breakfast each morning and continued to do so.

**Charlottetown Islander Day**

Georgetown School sponsored the entire school to go see Islanders play on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Turkey dinner**

Members of Home and School offered volunteer hours to prepare and serve this school meal in December. Lions Club of Montague donated \$300 towards the dinner.

**Christmas Fair**

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, GES held their Annual Christmas Fair. A little over \$4K was raised, which was split between Home and School and GES.

**Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week**

Members of the Home and School also joined together to celebrate Staff Appreciation Week in February with special treats, gift cards and a wall of gratitude.

**New School**

An announcement came in November 2024 that a new Georgetown School will be built in the near future.

**GLEN STEWART HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Emily Owen / Angie McCarthy, Co-Presidents**

Executive:

Jenna Drake – Vice President

Lydia MacDougall – Secretary

Randi Doyle – Treasurer

This year, there are new and returning members in various roles, and the team is eager to work closely with the school and parents to strengthen school-community ties.

**Key Initiatives:**

**Staff Appreciation Week (February 10-14, 2025):**

Our Home and School Executive is thrilled to show appreciation for the incredible dedication and hard work of the staff at Glen Stewart Primary. To express our gratitude, we have a week full of events and surprises lined up, including treats, meals, and fun prizes. Here's a breakdown of what we have planned for the staff:

- **Budget:** \$3,500
- **Events:**
  - Monday, Feb 10: Stock the fridge and cupboards (veggie trays, fruit, treats)
  - Tuesday, Feb 11: Pizza from Domino's
  - Wednesday, Feb 12: Restock fridge and cupboards
  - Thursday, Feb 13: Coffee and sweets
  - Friday, Feb 14: Candy bar, sandwiches, and subs from Buns and Things
- **Donations:** Parents are asked for monetary or prize donations.
- **Prizes:** Daily \$100 gift card draw and smaller prizes throughout the week.

**Fundraising Projects:**

We are proud of the exciting fundraising initiatives we have been working on this year at Glen Stewart Primary. These projects not only support our school community but also bring everyone together for fun and meaningful experiences. Here's a look at the events we've completed and those still to come:

- **Goldrush:** Participate and promote via Facebook.
- **Glen Stewart Primary Clothing:** School clothing available through All Crest Clothing; a percentage of sales benefits the school.
- **Santa Claus Breakfast:** Successful second annual event, sold out before the event.

*(Glen Stewart Cont'd)*

- **Stratford Schools Craft Fair:** Raised \$4,500 this year, with proceeds split between Glen Stewart Primary and Stratford Elementary.
- **Chocolate Bar Bingo:** A returning event scheduled for February.
- **Fun in the Park:** A June event with community activities such as fire trucks, face painting, and a Cavendish Fry Truck.

Through our recent fundraising efforts, we've been able to make a positive impact at Glen Stewart Primary and support the families who attend the school. We were able to give \$100 gift cards to classroom teachers to help restock their classrooms, and we also contributed \$1,000 to the school's Christmas Angel program to assist families in need during the holiday season.

### **Communications:**

We believe in staying connected with both the school and the parents to ensure everyone is well-informed and involved in the happenings at Glen Stewart Primary. Here's how we communicate with our school community

- **Facebook Page:** Regular updates and reminders to parents.
- **Friday Wrap-Up:** Contributions to Glen Stewart's weekly wrap-up communication to keep parents informed.

**GULF SHORE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Dorothy Wakelin, President**

**Executive:**

Vice President - Ashley Ryder

Treasurer - Lindsay Gallant/Charmaine Campbell

Secretary - Martina Cole-Gallant

**Meetings**

Our Home and School Board has a great working relationship with the admin and staff, meeting once a month on every second Tuesday. While we don't have a large attendance at meetings, Parents and Caregivers are always there to step in and help with the request for help with bake sales, staff meals or appreciation. Topics of discussion have been breakfast programs, food security, events, fundraising, classroom and school needs.

**Food Security**

A focus for the Gulf Shore Home and School has been helping maintain the Breakfast Program and keeping our food for thought cupboard stocked and accessible for students who may need it. Staff has shared that the benefits of having a morning snack available has a positive impact in the students' learning and it is noticeable when it isn't available. Currently Breakfast baskets are provided to each classroom on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and funded through grants and organized by the principal. Tuesdays and Thursdays are run by parent volunteers and funded through fundraising efforts. A Food for Thought Cupboard is kept stocked with easy grab and go snacks for students who do not have snacks or meals that day. We also continued to offer pizza for purchase on Fridays.

**Communication**

We use our Home and School Facebook page for the majority of Communication, Submit monthly Updates to the School Newsletter for families. Our Board has regular conversations and correspondence with the principal with any active or ongoing contributions they may need our support with or vice versa. We are very lucky to have very involved and helpful admin to assist the Home and School Board with many endeavours.

**School Spirit, Appreciation, Fundraisers**

September: We held a BBQ lunch during the Terry Fox Run; Great big thanks to North Rustico Home Hardware for the Donation of a BBQ

October: We held a Halloween Dance for Families and kids in all Grades; Purchased "Diversity Crayons"

November: We organized a School Spirit Clothing Order; Staff Meal during Parent Teacher Interviews

*(Gulf Shore Cont'd)*

- December: Held a Christmas Store; Helped with donations for Activity Night/Dance for Gr. 7-9; Hosted and Supplied Pancake Breakfast for all staff and students; Supplied Hot Chocolate at the School Skate; Christmas Concert Bake Sale.
- January: Purchased “Diversity Pencil crayons”
- February: Parents dropped off snacks/treats throughout Staff Appreciation Week; Made Staff Gratitude Shout Out Post and encouraged parents to comment; provided a Hot Meal at Lunch, Small Gift of appreciation.
- March: Organize Potluck during Parent Teacher Conferences; Easter Chocolate fundraiser.
- April: Organize/Plan a Bunny Hop in the evening for families and Kids up to grade 6; Help with supplies for Jr. High Activity Night/Dance.
- May/June: Supply a cold treat during Gulf Shore Games for Staff and Students and/or contribute towards end of year activities

**Collaboration**

Gulf Shore Consolidated School, as well as the Home and School Board is very fortunate to have many invested individuals and groups in the Community who continually help with projects and initiatives to help create a welcoming and comfortable space. In June last year the Shark Den (a large gazebo to be used as an outdoor classroom) was completed and it was the effort of many. This year our fundraising and efforts are going towards the Breakfast Program and the install and purchase of a Heat Pump for the Multi-Purpose Room. We have contacted PSB and got the go ahead that a 18,000 BTU unit could be installed. The goal for the heat pump is to create a “cooling centre” during the hot months where classes can rotate through. We want to help improve the wellbeing of staff and students and help make this WELL UTILIZED space more comfortable and safer for all to use especially in the hotter months.

**Summary**

Thus far the 2024/2025 school year has been busy and the home and school board continually strives to have a great supporting role towards Staff and Students at Gulf Shore. Located In North Rustico, Gulf Shore Consolidated is a great k-9 dual track English and French school, offering core French classes starting in Kindergarten and French Immersion starting in Grade 4. It has the best view of the Atlantic Ocean from the playground and is home to 264 students, with 15 homerooms. 35 staff, 5 bus drivers and parents and caregivers who do their best to build healthy foundations for their students.

**HERNEWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL/PARENT COUNCIL**  
**Vanessa Mallett, President**

Vice President - Krista Newman

Treasurer - Patti Sweet

The Hernewood Home and School try to meet every 6 weeks. Our first meeting in October was centered around activities, projects, and adding new people to the board. We like to thank Krista Newman for joining our team.

At the beginning of the year our committee was brainstorming new ideas for fundraising to gain some monies for school functions, 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.

The Home and school association prepared a hot meal for the staff of Hernewood during Christmas, and also made a week of meals, snacks and prizes for Teacher's appreciation week with the support and help of parents.

Home and School contributed to the students with a 12-day Christmas Give-Away to the student body. Breakfast program started up in December for a grab and go setting, and are working on recruiting more volunteers to make this program successful. The Breakfast program is offered to the students, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Parent Council will be helping with recruiting and preparing for a pancake breakfast, and a book fair.

The end of the year we hope to do a school BBQ for all the students sponsored by the Parent Council Association and we hope to be able to contribute to the grade 9 graduation.

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 HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Cara Dempsey / Kate MacKay, Co-Chairs**

Treasurer: Sue Ellen Campbell

Secretary: Jen Knight

Home and School Meetings Scheduled:

September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

May 2025 AGM TBD

**Fundraising Initiatives:**

We are continuing with PEI COS Gold Rush as it brings in a comfortable amount of funds to help support various initiatives in the school. With some of these funds, we are honoring the staff at LM throughout the year, and not just 1 week of the year. We are holding weekly draws, for a \$25 gift card for various locations. Another way we can say thank you and show our appreciation to all of them.

We also worked with Mabel's Labels at the start of the school year and participated in the Christmas Coupon book fundraiser. We worked with a new clothing company, to produce our school's line of spirit wear in the fall and hope to open a new shop in the spring.

We have backed off our big fundraising push, as we were able to meet our goal of several new playground pieces, which were installed in September.

We support the staff at school with some extra purchases at the start of the school year, we donate to the Christmas Families to support those in need during the holidays. We pay for a portion of the staff meals during P/T interviews, supplies to clean up the flower beds in front of the school, purchased some new semi-mature trees for the playground and the purchase of t-shirts for all Grade 6 students and many other supports.

**Staff Appreciation Week:**

We created a treat bag for all 80 staff members (teachers, admins, EA's, custodians and bus drivers). We purchased a selection of gift cards and had items donated by the parents and community so the school could hold draws during the week. Through SignUp Genius, we asked parents to sponsor items for a coffee break and an Appreciation Snack wagon. Our leadership students decorated the wagon and took the cart from classroom to classroom offering treats to all the staff.

Monday – Appreciation Cart (water, treats and fruit)

*(LMM Cont'd)*

Tuesday – Coffee break (Keurig Pods – as the coffee being delivered in the past was wasted, and sweets/baked goods)

Wednesday - Appreciation Cart  
- Hot Chili lunch generously donated by the Rodd Charlottetown, including a meat and vegetarian option, as well as fresh rolls.

Thursday - Coffee break (more Keurig pods and baked goods)

**Stress and Anxiety Session:**

We held a session at LM for parents on how to help your students/children cope with stress and anxiety. We shared this session with other schools in the area but unfortunately, it was poorly attended.

**Community Event:**

In September we had a welcome back to school event at the school. An outdoor movie night. This was very well attended, with close to 200 people.

In February, we held our second Chocolate Bar Bingo at the North Shore Community Center and had approx. 80 people in attendance. We are planning an event in June, as a year end celebration, with details still being worked out.

**Breakfast Program:**

We have taken over scheduling and overseeing the volunteers who help prepare the food in the mornings and those who help sort the lunch meals. We are also now responsible for ordering the breakfast food items (with the school paying) to help take some of those to do items off the administrators list. We keep items simple so it's an easy grab and go, with little waste. Cheerios, cubes of cheese and half an apple, banana or orange.

