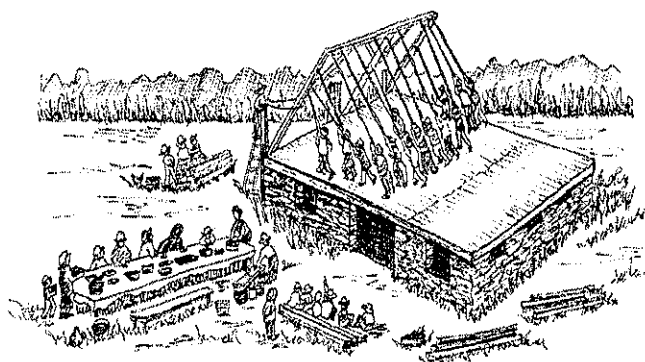




**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
HOME AND SCHOOL
FEDERATION INC.**

Education: many roots, many voices!



**63rd Annual Meeting & Convention
Book of Reports**

**Saturday, April 9, 2016
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel
Kent Street, Charlottetown, PEI**

*Honourary Patron, Hon. H. Frank Lewis,
Lieutenant Governor of P.E.I.*

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MISSION STATEMENT

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

HOME AND SCHOOL THOUGHT

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

HOME AND SCHOOL CREED

We Believe

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

That Home and School’s guiding principles are those of social service, good citizenship, good will, and international peace.

Approved: AGM April 20, 2002

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION
PRESIDENTS
1953-2016**

1953-1955	Dr. Helen MacDonald (Deceased)
1955-1957	Mrs. J. P. Lantz (Deceased)
1957-1959	Reginald MacNutt (Deceased)
1959-1961	Mrs. Basil (Margaret) MacDonald (Deceased)
1961-1962	Eric J. Kipping
1962-1963	Dr. Kenneth Parker (Deceased)
1963-1965	Matthew F. Hagan (Deceased)
1965-1967	Hesta MacDonald (Deceased)
1967-1969	Charles Campbell (Deceased)
1969-1971	Jeannette Gleeson (Deceased)
1971-1972	Ronald E. Elliott
1972-1974	Dr. Karl Winter
1974-1975	Jack Sands (Deceased)
1975-1976	Dr. Karl Winter
1976-1978	Wayne MacKinnon
1978-1979	Dr. Karl Winter
1979-1981	Stan J. Warwick
1981-1982	Lorne Morell
1982-1984	Inez Doiron
1984-1986	Melina Gallant
1986-1988	Marion Murphy
1988-1990	Jeannette Arsenault
1990-1992	Marjorie Stevenson-Dawson
1992-1994	Audrey <i>Newcombe</i> 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

**Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation
63rd Annual General Meeting, Saturday, April 9, 2016
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Kent Street, Charlottetown, PEI**

Education: many roots, many voices!

Agenda

AM

8:00 - 8:45 Registration – Victorian Room
Visit Displays – Provinces Room (downstairs)

8:45 Welcome Delegates – Peter Rukavina, President
Business Meeting - Parliamentarian: Marion Murphy
1. Adoption of Agenda 2016
2. Adoption of Minutes 2015
3. President's Report
4. Adoption of Finance Report
5. Other Reports (Accepted as circulated in Book of Reports)
6. Resolutions

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

7. Nominations Report/Elections/Induction of Board
8. New Business
9. Adjournment of Business Meeting

11:00 Success Story Speed Dating - This session will provide an opportunity to connect and share success stories on a wide range of topics, focused on what's working in home and school at the local level. We'll have 10 speed dating tables that groups can gather around for 10 minutes at a time. The themes have been identified from Annual Reports submitted by local associations.

PM

12:00 Delegates/Guests are asked to move downstairs and be seated in the Georgian Room (downstairs) by 12:15 p.m.

12:15 - 1:15 Luncheon
Stand for Honourable H. Frank Lewis, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island
Greetings
Awards Presentations
Closing Remarks - Peter Rukavina, President

1:30 – 2:30 WORKSHOPPING DIFFERENT MODELS FOR EDUCATION - An informal discussion about different ways of organizing teaching, learning, and assessment. (Victorian Room)

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**, then 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 on the question.

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 the Local 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 Annual Meeting.

Thank You!