**150th Birthday Celebrations of LM Montgomery:**

The school held various activities during the fall to celebrate this great birthday. Reading grade of Anne of Green Gables book, to a full-on birthday party, with cake, ice cream and old-fashioned games. For a little something special, the Home and School purchased a commemorative coin for every child.

**Communication:**

Our Facebook page is very active as we try to keep our parents and community updated on events, activities and weather. We are working at creating an Instagram page as well. Any information that we need shared quickly with parents, is shared via email by the school. The community events that we are holding are steps in building a more interactive school community.

**M.E. CALLAGHAN HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Carrie-Ann Dunbar, 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 Facebook page for parents, as well as general emails which are sent out by the school.

We continued to have great success and feedback with our summer tutor program which we offered once again 2024. 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 and online safety to students.

We were happy to help provide funding to purchase two new speakers to be used for ceremonies, assemblies, etc. As items come up, our home and school is happy to help provide support where we can.

We continued to have a breakfast program operating ~three 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 was planned over a two-week period, where staff were celebrated with coffee, snacks, lunches, etc.

In conclusion, we as the Home and School Committee feel that we've been successful in providing positive, meaningful support 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

**MISCOUCHE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Erynn Servos Cormier / Tracy Jones, Co-Presidents**

Our Home and School meets the second Tuesday of each month. Our executive made up of myself and 4 other amazing ladies, the Principal and Vice Principal are usually the only attendees. We have a very low interest rate with families in our community. We have covered numerous topics throughout the year. The School Food Project is going well. The new options are appreciated.

The Breakfast program is being run by the staff at the school and doing ok financially, with donations from local businesses. They stick to mainly toast but do have some extras sometimes.

They had to take out some playground equipment which left some grades with very little to play on. The Home and School helped to provide GAGA pits to give something as a start. A fundraiser has started to raise money to replace the equipment. They are aiming for \$25,000 so they can get the match of \$25,000 from the government. So far with help from the COS PEI 50/50 they are doing very well. The Home and School has offered help. As well, we have asked local businesses for support. The school wanted to expand the access for children with special needs and adaptations. We donated to help provide therapy equipment for a sensory room.

The school is now over capacity. They are using different rooms to accommodate for the extra students. It is not ideal and a request for support has been sent by the administration. They used to have portable classrooms but they were taken to help Evangeline School when they had hurricane damage. Those units have since been rendered unusable.

They are also having difficulty getting a Music Teacher to cover a maternity leave which is very unfortunate. It might be filled by someone without music experience. We were very disappointed to learn of this loss.

We have discussed the value of the PD days for Social and Emotional Learning. There seems to be noticeable success with the children. We communicate via Facebook, email, and school newsletters. We had a Christmas Shopping Day for the students. They love this every year. Donations are brought in and then we provide a day for the students to come and shop for their family and friends. Each item is \$1. It is very successful each year and the kids love it.

We also take advantage of the COS PEI draw which has been more successful this year. The principal has been great adding reminders for families to play or learn about the initiative. We asked the school families for potluck items for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. Due to storms etc., it was a short week.

Extra ~ Last year at the Grade 9 graduation, I (Erynn) presented “words of affirmation” to each student. I asked the teacher to have each child pick a name and write either a good memory of them or something they noticed was extra special or kind. It went over very well and they all seemed happy to be respected. We will do this again this year.

MONTAGUE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

**Executive:**

Currently unfilled - President  
Debra Matheson - Secretary  
Craig Goodick - Treasurer

This school year it has been challenging to recruit a full executive team, but parents are meeting to support students and staff of Montague Intermediate school. Our school leadership is motivated to bring every opportunity possible to students. Our parents strive to be a support to this team.

**Initiatives:**

School goals team with parents and staff group at school including some students, teachers and leaders to develop new goals and vision for school. This will be posted and shared with all as an overarching direction for school. Home and School members will review and comment on ideas via email.

It has been decided to have four Home and School meetings per year in hopes of increasing attendance and involvement. A virtual link will also be included for each gathering.

**Staff Appreciation Week:**

Staff were appreciative of community members who took the time to send treats in for Staff Appreciation Week. Principal reports they were well fed, had some nice thank you cards made and delivered, and felt appreciated all week.

**Communication:**

MIS Home and School has introduced a new Facebook page to increase our ability to share information with all parents/guardians and families. There is also a plan to add a tab on the school website for sharing of Home and School information.

**Fundraising:**

Home and School held a \$1000 draw as a fundraiser and was planning on a spring fair. Due to lack of interest from vendors at this time the Spring Fair has been cancelled. There will be plans for a Fair/Yard Sale during the 70-mile yard sale in the Fall. COSplay funds continue to support activities for students. Some activities supported are sledding with hot chocolate and snack, Rock Paper Scissors competition and motivational speaker, Frisbee Rob.

**MOREL 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 per 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.

- Topics on our meeting agendas 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 Home and School can help with – new pilot program.
- We planned a fall movie night for students from grades K-6 and will be planning a spring family activity.

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 31<sup>st</sup> deadline? Briefly, tell us about the topic.

- N/A

Did your Association apply for funds to host a Parent Leadership event? - Not this 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 via social media and the School Newsletter.

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

- Morell Home and School have been participating in COSPEI since September 2024 and we've been very successful in bringing in funds. This year we did not do any other fundraisers. The funds have been used for subsidizing field trip costs, a math program, colour of the world markers, a new toaster for the breakfast program, games painted on the pavement for students, and we will be providing a graduation gift.

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.

*(Morell Cons. Cont'd)*

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.

- No one was able to attend the semi-annual meeting this year.

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

- No. We were not aware.

**MOUNT STEWART HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Leanne Feehan, President**

Executive

Vice-President: Katie McNally

Treasurer: Jennifer Handrahan

Secretary: Crystal Jay

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. Even though we have seen a drop in attendance numbers, we still get a few people to our meetings (and always have people reach out to help when we need it). Topics discussed at every meeting include occupational health and safety concerns, parent engagement and our breakfast & 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 (baked goods, hot/cold drinks, munchies, dips etc.) and a hot lunch (homemade soup and sandwiches) one day and a “candy bar” on the last day. We also gave a donation to the staff’s casual fund, so staff could dress casually for the week. Throughout the week we also do 2 daily draws for GCs to random local stores/restaurants.

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. Since joining the COSPEI Goldrush draw, we have been able to cut out the rest of our fundraisers. This has been such a great “money maker” for our Home and School and we have been able to help out even more around the school. We have given the school money to go towards their “wish list”, which includes gym and music equipment, HDMI adapters and online fees for online lunch orders and school appointments. We were also able to sponsor a school skate and help out with the cost of field trips and give more money towards Christmas families.

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. We hope to partner up with the school again for other family events in the future.

We continued to run a Facebook group, where we shared 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; that includes parents, grandparents, community members and seniors that help out with our breakfast/lunch program. We continued 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.



**PARKDALE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Myra Barquilla, President**

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2024-2025 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.

This year, like last year, was all about building a community and bringing our families together. We have continued to approach Home and School "meetings" by alternating formal and informal meetings. Formal meetings were held in September, 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.

September: I met with the school principal in early September to discuss the school's goals, and main fundraisers and events. I also introduced Home and School at Meet the Staff night. We hosted a play date in late September for all students and their families, where we all met at the school playground for an hour to socialize and share some treats.

October: We had a Halloween Night Bingo, which turned out to be very successful. We were able to raise \$700 for the Home and School.

November: We had our formal meeting where we discussed having a 50/50 raffle draw at the Holiday concert and bringing in sweet treats for the school staff. Positive Behavioural Intervention and Support (PBIS) was also introduced by our school principal. You can read about PBIS [here](#). The school also converted one of the rooms into the "nest", a place where students can come and reset themselves, so they are able to reintegrate into class better. The nest is designed to be a low stimulation space, and a staff member is always available for support. This initiative is in support of student well-being, and so far, has been met with nothing but great feedback from staff and students.

December: There was no meeting in December, but we did have the raffle draw and we were able to raise \$146.50. We also brought a tray of sweets for the school staff.

January: The main agenda was planning for Staff Appreciation Week. Our school principal also discussed the roll-out of PBIS. Home and School is also collaborating with one of the school staff in hosting a Diversity Fair in mid-April.

February: A Kids vs. Parents gym night is planned for the end of February for our students in grades 4-6 and their parents.

*(Parkdale Cont'd)*

March: No meetings planned due to March break, but I will be meeting up with one of the school staff to work on the Diversity Fair event.

April-June: We plan to co host the Diversity Fair in April and have one more formal meeting in May to discuss end of year activities.

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 Halloween Bingo Night and 50/50 draw during the Holiday Concert; the funds raised were used to treat the staff to a luncheon during Staff Appreciation Week. COSPEI Goldrush is another on-going fundraising initiative, and we have seen a significant increase in funds from it this 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)

- No, we did not nominate anyone.

2025 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week was February 10-14. 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 Raffle Draw Day (where random draws for gift cards, generously donated by our families, were made throughout the day), Wednesday was Salty Snacks Day, Thursday 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), and Friday was supposed to be free lunch for staff but was moved to Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> due to storm closures. The staff felt the love and appreciation, and we cannot wait for next year for another fun SAW!

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2024. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned. N/A

Are you aware that the provincial Federation board and staff members will attend local Home and School Association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization? Yes, we are aware of this.

**PARKSIDE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Kristi Bernard, President**

Kendra MacLellan – Vice-President  
Amanda Paynter – Treasurer  
Jana Newsome – Past President

This year we have some new and returning members for our Home and School Executive. We are excited to have new faces with enthusiasm and new ideas, as well as past members to support and help facilitate how things have worked in the past.

**Initiatives:**

**Breakfast Program:**

Mrs. Delgado Keough continues to coordinate the breakfast program, food and volunteers. She schedules a dedicated group of volunteers and the grade six leadership group continued to help make this program possible as well. Food is prepared five days a week for each class. We are grateful to local businesses and donors who continued to fund this program and keep it running.

**Healthy Snacks:**

We continued to purchase snacks for the office to have on hand to ensure students are all getting what they need to make it through a busy school day.

**Pilot Programs:**

**PBIS School:** Parkside is one of the schools involved in the PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports) Mrs. Delgado Keough moved into the role of being the PBIS champion for the school and many strides have been taken to promote school safety and good behavior.

**Staff Appreciation Week:**

Staff Appreciation Week is one that we strive to make a great one for the staff. We see daily how hard all the staff at Parkside work, and we celebrate them every day of this week with something different each day.

- Monday - Coffee, Tea, and treats from Samuels
- Tuesday - Goodie bags in mailboxes
- Wednesday - Popcorn Bar in staff room
- Thursday - Goodie bags in mailboxes
- Friday - Pizza Lunch from Dinos

Additionally, custodians and EAs were treated to lunch on a day especially for them in January and to recognize their importance at Parkside.

*(Parkside Cont'd)*

**Committees:**

A playground committee has been established to work on the planning and purchasing of new playground equipment at Parkside. Most of these members are the same as the home and school members and they have been busy with fundraising ideas, equipment options and quotes and completing grant applications.

**Communication:**

A new Facebook page has been created for our Home and School and we have been working on getting information out to as many parents and caregivers as possible. The school has been very supportive in sending out any communications for us through PowerSchool emails and also on their Facebook page.

**Fundraising:**

Parkside is a member of the COS PEI Goldrush draw and support for that continues to grow all the time. We sold tickets on a cash draw in December to help support sending the students to the movies and a hockey game. We also sold candy grams that were delivered to the students before the holiday break. In February we sold Stickers of Sunshine to be sent out to students on Pink Shirt Day and there is potential to do another cash draw in May/June.

**PRINCE STREET HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Tanya Arsenault, President**

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2024-2025 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 fundraising ideas, school needs, community building activities and events. We were also presented with a pilot program, “PBIS” that Prince Street is participating in, which helps students and staff co-create a safer and more encouraging environment.

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 31<sup>st</sup> 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. We have another campaign planned for March called *Fill the Jar*. The money will be used for a second Gaga Ball pit. We held a games night in February with canteen sales going to support ongoing school needs. A “Spring Fling Fair” is also scheduled for early June with admission and BBQ/Cavendish Fries sales directed towards school funding. The school is also participating in an ongoing weekly 50/50 draw, in which community members split winnings with Prince Street School and we have received several large donations through that.

*(Prince Street Cont'd)*

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.

2025 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 10-14. 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 - but it was interrupted by a snow day.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2024. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

- Nobody attended the meeting.

Are you aware that the provincial Federation board and staff members 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 CHARLOTTE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

The Queen Charlotte Home and School Association has been actively engaged in several key initiatives to support the school community. Here are the highlights of their recent activities:

**1. 70th Anniversary Celebrations**

The association is preparing for the 70th anniversary of Queen Charlotte Intermediate School. This milestone event includes organizing archives and hosting an open house to commemorate the school's history and achievements. The event aims to engage alumni, current students, and the broader community in celebrating this significant occasion.

**2. New Addition Planning**

In collaboration with the Public Schools Branch (PSB) and the provincial government, the Home and School is involved in planning a new addition to the school. This project aims to enhance educational facilities and provide better learning environments for students.

**3. Staff Appreciation**

Recently, the association celebrated Staff Appreciation Week, recognizing the dedication and hard work of the school's staff.

**4. Spring Home and School Meeting**

An invitation will be extended to parents of incoming grade 6 students to attend the Spring Home and School meeting. This meeting will provide an opportunity for parents to learn about the new building plans and ask questions about the school. It is an essential step in keeping the community informed and involved in the school's development.

Overall, the Queen Charlotte Home and School Association continues to play a vital role in supporting the school's activities and fostering a collaborative environment that benefits everyone involved.

**SHERWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Sarah Borsos, President**

Bethany Robinson - Vice President  
Elina John - Outgoing Treasurer  
Annie Lougheed and Sam Gallant - Playground Committee Members

**Communication with families**

We communicate with families through regular monthly meetings, school messenger emails, and social media. Additionally, we maintain a presence at school-run activities to stay engaged and connected with the community.

**Fundraising**

Our primary fundraising focus is our new playground, which has been our goal for the past few years. To support this, we are planning a large fundraising event in the spring in collaboration with the Lions Club to raise a significant amount of money. Additionally, we have developed and are distributing a sponsorship proposal package to encourage company and personal donations.

Beyond our playground efforts, we also run smaller-scale fundraisers, such as selling Christmas trees and wreaths, to help offset our annual costs. Recently, we joined the Causable Goldrush fundraiser, with proceeds going toward the playground and other annual expenses, including donations to teachers for their classrooms.

**Home and School Federation Awards Program**

John "Red" Cheverie, our dedicated crossing guard, was honored with the Home and School Federation's Crossing Guard of the Year Award. This award recognizes school crossing guards across Prince Edward Island for their commitment to ensuring the safety of students as they travel to and from school each day.

In recognition of his outstanding service, Mr. Cheverie was presented with his award during a special ceremony held at the school, allowing both staff and students to celebrate this well-deserved achievement alongside him.

**School Staff Appreciation Week**

For Staff Appreciation Week, our Home and School team has chosen the theme "Sherwood Staff Appreciation Era." To celebrate, we will be decorating the staff lounge with fun, themed décor and inviting parents and family members to contribute food donations throughout the week. As a special gesture of gratitude, Home and School will also be providing a pizza lunch for all staff on Thursday. This initiative is our way of recognizing and thanking our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment to our school community.



### **Project Collaborations**

Our Home and School Committee is dedicated to creating opportunities for the school community to come together and connect. One of our signature events is a large-scale outdoor BBQ held every September to welcome students and families back to school. With the generous financial support of a local grocery store, this event is completely free for families. We partner with a fry truck, where parents serve fries, and with the help of our dedicated staff, we serve over 600 hot dogs to attendees.

Additionally, we have hosted two school dances this year, providing students with a fun and safe environment to enjoy time with their peers. These dances are free of charge, and to enhance the experience, we sell concessions and glow sticks, making the events both exciting and memorable.

### **Food Initiatives**

Our school's Breakfast Program is well-established and is a school run initiative that operates five days a week. It provides students with a nutritious start to their day, offering toast, milk or water, fresh fruit, and occasionally cheese or Nutri grain bars. From time to time, bagels are also served as an alternative to toast.

While the Home and School Committee does not currently oversee the program, we are exploring ways to support it, such as providing funding for equipment to introduce special breakfast options like a waffle morning for students.

In addition to the breakfast program, the school also offers a free healthy snack to all students every Wednesday. The items vary each week and have included trail mix, popcorn, frozen yogurt treats, applesauce, and fresh fruit, ensuring students have access to a variety of healthy options.

### **Annual AGM Ideas**

During our recent brainstorming session, we explored potential discussion topics for the upcoming Annual AGM. Among the various ideas considered, one topic that generated significant interest was identifying ways to better include and support parents of children with unique educational needs within our current school system.

**SPRING PARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Sjors Reijers, President (until December 2024)**  
**Jen Howard, President/Vice-President (VP until Sjors' departure)**

Cathy Lowe – Treasurer  
Brandy MacLellan-Stewart – Treasurer  
Bethany Kauzlarick - Secretary  
Heather Walker – Breakfast Program Co-Chair  
Heidi Craswell – Breakfast Program Co-Chair

We were very pleased to have a few new members this year, and very sad to see our president, Sjors, depart, albeit on a great adventure with his family. We continued to try and build our community of parents and caregivers involved, and welcome ideas of how best to support and engage with our school, students and staff.

**Initiatives:**

**Breakfast Program:**

Heather and Heidi have worked wonders keeping our breakfast program serving breakfast 5 days a week. They continued to coordinate a full suite of volunteers, organizing the menu and supplies, and meeting the needs of our students. On average, we serve approximately 150 students a day out of over 400 in our school.

In addition to the morning breakfast program, Heather and Heidi are also coordinating the delivery of healthy snacks to each classroom to best serve students in need of additional food. This is in response to a request from one of our counsellors who saw a need and hoped we could help. We were more than happy to do so! This has only started in the new year, so we are yet to understand the number of students benefiting so far.

**Spelling Bee:**

For the second year in a row, we have supported the Spelling Bee with a \$500 donation. Funds were used for registrant fees and additional costs as deemed appropriate by the coordinator.

**Health and Wellness:**

**School Health Grant / Parent Leadership Project**

We applied and were successful in receiving a Live Well PEI School Health Grant to offer a series of parenting workshops which provided both childcare and snacks to make it easy for parents to attend. However, due to time limitations of the administration and last-minute changes requested by the funders, we weren't able to take part.

However, instead our Student Wellness Team worked together to plan two parenting sessions on the following topics:

*(Spring Park Cont'd)*

- Family and Emotional Safety
- Dealing with Disobedience

Volunteers were able to provide childcare for those bringing their children, and for our role, the Home and School were very happy to provide snacks for those in attendance. We would love to offer the full series of workshops initially planned with the grant, and will plan to reapply next year.

### **Student Wellness:**

In the beginning of the school year, we were approached by counsellors about providing necessities to students (underwear, shoes, toothpaste, deodorant, hairbrushes, etc.). After receiving a list of needs from the counsellors, we provided the items to them to be delivered to students as needed. In the new year, we once again received requests for warm mitts and gloves for those in need and provided them. In all we spent just over \$500 on these items.

### **Staff Appreciation Week:**

Staff Appreciation Week continues to be enthusiastically supported by the Home and School at Spring Park. We continued to foster a positive and collaborative relationship with the wonderful staff at our school, and enjoy the opportunity to demonstrate our appreciation. Our budget for this week of treats and surprises is \$1,500.

- Monday: Treat Bags (assembled by volunteers)
- Tuesday: Taco Tuesday (Taco Boyz purchased by us, lunch duty covered by parent volunteers)
- Wednesday: Coffee, Tea & Hot Chocolate in the staff room (delivered by a parent volunteer)
- Thursday: Sandwiches (delivered by parent volunteer)
- Friday: Gift Card Giveaway! (Families donated gift cards earlier in the week for a giveaway)

### **Committees:**

We continued to strive to engage and recruit as many parent volunteers to help throughout the year on various projects. We want to make it as easy and fun as possible to have parents engage with our projects. We have continued using our committees as a way to show parents what they can help with, give them a sense of time commitment, and hopefully have them help throughout the year and even into the next. Our current committees are:

- Staff Appreciation Committee
- Outdoor Space Committee
- Graduation Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Culture and Inclusion Committee

*(Spring Park Cont'd)*

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.

**Communication:**

While we have had success in engaging parents and caregivers through maintaining our social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram) we continue to strive to reach as many parents as possible to have them join us, and engage with our group. We additionally submit updates and information in the monthly school newsletter that is mailed out each month.

**Fundraising:**

We participate in the fall and spring coupon books sold by students (fall funds go directly to the school), and continued with our participating in the COS PEI Goldrush

**SOMERSET HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Rachel Waugh, President**

Contact: somersetconshs@gmail.com

Vice President - Nichole Doucette

Treasurer - Tara Smith Hughes (outgoing) & Maggie O'Brien (incoming)

The 2024-2025 school year is our first year since before COVID to have official home and school representation.

### **Breakfast Program**

For the last few years, our breakfast program has consisted of toast, apples and cheese. This year's committee has taken on the initiative to expand our breakfast program by adding oranges, yogurt tubes and bananas into the weekly rotation. This is served every morning by a rotating group of volunteers with a few volunteers on standby to fill in for the regulars. Monthly schedules are sent out to the volunteers and printed and posted in the library where breakfast is served, so that everyone knows who is scheduled and what is to be served.

### **Communication with Families**

We communicate with families weekly and on an as needed basis. Our president sends a weekly update to the principal, and this information is included within the weekly email that is sent from the principal every Sunday afternoon. We use sign up genius as a way to obtain volunteers when needed, and will also have the admin of the school Facebook group share important information, links to sign up to volunteer and flyers made using Canva. Our president also created home and school meeting agendas that are sent out 1-2 weeks before the meeting with requests for topics parents would like to discuss.

<https://somerset.edu.pe.ca/extra-curricular/home-and-school-information>

### **Fundraising**

This has been the first year in many for Somerset to have large fundraising goals and efforts:

1. Sandbox for our playground: \$2251.98
  - installed and being used since November
  - Home and School secured donation of materials from Callbecks Home Hardware to reduce the cost to build. Causable money was used to pay for the labor.
  