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS/COMMITTEES**

<u>Name</u>		<u>Term Ends</u>
President	Peter Rukavina	(AGM 2016)
Past President	Pam Montgomery	(AGM 2016)
Vice President	Joanna Stewart	(AGM 2016)
Treasurer	Shelley Muzika	(AGM 2017)
Secretary	Lisa MacDougall	(AGM 2017)
Executive Director	Shirley Smedley Jay	
Education and Engagement	Ghislaine O'Hanley	
Administration Assistant	Cherie LeMoine	

REGIONAL DIRECTORS – Families of Schools:

Bluefield	Windsor Wight	(AGM 2017)
Charlottetown Rural	Maureen Kerr	(AGM 2016)
Colonel Gray	Nicky Hyndman	(AGM 2016)
Kensington	Trevor Moase	(AGM 2017)
Kinkora	Ann Miller	(AGM 2016)
Montague	Shauna Mellish	(AGM 2016)
Morell	Heather Mullen	(AGM 2016)
Souris	Tara Hill Burke	(AGM 2017)
Three Oaks	Cory Thomas	(AGM 2017)
Westisle	Kelly Herget	(AGM 2017)

2015-2016 COMMITTEES CHAIRS

1. Parent Engagement - Joanna Stewart
2. School Calendar, Education and Early Childhood Development - Joanna Stewart
3. Staff/HR - Shelley Muzika
4. Finance - Shelley Muzika
5. Healthy and Wellness - Pam Montgomery
6. Communications – President and Office
7. Minister's Advisory Committee on Computer & Information Technology – Maureen Kerr
8. Meeting Planning (Annual/Semi-Annual) - Peter Rukavina
9. PEI Literacy Alliance – Nicky Hyndman
10. Council For a Smoke-Free PEI/PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance - Shirley Smedley Jay

2015-2016 LIST OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>PRESIDENT/CO-CHAIR</u>
Alberton Elementary	Jennifer Rozell
Amherst Cove Consolidated	Sharon Kamperman
Athena Consolidated	Kim Studer
Belfast Consolidated	Debbie Beck/Kyla Thomson
Birchwood Intermediate	Catherine MacInnis/ Karen Rose
Bloomfield Elementary	Gwen Clements/Katie MacLennan
Bluefield High	Leonard Rogers
Cardigan Consolidated	Twila Palmer
Central Queens Elementary	Carrie Barlow
Charlottetown Rural High	Martha Ellis
Donagh Regional	Bobbi Ford/Tracey Magennis MacDonald
East Wiltshire Intermediate	Karen Clare
Eliot River Elementary	Laura Hagan Grant/Kara Smith
Ellerslie Elementary	Paula Walfield
Elm Street Elementary	Terri-Lynn Gallant/Wendy Burns
Englewood Consolidated	Rosie MacFarlane/Rachel Lowther-Doiron
Georgetown Elementary	Toby Murphy
Glen Stewart Elementary	Paula Pollard
Greenfield Elementary	Angela Carpenter
Gulf Shore Consolidated	Lisa Roman-Langdale
Hernewood Intermediate	Kelly Shea Rayner
Kensington Intermediate/Senior High	Patricia Cole
Kinkora Regional High	Janet Payne
Lucy Maud Montgomery Elementary	Karen Trainor/Cathy Hennessey
M. E Callaghan Intermediate	Kelly Herget
Miscouche Consolidated	Jannett Jones/Carrie MacLellan
Montague Consolidated	Sarah Somers-MacKay
Montague Intermediate	School administration
Montague High	April MacLean
Mount Stewart Consolidated	Linda Craig
O'Leary Elementary	Jeannie Burden
Parkdale Elementary	Andrea MacNeill
Parkside Elementary	Joanna Stewart
Prince Street Elementary	Catherine Nicholson
Queen Charlotte Intermediate	Alexandra Keedwell
Queen Elizabeth Elementary	Darby McCormick/Bev Campbell
St. Jean Elementary	Tracy Bergman
St. Louis Elementary	Tish Shea/Sally Shea
Sherwood Elementary	Cindy Gallant
Somerset Elementary	Donna MacLeod
Souris Regional	Carol Ann MacPhee/Patrick Power
Southern Kings Consolidated	Krystal MacKay
Spring Park Elementary	Sheldon Opps
Stonepark Intermediate	Margaret Morse/Tracey Willoughby
Stratford Elementary	Natalie Fraser/Danielle Boyce
Summerside Intermediate	Andrea Pickett
Three Oaks Senior High	Kelly Perry/Leigh Dymont
Tignish Elementary	Teena Callaghan
Vernon River Consolidated	Ellen McQuaid/Colleen MacPherson
West Kent Elementary	Jill Cunniff/Mary Robinson
West Royalty Elementary	Colleen Henderson/Vanessa Ford
Westisle Composite High	Carol Rybinski
Westwood Primary	Margo Thistle/Heather Stevenson

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION

President's Report

Submitted by Peter Rukavina, March 7, 2016

If I have learned anything in my two years as President of the PEI Home and School Federation, it is that there is tremendous power in bringing parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff together in discussion about public education.

Whether at a local level around the table at a Home & School meeting, in training sessions and brainstorming workshops organized by the Federation, or at our Annual and Semi-Annual meetings, my universal experience is that the more voices represented the richer the conversations. We may not always agree on the solutions to our common challenges, but a necessary starting point is a shared notion that we can work *together* to confront them.

Frustratingly, this is not a universally accepted truth: there are those who look to Home & School to be only the “voice of parents,” a characterization that both leaves out many of our members, but also ignores that often the power of Home & School is in the *conversation itself*, not in the implementation of a narrow parent-focused policy agenda.