2. Scoreboard for our gymnasium: \$9478.47
  - ordered Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>
  
3. Support families by reducing the cost of field trips
  - Paid for the CAPS Game Field Trip Dec 17<sup>th</sup>
  - buses (\$215x3=\$645) & game tickets (\$2x191=\$382): \$1027

(Somerset Cont'd)

- cost to families was only if they opted in to purchase lunch at the game
- Plan to continued to support cost of buses and reduce field trip costs throughout the year

4. Add inclusive playground equipment to our playground - we have selected the items that we would like to see added to our playground. In the process of getting quotes and inquiring about grants we may be eligible for before continuing with this.
5. Drop down projector and screen for the gymnasium is also a goal that may be carried forward to the 2025-2026 school year.

### **Other Fundraisers/Grants this year:**

#### **Completed:**

**Mill River Raffle:** \$6645 – 1929/2000 tickets: 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10. Oct 8<sup>th</sup>- Nov 26<sup>th</sup>

**Silent Auction:** \$8400 - monetary donations + item donations posted on Facebook page for auction: Nov 24<sup>th</sup> – Dec 7<sup>th</sup>

**Halloween Dance:** \$645-sold glow sticks (\$0.50), juice boxes (\$1.00) and charged \$3 admission. Oct 24<sup>th</sup>

**Island Trails Grant:** \$500 – received, to plan a field trip in the spring

**Christmas Bazaar:** \$886.20 – Christmas shopping, \$1 per item. Dec 16<sup>th</sup>

#### **Ongoing:**

**Mabels Labels:** \$157.24 -shared link on Facebook to receive 20% from all orders placed. Keeping this as an ongoing fundraiser, so anytime people place an order we will receive

#### **Upcoming:**

**Anne of Green Gables Chocolates:** March 24-28, 2025

**Easter Dance** – April, date TBD

**Drive a Honda** – with BBQ & Bake Sale: May 31<sup>st</sup>

### **School Staff Appreciation Week**

- Created a signup genius page for parents to volunteer to bring items
- Decided to split up and provide 2 days a week for 3 weeks to spread the love and limit food waste.
- Lunch to be provided Tues. Feb 4,11,18
- Snacks to be provided Thurs. Feb 6,13,20

**SOURIS REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Jessica Townshend / Paige Gardiner, Co-Chairs**

Treasurer - Heidi Cahill

Secretary - Marla Townshend

Provincial Representative - Kelly Steele

Members at large - Krystal Jamieson, Stephanie MacPhee, Katie MacCormack, Lynne MacPhee and Karen Mullally

Plus Our volunteer group who help out for special events and activities

We started the 2024-2025 school year with a newly appointed executive, as outlined above. We thank Krystal Jamieson for her many years as Chair of Home and School as well as Liz Chaisson for her years as Treasurer. Both have been and continued to be a great support to the new executive. Our volunteer group has grown, and this group helps with specialty events when they can.

We started off the school year with our **annual chocolate bar fundraiser**, our biggest fundraiser to date. This fundraiser was for the K-6 students. The company provided us with 1 lb and 3 lb chocolate bars to give out as prizes to the sellers. We also purchased prizes to hand out to students who sold the most chocolate bars.

We were able to help purchase a new Lego table for the kindergarten class – a much-needed addition to the classroom.

On September 10th we held our first ever **Meet a Machine** event. This event brought together the ENTIRE community. Everyone had a connection to this event. We had road working machines, farm equipment, fishing boats, haulers, 4 wheelers, fire trucks, motorcycles- you name it, we had it. The kids all enjoyed being able to get ‘up close’ to these machines they might not get to see everyday. This was also another way to show children that there are so many interesting jobs out there.

We were approached by a math teacher in the elementary school for helping with funding a program called **IXL**. This teacher presented us with a slideshow of information and had used the program firsthand. She expressed great interest and showed us just how useful this program could be.

The **SRS Track and field program** has never had matching jerseys for their meets (One of the few groups who do not) We were asked by the track and field coach if we could help cover the costs of matching T-Shirts for their meets. Our executive was happy to do so.

For the 1<sup>st</sup> time, we planned a **Christmas activity night** in conjunction with The Town of Souris. The town of Souris helped fund most of the Christmas activity costs, while home and school ensured it was broadcasted, planned and run smoothly.

*(Souris Cont'd)*

This holiday we were able to **sponsor a family** for Christmas. We have had a tremendous amount of loss in our community this past year and we were able to help brighten the holiday for one specific family.

We were able to assist financially with some extra at Christmas with winter school activities for the kids such as sleigh ride, trip to the local movie theatre and 'rink treats' for the grads vs. teachers' hockey game.

A huge outdoor problem our school has is a **very limited green space** for kids to play. Since this space is so small and over-utilized, the space becomes a pool of mud and mess, making it unenjoyable for the kids, parents and custodians. We are working with the government to find a solution to this problem. Suggested options include artificial ground and closing the road the school is on to utilize the large area greenspace next door (which is also owned by the school). We don't anticipate this will be a quick fix but we are working together to come up with a long-term solution.

Updating the **menu for our daily breakfast program** has been a mission for some time and just this past January we were able to update and secure a better, more diverse menu, which was not heavily packaged foods but more balanced, nutritious options.

The past executive received the **parent leadership grant** and will be pursuing this event in April of 2025. With this money we will host a trade show style information session with education on a variety of topics such as drug use/vaping, mental health, gender/consent and online safety. These topics have been identified as areas of concern and needing more education by parents and community members. Our aim is to provide parents with knowledge and skills to address these issues in their home.

### **Teacher Appreciation Week**

As always, we are so happy to celebrate our educators during their special week February 10-14<sup>th</sup>. We had daily treats planned for the teachers.

Monday	Fudge and Cookie day
Tuesday	Soup and rolls
Wednesday	A free bag of delicious PEI potatoes to take home, locally donated
Thursday	Breakfast burritos and fruit for teachers
Friday	Take home candy treat bags

Each day we have a draw for 2 gift cards to be awarded to our educators.

**The Souris excellence award** was awarded to our recipient, Ashley Sherbanuk on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> during a school assembly. Our recipient has a full binder full of letters, pictures, stories of support. Congratulations Mrs. Sherbanuk



*(Souris Cont'd)*

**Bus driver of the year award** will be presented in the spring. We have already received nominations for this.

**Cavendish fry truck** – This year we have secured the cavendish fry truck to come to the school for a fun lunch day/ fundraiser for Home and School. The students will all be invited to get lunch here on this day.

**Spring carnival** - In 2024 we were able to resume our spring carnival for the first time since pre-covid. It was a HUGE success, and we have agreed to make this a yearly event every April. This event is both a fundraiser and spirit raiser for the SRS community.

This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> year we are able to offer a **bursary to an SRS graduate**. Our standard is to award a student who volunteers and helps with projects and events put on by Souris Regional Home and School and who may not be receiving any other awards.

We hope to continue to try to recruit more members and be as involved in the school as we can be.

**SOUTHERN KINGS HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Krista Sheppard President**

Lisa Jackson - Vice President  
Ashley Higginbotham - Treasurer  
Emily Norton - Secretary

This year has been a great year so far!

In September we started our breakfast program and the government healthy lunch program started.

Our breakfast program runs five days a week and we have multiple volunteers who run the program and come in and help make breakfast. There are many items that are offered throughout the week for breakfast such as: toast, pancakes, homemade biscuits and cheese, monk rolls, smoothies, French toast and lots of other items.

The healthy lunch program runs five days a week.

In October we held a wrapping paper fundraiser. The funds are going towards new playground equipment for our school. We have been running numerous different fundraisers over the last couple years including online auctions, pancake raffles, bake sale, auction to help get us closer to having some new playground equipment added.

In December we were able to have our Christmas Dinner on December 11th and all the students and staff were able to enjoy a wonderful chicken dinner.

Staff Appreciation week was held February 10th - 14th. We had many treats made from local businesses and dropped off at the school for our wonderful staff to enjoy. We are very fortunate to have such wonderful and caring staff at SKC.

We will be holding our annual Swing into Spring Online Auction in April. This will be our 8th auction and we have raised over \$40,000 to date and all monies has gone back into our school to purchase new books for teacher's classrooms, chrome books, new gym equipment, built a new outdoor shelter for our junior high students, and so much more.

It is hard to believe how this year is flying by.

Thank you  
SKC Home and School

**ST. JEAN 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 three 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, school goals, PBIS, 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 three years and how that will be implemented in the school. We are a pilot school for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). We discussed what this is and what it looks like this year. 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 a weekly email from Administration and social media (school Facebook page), Home and School will hopefully set up their own page to communicate this year.

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 cover the cost for a Hackmatack Author visit, pay for half the hot lunch program, cover part of the cost of the year end field trip, have a staff appreciation lunch in June, cover the cost of renting sound equipment for our Christmas Concert, cover the cost of a swimming trip, give funding to our sound equipment for our Christmas Concert, cover the cost of a swimming trip, give funding to our Writing Celebration, and cover Staff Appreciation week.

*(St. Jean Cont'd)*

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.

2025 Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is the week of February 10-14. Briefly describe your activities.

- Monday - Stock the fridge with favorite drinks
- Tuesday - coffee/treat break
- Wednesday - Candy buffet
- Thursday - Bagel snack
- Friday - Staff lunch
- Valentines Friday (Michelle will fill out valentines, we will send the valentines home for her to fill out)
- Random draws: flowers, gift cards, lottery tickets, prep time, etc.

The Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training Workshops were held in Oct and Nov. 2024. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned.

- No one was available.

Are you aware that the provincial Federation board and staff members 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**

Erin Doucette - Vice President  
Lacey Gaudet - Treasurer  
Christina Blanchard - Secretary

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

Our board has remained the same with four active members:

RaeAnne Arsenault (President); Erin Doucette (Vice President); Lacey Gaudet (Treasurer) & Christina Blanchard (Secretary). RaeAnne has graciously stayed on with us another year to assist us in various areas.

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

We were excited to kick off the year with a Welcome Back Barbeque in September. We have helped fund a library upgrade which included new furniture, rugs and other items as needed.

We continued to offer a very strong breakfast program daily. We offer snack boxes each day, and once a week we offer a ‘prepared’ breakfast such as: smoothies, bagels, toast, etc. We also incorporate other promotions that may be going on in the community (such as Co-op Citrus week) – where students were presented with sliced oranges to go with their breakfast.

We have contributed treats and/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., Winter wellness day, Winter Carnival, French week (just to name a few)!

We were excited for the opportunity of the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 and School. The positive feedback on this event from teachers, students and parents continues to be tremendous!

Our teacher appreciation was planned over a 2-week period, where staff were celebrated with coffee, snacks, lunches, etc.

In conclusion, we as the Home and School Committee feel that we’ve been successful in providing positive, meaningful support 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.

**STRATFORD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Vanessa Campbell / Femke Hakkers, Co-Chairs**

**Fundraising projects:**

We continued to promote COSPEI 50/50 draws to raise money for the breakfast program expenses as well as other school needs. We also partner with Glen Stewart School to organize a Christmas Craft Fair in November. Students also sell coupon booklets in the Spring.

**Healthy School Food Programs:**

Our School Breakfast program operates one day per week serving toast, cheese and fruit. This initiative is funded by our Gold Rush 50/50 fundraiser.

**Volunteer Training Workshops:**

Members of the SES community attended the PEI Home and School Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting in October to learn about topics such as: PEI Student Health Survey Results, School Breakfast Programs and Food Safety.

Some of our Breakfast Program volunteers completed their Food Safety training in order to be compliant with the guidelines of serving and preparing food.

**Wellness initiatives:**

We are hoping to organize a Winter Wellness Day for the school community to attend.

**School Staff Appreciation:**

We purchased "Back to School" coffee and treats for SES staff on their first day back to school in September.

Our Staff Appreciation sub-committee organized themed days for each day during Staff Appreciation Week. There was also a daily draw for a variety of gift cards for staff members. This was all done thanks to the financial support from parents/guardians, donations from local businesses, volunteer time from our subcommittee members, and the support of our Home and School.

**Parent Leadership Projects:**

Our Home and School Association applied for the Parent Leadership Grant and we were approved. We are planning to host a two night "Social Media Safety Event" for caregivers to attend in April. We plan to screen the film "Screenagers" on the first evening. On the second evening, we will have speakers from the RCMP as well as youth workers come to speak on this subject.

*(Stratford Cont'd)*

**Communications:**

We are always trying to increase parent/ guardian involvement within the school. We prepared a Home and School info/Volunteer form to be handed out to students in their welcome package. We also created a google form so that parents could fill out the form online. We collected all volunteer info and created a spreadsheet to be used for different initiatives throughout the year.

We also continued to update our Stratford Elementary Facebook page regularly. Our school community has also been provided with our home and school email address, so they can reach us if needed. All Home and School information is also added to the weekly Stratford Elementary newsletter.

**Community “Give-Back” Initiatives:**

We planned a school “sock hop” for the students in December. Students were asked to donate warm socks, which were donated to the Outreach Center.

**Literacy:**

“Bucks for Books”- We are planning another dance/fundraiser in March. Students have been asked to donate \$2 each. The Home and School Committee has offered to match these donations up to \$1000. This money will be used by the school to purchase primary books for classrooms.

**School Safety:**

Last Spring, the Home and School committee created a video to show the school community how to safely drop off children in the drop off loop, as well as show students how to safely approach the school when walking/biking. This video was re-posted to the Stratford Elementary Facebook page as well as sent in an email to the entire school community in September as a reminder.

We continued to discuss the safety of our playground equipment. We are still trying to determine who is responsible for maintaining our playground equipment as some of it is in need of repair. We have also experienced vandalism to playground structures recently, so we are looking into ways to deter this type of behaviour in the future such as installing increased lighting etc.

**School Community Events:**

We will host our annual Spring BBQ in May/ June to close out the school year. We will have hot dogs, water, music and games in the school yard for students and their families to enjoy. This is always well attended and a fun evening for all.

**STONEPARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Sara MacDougall, President****Cheryl Abbott, Treasurer**

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2024-2025 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 Committee convenes every six weeks. Each meeting begins with updates from the Principal and Vice Principals regarding school activities and information from the PSB, fostering open discussion among committee members.
- Recent topics of discussion include the report on school zoning, and the need for additional books and supplies in the library.
- The Compass Youth Survey was completed, with results shared and reviewed. Phil Gallant delivered a presentation to parents addressing issues faced by youth in the school environment.
- With funding from the COSPLAY initiative, the school has acquired a GoPro camera for the athletics department. Additionally, Tyler Hayden provided a presentation on Adventure Education for the entire student body. Blinds for the cooking lab have been purchased, along with new flags representing various nations for display in the cafeteria, and arrows for the archery program within physical education. During parent-teacher interviews, pizza was provided for the staff.

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

- Email, Social Media, School Newsletter

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

- We are proud to participate in the Creating Opportunities for Students PEI Gold Rush Draw. The funds generated from this initiative support various purchases that benefit our school community. Notable items acquired include a GoPro camera for the athletics department, graphic novels for the library, blinds for the cooking lab, new flags representing different nations in the cafeteria, and arrows for our archery program. Our next objective is to establish an outdoor sports court.



*(Stonepark Cont'd)*

Additionally, for our Winter Wellness Day, we provided hot chocolate, and during the parent-teacher interviews, we catered pizza for the staff.

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.

2025 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, Feb. 10-14. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

- On Wednesday, we provided sweets, coffee, and hot chocolate for everyone. On Thursday, lunch was catered by Andrews of Stratford. Although there was no school on Friday due to inclement weather, we arranged gift card prize draws and offered a Valentine's Day treat for the staff. Additionally, all bus drivers received a coffee gift card.

**THREE OAKS HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Crystal MacEwen, President**

Secretary - Lori-Ann MacLean

Treasurer - Robin Smith

Did your Home and School meet during the 2024-2025 school year? If so, how many in-person and or virtual meetings have been held since September 1, 2024?

- We had our first meet up September 12 to create our group for this year, since then we have had meetings Oct 10, Nov 14, Jan 9 and Feb 6. Our goal is to meet the first Thursday of every month if schedules allow.

What did parents and educators discuss at the Home and School meetings? Tell us about the health and well-being of students, curriculum, school food programs and bus/walking student safety.

- In our meetings we have discussed ideas for presentations that would help our students and or parents with education/information on applicable topics. We are planning on presentations on Vaping, one from CMHA that will cover building resiliency, handling stress and anxiety. We have discussed that the windows in the cafeteria will be covered to add protection if there were ever an active lockdown situation. This is scheduled for when the weather is warm enough to do them. We have worked out ways to help with food insecurities by helping with the snack cupboard. Our plans to have a diversity/cultural night. We have talked about student attendance and ways to acknowledge those who are keeping up with a good attendance record. Students will receive a coupon for 2 cookies from the cafeteria, it will be for students with less than 5 days missed this year. We addressed concerns over a topic covered in the wellness class over calorie counting. This issue is being addressed with changes being made to ensure calorie counting is not part of any curriculum.

Resolutions are written to address a gap in the education system. Did your Home and School association submit a resolution to the Federation by the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline? Tell us about the topic.

- None were written or submitted.

Did your association apply for funds to host a parent leadership event?

- We applied for a grant to help with our heritage/cultural fair that we are planning for this spring. We have been approved for \$500 that will be reimbursed once the event has taken place.

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

*(Three Oaks Cont'd)*

- We are still in the planning stages of our diversity/culture event. I have reached out to Shirley Smedley and she proved what will be needed for the report due in May from our event. Part of the planning will have the music teacher and students and the culinary class involved with the event. The goal is to have parents, students and staff come together to celebrate our culture and diversities with food, music and educational opportunities. We plan to have it in May when the weather will hopefully allow for an outdoor experience.

How do you communicate with members? School?

- We use email to communicate with members and the school.

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

- Our current fundraising comes from the COSPEI Gold Rush. We are using the money to help with food insecurities, to purchase board games for the students when they have fun activity days, we made a donation of \$500 to the No Time for That Anti Bullying, we are providing cookies for students who have top tier attendance. We will use COSPEI money to pay for our presentations and with our diversity and culture event if needed. We want to make sure the students have what they need to the best of our ability.

Did you nominate anyone for PEI Home and school federation awards, and if so, which awards? No?

Did parents attend the federation's fall volunteer training workshop? Briefly describe learnings. No?

Did you know that the provincial federation board and staff members will attend local home and school association meetings to offer help with organizing your organization? Yes, we did know this.

Did you hold an activity to thank school staff during Teacher and Staff appreciation week? February 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>? Briefly describe your activity plans.

- We provided lunch of pizza, garlic fingers and Cinna bites for the staff on Wednesday February 12 for the staff. We received positive feedback that lunch was enjoyed by all.

**TIGNISH HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Stephanie Gaudet, President**

Melissa Handrahan - Treasurer  
Monika Morrissey - Secretary  
Krystal MacDonald - Vice President

The Tignish Home and School committee has met on numerous occasions this school year. We have had 5 in person meetings. Tignish Home and School uses email and FB messenger to keep in touch with parents. We have a Home and School Group which we use to update parents about upcoming events.

After discovering our older playground equipment needed to be replaced our home and school formed a fundraising committee. They worked together on grant applications, donation letters etc. Local individuals and Businesses donated and to date we almost reached our fundraising goal of \$75,000. This was raised in 3 short months, AMAZING!!

Fundraisers this year:

- We participated in the Dieleman online catalog fundraiser. It was a huge success. We gave prizes to our top 10 sellers.
- Paper apples will be sold at our Local Co-op for \$2 each and all monies will go to the Tignish Elementary Home and School. Community support in the past has been overwhelming.
- We continue with our Crowdfunding Facebook Group called “Weak Good Deals”. We get lottery licenses and do prize draws. We have been very successful. All funds raised go back into the school.
- We participated in a bottle drive with our local Bottle Depot.
- We had a PJ day which coincided with family literacy Day.
- We held a ball hockey tournament at the local Tignish Rink. The grade 9 leadership class helped out.
- Every year we participate in our ANNUAL Seafood draw which is sponsored by the Provincial Credit Union. Their generosity is greatly appreciated and the draw would not be possible without their support. The prizes are \$200 Seafood, \$300 Seafood, \$500 Seafood vouchers from Tignish Fish Mart.

Our Healthy Options program which was started last year was successful and we have continued with it this year. A food box consisting of healthy food choices will be available in each classroom and accessible to all students. Items will rotate and students will have the opportunity to experience new foods as needed. A great day starts with a healthy breakfast at home. This program is to ensure students have healthy options when a little extra is needed throughout the day. We have numerous parent volunteers who are dedicated to this program. Volunteers meet at our local Foodland grocery store, Friday at 6pm to do the shopping for the next week. Volunteers then meet at the school to fill the food boxes for the following week.

Money raised in our fundraisers also goes toward the snack which we do every Thursday. This program was started many years ago and because of our great volunteers has remained intact.

*(Tignish Cont'd)*

Some of the snack options we provide include: veggie trays, fruit trays, cheese/ crackers/grapes, fruit and yogurt parfaits to name a few. With the generous donation of blueberries from Wyman's we make the students favorite smoothies.

We donated money to help with the purchase of new books, soccer balls or other supplies the school needs and this year new playground equipment. We donate to have Morice, a local artist come into the school and work on a mural with our grade 6 classes. It has become a right of passage for students in their last year at our school. We also support the Grade 6 class end of the year trip. The last day of school we also provide a barbecue for staff and students. Summer reading program, funding is provided. This past summer we had 3 university students hired as our number of summer students was higher than previous years.

In December Tignish Home and School asked staff/students what class gift they would like for Christmas. We purchased a \$60 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 Christmas Break. Students and staff were very appreciative. We host a pancake breakfast on the last day of school before Christmas break which includes pancakes, milk and orange juice. Our Christmas concert was also a great success this year due to our music teacher. Families were so grateful to once again be welcomed into the school to watch the production in person.

Our school is very lucky to have custodians who take much pride in our school. There is not an occasion that our school is not decorated for Christmas, Valentine's day, St. Patrick Day, etc. School pride is strong at Tignish Elementary.

Staff Appreciation week this year was successful. Monday we delivered coffee, tea and muffins from our local coffee shop. Tuesday we delivered a fruit tray, veggie tray and we had volunteers make carrot cakes, one was gluten free. Wednesday we had teachers pre order sandwiches from our local bakery, we placed the order and delivered them by lunch time along with chips. Thursday we had our local bakery make meatballs, hashbrown casserole, Caesar salad and chili. This was served with fresh rolls and nacho chips. We also had mini strawberry and chocolate trifles available. Friday everyone had the day off due to inclement weather. The staff was very appreciative.

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.

## Vernon River Home and School Association

### Kate Drake, President

Secretary - Vicky Edgar  
Treasurer - Ellen Brown

We had our first meeting of the school year on Tuesday, September 17. We partnered with the school for the “Meet the Teacher” night and had a turnout of 30 people stay for the meeting! It was a great way to start the year and get the ball rolling. We hold bi-monthly meetings with around 10-15 in attendance. This year our goal was community events. We are working on at least one community event with each season, these events double as fundraisers.

### Special Events/Fundraisers:

- 70 Mile Yard Sale – we registered as a stop along the 70 Mile Yard Sale and rented tables and space. We had 20 people rent 30 tables. This was an easy event to run, and we plan on doing it again next year. Next year we would add a BBQ fundraiser as well.
- In October, we held our annual Halloween Dance. We hosted it at St Joachim’s Hall. Again, this is an easy event to run. We had a smaller turnout than previous years and next year will reevaluate whether we go forward with it again.
- In December, we hosted our first ever ‘Breakfast with Santa’ and it was very successful. We hosted it at St Joachim’s Hall. The grade 9 class served the meal, and we were able to donate to their funds for their end of the year travel. We will host this event again next year.
- In February, we hosted a Valentine’s Day Dance in the school gym. Our grade 9 class had a canteen, and we charged \$5/student at the door. This was our second year hosting this event and it continues to be successful.
- In May we will be hosting our Spring Carnival, it was brought back last year after a few years off and was a successful event. We hope to build on it this year and have another successful event.

For our events, we organize sub-committees to plan and organize. We also use our FB page to reach the broader school community and keep them up to date on what is happening. Because of the money raised for these events, this year we have been able to support the school in a variety of different ways. This includes:

- Funded travel expenses for Special Olympics gymnastics program
- Donated to help cover travel expenses for the ‘Outdoor Club’
- Bought new basketballs for the Boys Team
- Covered the costs for new badminton racquets for the gym and the paint for soccer fields
- Monetary donation to the School Wellness Team
- Donation to get the student led ‘Coffee Cart’ up and running
- 2025 Teacher Appreciation Week
- Monetary donation to the school library for ongoing refurbishments
- Covered the costs of two new soccer nets
- Bought a set of gym ringette sticks and rings

*(Vernon River Cont'd)*

**Communications:**

- Our main source of communication with families continues to be through our Facebook page, this proves to be the quickest and most efficient way to get information out.
- We have a group of parents who monitor the page to answer questions and post when needed.
- Teachers also post school updates including new information about the PBIS program.
- We have an internal FB group for the executive members (past and present).

**Teacher Appreciation Week:**

- We organized a sub-committee to plan for the week.
- We had a group of parents, volunteer and split up the days
- Some of the days included:
  - Homemade lunch
  - Take out lunch (tacos)
  - Small gift bags (including custom pens, notepads, chocolate, etc.)
  - Small plants with custom tags
  - Cinnamon rolls (from a local bakery) and coffee.
- The cost of the week (the above) was covered by Home and School.

**Other:**

- Our Hot Lunch program is officially back up and running this year after a brief hiatus. We have a few volunteers that run this and allow for our students to have a weekly pizza day.
- The position of treasurer and secretary are both up for renewal in the fall
- Our Home and School has gained a lot of momentum in the last year. We have a small but great group of volunteers who are continuously working to better our school community and are looking forward to what is to come!

**WEST KENT 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

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**Healthy School Food Programs**

Our breakfast program runs every morning, serving approximately 150-200 students. Our Youth Service worker, Marin McCabe, organizes our volunteers (which consist of parents and grandparents), and they meet in our school kitchen each morning to assemble the rotating menu of toast, yogurt tubes, cheese, homemade muffins and fruit, and smoothies. We are always looking for more options to expand this program and improve our kitchen space. The students look forward to their breakfast, and we are grateful for our volunteers and the funding we received this year. We also run a snack program where students can get a piece of fruit or granola bar during morning snack time. We usually give out between 50-100 snacks per day.

**Literacy Programs**

The Home and School donated \$1500 to purchase new books for the school library this year and funded a visit from local authors.

**Wellness Initiatives**

West Kent is committed to wellness and initiated an extensive winter wellness day for the students with dance and drama instruction from Confederation Centre of the Arts instructors, mindful yoga sessions, U-Fit classes, snowshoeing, scavenger hunts, visual arts and outdoor play. Healthy snacks were provided for all students and staff as well as a new reusable water bottle with our new mascot featured on the front.

**School Staff Appreciation Week**

We had a week of celebrating the exceptional staff at West Kent School by celebrating each day: Monday, the staff had snacks from Cedars Eatery; Tuesday, coffee and donuts were provided; Wednesday, there was candy and gift card draws; Thursday, the children were asked to bring back the appreciation cards they filled out at home thanking members of the school for their care; and on Friday, we held a potato bar luncheon with baking potatoes donated from PEI Potato Board.



*(West Kent Cont'd)*

## **Popular Speakers**

West Kent had numerous speakers attend assemblies and visit classrooms this year. Some of the highlights were having a member of the PEI Wildlife Federation speak about native species and protecting wildlife on our island, as well as a local author. Someone from the Confederation Center of the Arts to speak to grade 5s.

Our grade 6 students did a walk and talk, about the historical tour of the Bog and Beaconsfield. The Charlottetown Fire Department spoke to K-3 students about fire safety and got a fire truck tour. Andre from Confederation Art Gallery, Mayor Brown, and author Julie Gagnon. K-2 classes enjoyed a play called “The 7 Cs of Resilience” which was amazing. Julie Pellissier-Lush will be coming in to speak to students in grades 3 and 4 later this month.

## **Curriculum Pilots**

West Kent is a pilot school for the Positive Behaviour Intervention Strategies (PBIS) program. This is being led by our grade 4 teacher, Janel Dunning. A presentation was done in November to the Home and School. All staff and students are excited about the new program and have been working hard to implement new positive strategies throughout the school.

## **Communications**

We post regularly on our Home and School Facebook and Instagram pages about school and community events and attach any important events to school newsletters sent out weekly via email.

## **Fundraising Projects**

Former Principal Tracy Ellsworth’s passion project was many years in the making, and the announcement of the basketball court was made just days before her passing in June 2024. She held such pride in the project, and the building of the court was realized in our Tracy Ellsworth Basketball Court fundraiser. We are thrilled to announce that through fundraising efforts from community and parent volunteers, we raised \$70,000 for this project through sponsors. We also secured \$13,000 in funds from the Canada Games Legacy Fund for proper lighting and new equipment. The court will be a well-lit, accessible space that serves not only our students but also the surrounding community. We are honored to have been able to bring Tracy’s vision to fruition and celebrate its opening this past October.

We held our annual West Kent Fall Fair on the same day as the basketball court opening, and we raised over \$11,000. This money has been used for our school garden, two doc cams for classrooms, classroom projects, books, guest speakers, field trips and an FM tower.

Our poinsettia fundraiser, held in November, raised \$227, and our Christmas Holiday Shoppe raised \$600. This money was used to help families in our school community celebrate the holiday season by relieving some of the financial strain.

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

Vice-President - David Stirling  
Secretary - Allison Read, Raveena Sahani  
Treasurer - Krishna Thakur

This year we have a new member (Raveena Sahani) 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.

**INITIATIVES**

**Health and Wellness School Health Grant:**

We applied for funds for sensory pathways through the Live Well grant, but unfortunately did not receive funds. Stephanie participated in feedback sessions in which we were awarded funds for the school. This money was used to purchase additional books for classrooms.

**Staff Appreciation Week**

We have a very dedicated Staff Appreciation Week organizing committee that has been doing our week activities for the past 3 years. Our Home and School supported the week with a donation of \$700 to put towards snacks, draw prizes for the staff. Our school community donated treats/snacks, drinks, thank you cards, gift cards, key chains and decorations to celebrate our wonderful staff. Our 2025 week:

- Monday Muffins/pastries, hot chocolate and coffee/tea
- Tuesday Veggie & Fruit trays, cheese/meats, crackers and bubbly/soda
- Wednesday Cupcakes
- Thursday Snacks – veggie chips, bars, etc.
- Friday **Storm day** however, Valentine's treats/notes were there for staff on Tuesday.

Daily draws were done and staff could choose from an assortment of \$10 gift cards. Each staff member received a prize.

**Award Nominations:**

We nominated Mrs. Anita Smith-LeClair for the “Extra Mile Award” for all the wonderful work she does and the “extras” in and out of the classroom. Mrs. Smith-LeClair was presented with the award during Staff Appreciation week at a school assembly.

**Playground Expansion Project:**

We are still in the planning stages of our playground expansion but have chosen a structure to add to our K-1 playground area. This will be phase 1 of a 2-phase project. The goal is to start construction this summer in time for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Fundraising:**

Our school community has been playing and receiving funds from the COS PEI Goldrush draws. With these funds we have been able to purchase new gymnastics mats (roll out and wedge) for our program. We have also been able to supplement our breakfast program, classroom supply budgets, grade level funds, library books, field trip support and will use funds towards our playground expansion project.

**WESTWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Sara Beaton, Co-Treasurer  
Emily Cannon, Co-Treasurer**

How many times will your Home and School meet during the 2024-2025 school year, in total?

- We will meet a total of 6 times during the year. The committee is made up of a small number of parents and there is frequent communication between 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.

- Our meetings involve discussions with the Principal and Vice-Principal and how Home and School can support our teachers and the school.
- In October, HSA decided to invite Westwood staff to meet (one on one) to discuss what HSA could do to assist. A total of 9 teachers came forward with wish lists, the bulk being classroom resources. HSA was able to ensure the majority of the asks were granted.
- Early in the school year, it was decided that Westwood Home and School would like to undertake a new method of fundraising. Westwood HSA partnered with Anne of Green Gable Chocolates. The fundraiser was live for two weeks in November, pickup arranged at the school to align with Parent Teacher interviews.

Home and School was present at parent teacher interviews to try to recruit additional parents to HSA.

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 classroom compositions being determined by ability of children (vs number).

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.

*(Westwood Cont'd)*

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

- Westwood HSA holds a monthly spin the wheel online draw, called Win with Westy. The monthly draw brings in \$500/month to Westwood HSA. The Anne of Green Gables chocolate fundraiser provided HSA with an additional \$2,000.

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.

2025 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is Feb. 10-14. Briefly describe your Home and School's activities to appreciate school staff.

- Westwood HSA 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. 2024. If anyone in your Home and School attended, briefly describe what was learned. N/A

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

- In the prior year, Westwood HSA hosted a meeting with Shirley Jay and Dionne Tuplin to provide members an overview of the importance of HSA.

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

- Not at this time.

Thank you.

**Prince Edward Island  
Home and School Federation**

**Proposed Resolutions**

**&**

**By-Law Revisions**

**Annual General Meeting**

**April 12, 2025**

**RESOLUTION 2025-01     ADD MILK PRODUCTS TO PEI SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM**  
**Submitted By: Englewood Home and School Association**

WHEREAS white milk, subsidized through the PEI School Milk Foundation, and chocolate milk are available for purchase through many Island-based schools, and

WHEREAS families wishing to order milk need to navigate multiple ordering systems and/or processes, often with unique scheduling deadlines

WHEREAS schools and/or home and school associations on Prince Edward Island wishing to provide milk or chocolate milk for purchase for their students are required to purchase and maintain individual software solutions and/or spend a significant amount of time managing orders on a recurring basis, and

WHEREAS lower-fat milk products are identified as a positive source of protein on Canada’s Food Guide (Canada’s Food Guide), and

WHEREAS white milk, though subsidized through the PEI School Milk Foundation, still has a fixed cost for families, often with associated administrative fees that can be prohibitive for low-income families navigating food insecurities, and

WHEREAS liquid milk products are not currently available through the PEI School Food Program’s Pay-What-You-Can model, and

WHEREAS child food insecurity on Prince Edward Island remains among the worst in the country (CBC News, 2024), and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Prince Edward Island Public Schools Branch work with the PEI Department of Education and Early Years, PEI School Milk Foundation, and PEI School Food Program Inc. to initiate a study to determine the feasibility of incorporating white milk and/or chocolate milk into the Pay-What-You-Can model offerings within the PEI School Food program.

DESTINATIONS:    PEI School Food Program Inc.  
                          PEI School Milk Foundation  
                          Department of Education and Early Years  
                          Public Schools Branch

REFERENCES:

1. Campbell, Kerry. “2 in 5 Island children living with food insecurity, says Statistics Canada report.” *CBC*, 23 May 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-pol-food-insecurity-1.7211554>. Accessed 9 Aug 2024.
2. “Eat protein foods - Canada's Food Guide.” *Canada's Food Guide* [food-guide.canada.ca/en/healthy-eating-recommendations/make-it-a-habit-to-eat-vegetables-fruit-whole-grains-and-protein-foods/eat-protein-foods/](https://www.food-guide.canada.ca/en/healthy-eating-recommendations/make-it-a-habit-to-eat-vegetables-fruit-whole-grains-and-protein-foods/eat-protein-foods/). Accessed 9 Aug. 2024.

**RESOLUTION 2025-2      BEHAVIOUR RESOURCE SUPPORT IN ISLAND SCHOOLS**  
**Submitted by Somerset Home and School Association**

- WHEREAS there is a recognized need for additional support in managing student behaviour in schools across Prince Edward Island, and
- WHEREAS Behaviour Resource positions are not currently included in the Minister of Education and Early Years (DEEY) staffing allocations, and
- WHEREAS the New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has implemented Positive Behaviour Intervention Supports (PBIS) in 64 schools with positive outcomes; and
- WHEREAS the Department of Education and Early Years and the Public Schools Branch (PSB) has acknowledged the increasing demand by piloting PBIS in the 2024-2025 school year, and
- WHEREAS the presence of dedicated behaviour resources in schools is essential for students with behavioural challenges and improving the overall learning environment, and
- WHEREAS PBIS has been shown to improve school climate, reduce exclusionary discipline, increase opportunities for positive interactions and relationships between school staff and students, and create learning environments that support both social development and academic growth;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests that the Department of Education and Early Years and the Public Schools Branch consider adding Student Behavior Intervention Resource positions in consultation with principals for future staffing allocations by the Minister of Education, wherever there is a need in island schools.

**AMENDMENT to be considered:**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the PEI Home and School Federation requests that the Department of Education and Early Years (DEEY) and the Public Schools Branch (PSB) add a minimum of 0.5 FTE Student Behavior Intervention Resource positions to future staffing allocations by the Minister of Education, in all island schools.

DESTINATION:      Department of Education and Early Years  
                                 Public Schools Branch

REFERENCES:

1. Positive Behaviour Intervention Supports, [https://pbis.nbed.ca/roles\\_responsibilities/](https://pbis.nbed.ca/roles_responsibilities/)
2. Response to Intervention for Behaviour, NB August 2017  
<https://www2.gnb.ca/Cont'dent/dam/gnb/Departments/ed/pdf/K12/Inclusion/ResponseToInterventionForBehaviour.pdf>

**RESOLUTION 3-2025: SUPPORT FOR CANADA'S ONLINE HARMS ACT TO PROTECT CHILDREN IN DIGITAL SPACES**

**Submitted by Souris Home and School Association**

WHEREAS the digital world poses significant risks to children, including sexual exploitation, promotion of self-harm, bullying, and exposure to hateful content, and

WHEREAS Bill C-63, introduced to the House of Commons on February 26, 2024 by Justice Minister Arif Virani, proposes a new Online Harms Act to create regulations that hold social media services accountable for reducing exposure to harmful content on their platforms, and

WHEREAS on December 4, 2024 Virani announced the Liberals' online harms legislation will now proceed on two different tracks with one bill to tackle protections for children, combating online child sex predators and policing revenge porn and the second bill to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act and Criminal Code to deal with inciting violence, terrorism or engaging in hate speech (1.), and

WHEREAS the Online Harms Act specifically targets seven types of harmful content, including content that sexually victimizes children, content used to bully children, and content that induces children to harm themselves, and

WHEREAS the proposed legislation aims to promote online safety for all Canadians, with a specific emphasis on children's physical and mental health

WHEREAS the Act would establish a Digital Safety Commission of Canada to administer the framework and a Digital Safety Ombudsperson of Canada to be a resource for users and victims, and

WHEREAS the implementation of an Online Harms Act in Canada is a critical step in protecting children in digital spaces and promoting their safety, health, and well-being online;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Government of Canada to enact the Online Harms Act, with a focus on measures that protect children from online exploitation, bullying, and harmful content; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation calls upon social media platforms and online service providers to fully comply with the requirements of the Online Harms Act, implementing comprehensive safety measures to protect children and youth using their services.

DESTINATION: Federal Justice Minister

BACKGROUND: 1. Liberals split online harms bill to postpone debate over policing hate speech Minister says protecting kids from violent threats, child sex predators, revenge porn will be a priority CBC Dec. 4, 2024 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/liberal-government-split-online-harms-bill-1.7400882>



**RESOLUTION 2025-4      PROTECTING STUDENT, PARENT, AND TEACHER  
PERSONAL DATA**

**Submitted by Queen Elizabeth Elementary Home and School Association**

WHEREAS on January 7, 2025, a cybersecurity incident involving PowerSchool, the student information system used by Prince Edward Island schools, resulted in unauthorized access to personal data of past and present Island school members, including names, dates of birth, addresses, phone numbers, and other sensitive information, and

WHEREAS the breach exposed highly sensitive records spanning decades, including medical information, custody arrangements, and disciplinary notes, impacting over 70,000 individuals in PEI alone, with similar incidents affecting schools nationwide;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation calls upon the federal government to:

1. Enact comprehensive legislation to strengthen data protection measures for educational institutions and third-party service providers, requiring encryption, multi-factor authentication, and annual cybersecurity audits.
2. Establish clear guidelines for the retention and deletion of outdated personal information, ensuring data minimization and prohibiting indefinite storage beyond operational necessity.
3. Mandate strict penalties for non-compliance with privacy laws, including fines for failure to implement safeguards or promptly disclose breaches.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation urges the provincial government to:

1. Conduct a thorough review of all third-party educational technology providers, requiring proof of compliance with federal privacy standards (e.g., PIPEDA) before contract renewal.
2. Implement mandatory cybersecurity training for school staff and administrators, emphasizing secure data handling and phishing threat recognition.
3. Adopt data minimization policies to limit collection of non-essential personal information, particularly for historical records.
4. Require transparent reporting of breaches within 72 hours of discovery, with detailed public disclosures and individualized notifications.

DESTINATIONS:    Federal Justice Minister  
                         Minister of Education and Early Years, PEI

**BACKGROUND:**

1. PowerSchool Cybersecurity Event, The Guardian, Feb. 7, 2025  
<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-early-years/powerschool-cybersecurity-event>
2. Cybersecurity breach exposes data of more than 70,000 P.E.I. students, teachers, Public Schools Branch  
<https://www.saltwire.com/prince-edward-island/cybersecurity-breach-exposes-data-70000-pei-students-teachers>
3. Personal data of 70,000 Island students stolen in PowerSchool breach, CBC Jan 31, 2025  
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-powerschool-data-breach-update-1.7447385>

**P.E.I. HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION**  
**Proposed By-Law Revisions**  
**Presented to the Annual General Meeting on April 12, 2025**

ARTICLE II – DEFINITIONS

ADD: (7) Member Emeritus means any provincial board member in good standing who has reached their board term limit in the PEIHSF.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

ADD: Member Emeritus (non-voting) status shall be open to provincial board members in good standing who have reached their board term limit in the PEIHSF. They may attend meetings by invitation, offer advice and support, and otherwise contribute to the organization's success. Persons are to be appointed by the PEIHSF board with timeframes and decisions governed by the same.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

(7) A quorum ... Meetings of the Corporation shall be a simple majority of all Local Associations whose Fees for the preceding year have been paid in full at the time of the Annual Meeting...

Change: a simple majority (50%+1) to one third majority

ARTICLE XVI - REMUNERATION

(1) No director, officer or Member of the Corporation shall receive any honorarium for their services; but may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses approved by the Executive Committee.

ADD: One exception applies: The president shall be entitled to receive an honorarium for their services with an amount determined by the Corporation's board of directors.

ARTICLE XX - SIGNING OFFICERS

(1) All cheques, drafts or orders for the payment of money and all notes and acceptances and bills of exchange shall be signed by any two of the President, the Vice-President, the Executive Director and the Treasurer.

ADD: any two of the following: President, Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Director

**MOTION:** To adopt PEIHSF By-Law revisions as circulated.

Moved by

Seconded by

# PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION

## 2025 NOMINATION REPORT

Submitted by: Dionne Tuplin, Chair

### EXECUTIVE

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominees</u>	<u>Two Year Term Expires</u>
Secretary	Bev Campbell	AGM 2027
Treasurer	Craig Goodick	AGM 2027

### REGIONAL DIRECTORS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominees</u>	<u>Two Year Term Expires</u>
Bluefield	Andrea Kelly	AGM 2027
Kensington	Coreen Pickering	AGM 2027
Souris	Kelly Steele	AGM 2027
Three Oaks	-	AGM 2027
Westisle	-	AGM 2027



# Public Schools Branch

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January 13, 2025

David Schult, President  
Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.  
PO Box 1012  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

Dear Mr. Schult:

Thank you for the letter dated April 24, 2024, regarding the recently approved PEI Home and School Federation resolutions. I apologize for the late response as this was missed due to some staffing changes.

Enclosed please find my written response regarding each resolution. The Public Schools Branch appreciates the efforts from the Home and School Federation and thanks you for your concern in these areas.

Yours truly,

Tracy Beaulieu  
Director of Public Schools Branch

Enclosed

**Subject:** Response to Resolutions from the April 2024 Annual General Meeting

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the resolutions presented at your Annual General Meeting in April 2024. Below, you will find information provided regarding each resolution, along with our ongoing efforts to support positive and healthy school environments.

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### **RESOLUTION 2024-1: Request for an Inquiry into School Temperatures**

The Public Schools Branch (PSB) acknowledges the concerns raised in Resolution 2024-1 by the Home and School Federation regarding school temperatures during occupied and unoccupied hours, and the proposal to consider a regulated temperature reduction to 20°C.

The PSB remains committed to improving school infrastructure across the Island, prioritizing capital projects each year for completion during summer months. As part of these efforts, we are upgrading building management systems (BMS) to enhance temperature control in schools. These systems allow Property Services to:

- Set and program thermostats with standardized temperature setpoints.
- Provide occupants limited control (typically +/- 2°C) to create a comfortable learning environment.
- Schedule heating and cooling based on occupancy, enabling temperature setbacks during unoccupied hours.

Currently, temperatures are programmed to align with PEI's Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulations, which specify 20°C as a workplace standard.

However, temperature fluctuations may still occur due to factors such as:

- Mechanical issues (e.g., malfunctioning valves or pumps).
- Outdoor conditions (e.g., sun exposure in south-facing classrooms).
- Building envelope conditions (e.g., drafts caused by thermal bridging).
- Older systems lacking modern controls.

We are committed to addressing these challenges through ongoing upgrades and maintenance.

---

### **RESOLUTION 2024-2: Amend Weather-Related Procedures to Include Extreme Heat**

The PSB shares your dedication to ensuring healthy learning environments. While the current weather-related procedure focuses primarily on travel safety conditions, we recognize that high humidex levels (above 35°C) can impact the learning environment of students and staff.

Implementing a policy for extreme heat would require collaboration with:

- School authorities, the Department of Education and Early Years, and Board of Trustees.
- Union partners, local Home and School representatives, and school staff.
- Experts from the Chief Public Health Office and meteorological fields to validate thresholds and health impacts.

In the meantime, the PSB will continue to:

- Advocate for infrastructure investments to address high-temperature conditions.
- Encourage adherence to the “Hot Weather and Heat Stress Guidelines” provided to schools
- Collaborate with educational partners and external experts to support staff and students.

---

### **RESOLUTION 2024-3: Feasibility of Installing Vaping Detectors in Schools**

A committee established by the Department of Education and Early Years has explored the effectiveness of installing vaping detectors in schools. The PSB will continue to work with the Department to support their recommendations and next steps.

---

### **RESOLUTION 2024-4: Creation of a Policy on Screen Use in Primary Schools**

The PSB recognizes the concerns raised in Resolution 2024-4 about the impact of screen time on students. We share your commitment to fostering a balanced and healthy educational environment.

Recently, the PSB developed an operational procedure on Personally-Owned Mobile Devices (PMD) in Schools, which aims to:

- Promote distraction-free learning by limiting PMD use during instructional time.
- Encourage responsible technology use through clear expectations for students, educators, and families.

While excessive screen time is a broader societal challenge, we aim to model positive habits that students can apply beyond school. The PSB is reviewing feedback from the consultation on the PMD procedure to ensure it aligns with the needs and priorities of our school communities. In addition, we will continue collaborating with the Department of Education and Early Years to provide guidance on classroom technology use, particularly for younger students. Updates on this work will be shared as it progresses.

**RESOLUTION 2024-5: Review of Kindergarten Exemption from Split-Level Classrooms**

The PSB will commit to participating in reviews by the Department of Education and Early Years, as outlined in this resolution.

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In closing, the Public Schools Branch wishes to express our gratitude to the PEI Home and School Federation for its unwavering dedication to student well-being. We value our ongoing partnership and look forward to continued collaboration.

Sincerely,



Tracy Beaulieu



Holman Centre  
250 Water Street, Suite 101  
Summerside  
Prince Edward Island  
Canada C1N 1B6

Education and  
Early Years

Éducation et  
Petite enfance



Centre Holman  
250, rue Water, pièce 101  
Summerside  
Île-du-Prince-Édouard  
Canada C1N 1B6

February 28, 2025

Mr. David Schult, President

PEI Home and School Federation

P.O. Box 1012

Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4 Via Email: [peihsf@gov.pe.ca](mailto:peihsf@gov.pe.ca)

Dear Mr.Schult:

I acknowledge receipt of a letter on behalf of the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation dated April 24, 2024 outlining the Federation's resolutions approved at your 2024 Annual Meeting. We had the opportunity to discuss the resolutions and provide feedback at a meeting on May 7, 2024. We appreciated the opportunity to meet in person and get additional feedback on the rationale for the resolutions and the possible future changes you hoped to achieve to address the resolutions. We are providing written comments on the resolutions as requested.

Resolution Number: 2024-1 - The Department of Education and Early Years (DEEY) and the education authorities agree that heating schools during the winter months to a comfortable temperature is the optimal goal. Maintenance systems are used to help control temperatures in schools to ensure excess heat is not being produced when it isn't required. Heating schools is a major expense for the two education authorities and they work to ensure this is done as effectively as possible given the heating infrastructure at each school. Teachers and staff should report excessive heating to their principal and custodian so maintenance staff can investigate the issue.

Resolution Number: 2024-2 - The challenges associated with climate change does create the possibility for warmer school days. The DEEY and other government departments will continue to support the education authorities as they continue to evolve policy to address the impacts of climate change. The education authorities would be the lead in creating direction in this area.

Resolution Number: 2024-3 - The DEEY has conducted extensive research on the possibility of installing vaping detectors in schools. We have spoken to other jurisdictions and a number of school boards throughout the country on this topic. There are varying opinions on this topic and



the research on their effectiveness is not conclusive on this topic yet. Most jurisdictions state that there needs to be a cessation program for students in schools, in addition to the detectors, to achieve the desired effect of less vaping. The DEEY has been collaborating with the Department of Health and Wellness – Chief Public Health Office in exploring the implementation of such a youth cessation program. The DEEY continues to consult with the education authorities on this topic.

Resolution Number: 2024-4 - The DEEY has developed guidelines for screen time usage for students, and we are reviewing public feedback received until February 6, 2025. The guidelines were drafted with input from the two education authorities and Dr. Travis Saunders from the University of PEI's Applied Human Sciences Department. Following the review of consultation feedback, the DEEY, in partnership with Dr. Travis Saunders, education authorities, and an expert panel, will host a community think tank to support the implementation of the screen time guidelines for educators, parents, and families.

Resolution Number: 2024-5 - If a K/1 combined class is unavoidable by the school, the Department support includes instructional coaches who assist teachers with planning, instruction, and assessment. Additionally, our curriculum is designed on a continuum, enabling teachers to effectively differentiate instruction to meet the diverse needs of their students.

Yours truly,



John Cummings  
Executive Director, Educational Services

c Robin Croucher, Minister  
Natalie Mitton, Deputy Minister



Health and  
Wellness

Santé et  
Mieux-être



Chief Public Health Office  
16 Fitzroy Street  
PO Box 2000, Charlottetown  
Prince Edward Island  
Canada C1A 7N8

Bureau du médecin hygiéniste en chef  
16, rue Fitzroy  
C.P. 2000, Charlottetown  
Île-du-Prince-Édouard  
Canada C1A 7N8

May 16, 2024

Shannon Bruyneel  
President, PEI Home and School Federation Inc.  
P.O. Box 1012  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

Dear Ms. Bruyneel,

**Re: Response to Resolutions 2024-3 and 2024-4**

Thank you for reaching out to the PEI Chief Public Health Office (CPHO) for our input on two resolutions recently approved at the Annual General Meeting of the PEI Home and School Federation. Please find below our feedback on these resolutions.

**Resolution 2024-3: Feasibility of installing vape detectors in schools**

Youth vaping continues to be a significant public health concern in PEI. Recent COMPASS study results show 16% of students in grades 7 to 12 have used vaping products with use increasing by grade level. There are health risks associated with nicotine vaping and particular harms for developing youth with the potential to lead to long-term nicotine addiction. Once an individual becomes nicotine-dependent, quitting vaping or tobacco use is difficult.

The CPHO's approach to tobacco and vaping prevention follows three pillars: Protection, Prevention, and Cessation. The best way to reduce the prevalence and impact of student vaping is to strengthen action under these three pillars. *Protection* centers on education and enforcement through PEI's Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Devices Sales and Access (TESDSA) Act and Smoke-free Places Act. The CPHO has recommended amendments to the TESDSA which are key to reducing youth access to vaping products. These amendments have gone through a period of stakeholder consultation and will be tabled in the next sitting of the legislature. *Prevention* occurs through provincial public awareness campaigns such as [Take a Breath](#) and collaborative school-based education. *Cessation* is supported through [PEI's Smoking Cessation Program](#) which includes support for vaping cessation. The CPHO has a strong partnership with the Department of Education and Early Years, particularly in the prevention pillar, as we share a common goal of reducing the prevalence of youth vaping in PEI.

Vape detectors are a new tool to address youth vaping in school settings. Effectiveness of these tools appears to depend on several factors related to implementation. While vape detectors may play a role in addressing youth vaping in schools, we note that these tools are a 'downstream', enforcement-oriented

approach targeted towards the vape user. In contrast, the CPHO emphasizes the importance of focusing on 'upstream', population-level, preventive efforts centred on the three pillars above. With respect to Resolution 2024-3, the CPHO would be pleased to meet with the PEI Home and School Federation and the Department of Education and Early Years to discuss an integrated approach to reducing the prevalence and impact of youth vaping in school settings.

**Resolution 2024-4: Creation of a policy related to screen use in primary schools in PEI**

Physical activity levels have been declining in PEI and are lower in PEI than in Canada. Only 16% of PEI youth 12 to 17 years of age met the recommended levels of physical activity in the Canadian 24-hour Movement Guidelines (CMG). This decrease in physical activity has coincided with an increase in sedentary behaviour and screen time. Decreasing sedentary behaviour and screen time is important to improve physical and mental health and reduce the risk of chronic disease.

The CPHO endorses the Canadian 24-hour Movement Guidelines as an essential component of an active, healthy lifestyle. Physical activity goes beyond sport and includes daily activities of life such as unstructured play, hiking with classmates or cycling to school. For children and youth 5-17 years of age, the CMG recommends at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity and several hours of structure and unstructured light physical activities within a 24-hour period. Screen use is a barrier to meeting the activity goals of the CMG and the recommendation for this age group is no more than 2 hours per day of recreational screen time. With the aim of increasing physical activity levels and physical and mental wellness for school-aged children, the CPHO endorses Resolution 2024-4, with a focus on reducing screen time and increasing physical activity in alignment with the CMG.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input into these resolutions. We're thankful to partner with PEIHSF as we work together to protect and promote the health of Island students and build healthy school communities.

Sincerely,



Dr. Heather Morrison  
Chief Public Health Officer



Dr. David Sabapathy  
Deputy Chief Public Health Officer

cc: Hon. Mark McLane, Minister of Health and Wellness  
Lisa Thibeau, Deputy Minister of Health and Wellness

## NOTES