This past December, our Executive Director Shirley Jay and I were guests at a luncheon organized by the Canadian Union of Public Employees locals that represent bus drivers, educational assistants, administrative assistants and custodians in our schools. During our conversation I mentioned that all of *their* members were also *our* members, something that came as a (pleasant) surprise to them. Think of how vital these staff are to the smooth, safe operation of our public school system: it would make no sense to leave them out of our Home & School dialogue. And so we left encouraging them to encourage their members to attend Home & School meetings in their schools to broaden and enrich the conversation.

One of my goals this year and last has been to continuously work to reinforce this notion that the Home & School table is a large, welcoming, inclusive one; it's been very important (if wordy!) for me to say “parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff” when I'm speaking of our members because it's in the participation of *all* of those that our greatest strength lies

I've had some success in conveying this, I hope, and this has been an important time to advocate for the supremacy of collaboration, as the province, in November, announced substantial changes to the education governance model for English language schools, and the new model puts Home & School members in the heart of the process through the Family of Schools District Advisory Councils.

These District Advisory Councils are not a *replacement* for Home & School, but rather an additional channel by which our members can contribute to discussion of public education, with a more direct conduit to the Minister of Education. Ideally they will amplify the immediate practical concerns of our members in local schools and will allow for new levels of cooperation among primary, elementary, intermediate and high schools within each family of schools.

While there is much to be said for the Family of Schools District Advisory Councils, it's as important to understand what they are *not*. They do not replace the need for a vigorous, inclusive Home & School in each school. They do not obviate the utility of our longstanding provincial policy resolutions process, focused on broader issues of provincial importance. And they are not the *only* vehicle by which our members will engage in discussion that contributes to public education: the PEIHSF will continue to connect our members with each other, with board staff, with partners like the Healthy Eating Alliance, the SHAPES survey, the Learning Partnership, and Home & School federations in other provinces and countries. We will continue to play our role as the non-partisan “glue” that binds together all who share our focus on the total well-being of every child.

An additional role for Home and School to play in the updated education governance model comes by way of our membership in the new PEI Learning Partners Advisory Council, a body, co-chaired by Premier MacLauchlan and former PEIHSF President Bill Whelan, focused on the long-term future of our education system, from the early years through the workforce and beyond.

I was asked to present a list of general priorities to the members of this Learning Partners Advisory Council at its first meeting; I distilled the following four priorities from our recent policy resolutions and from discussions at recent Semi-Annual and Annual Meetings:

Inclusive Education

Our public education system is, nominally, an inclusive one, where all learn together. But too often this is inclusion in name only, and those who are atypical are *accommodated* but not fully *embraced*; they are given supports to allow them to *survive*, but not to *thrive*. We need to move toward a culture and practice of genuine inclusion, especially in the high school and post secondary years, where the vestiges of “streaming” are still very much alive. Every person deserves an individualized education that is custom-tailored to their capabilities and their goals in life.

Integrated Education

The early years, public school, and life beyond public education are treated too often as completely separate systems of education: the transitions between each are stressful, and the resources and programming are often disjointed. Added to this is a disconnection between public education and the health system, the social supports system, the justice system, the food system, the library system and the community at large. We need to establish an *integrated* approach to education where we realize that effective learning depends on being well-fed, having a supportive, income-secure home environment, and equitable access to tools and technologies. The very nature of government bureaucracy mitigates against this integration, and so a reengineering of bureaucratic approaches to education, focused on learning, may be required.

The Importance of Good Communication

The root of so many challenges in education stems from the lack of regular, well-worded, well-distributed communication among all those involved in the learning process. We need a higher

standard of communication, with attention paid to providing useful, practical guidance, to building statistical literacies required to interpret data about learning, to informing everyone of the options available to them, and allowing them to highlight the roadblocks they encounter. We need a system of communication that runs two ways, where there is less *feedback* and more *collaboration*. We need a system that is comfortable with communicating about failure as a part of the process of regrouping and moving beyond it.

Prosperity of the Soul

The connection between learning and prosperity is an important one, but if we view “prosperity” through too narrow a lens, as a measure only of businesses and entrepreneurship and jobs and the GDP, then we run the risk of setting aside those important parts of learning that have more to do with building citizens who are compassionate, who are involved in improving their community and their country, who are happy, who can build and maintain positive relationships, and who can express themselves through art and music. Our prosperity must include the “prosperity of the soul” if we are to build a truly strong, prosperous Island together.

That last priority – the “Prosperity of the Soul” – is the one nearest to my own heart, as it focuses on a basket of things that we all know to be an important part of public education and community life but that, because they are hard to measure and grade, sometimes don’t rise to the top of the public policy discussion.

Our Provincial Lunch Program is a good example of this: the resolution, calling for every student in every school to be provided with a healthy lunch, every day, at no cost, was, in essence, our members saying, with a loud collective voice, “how can we expect our children to thrive if they do not come to the classroom door well-fed and ready to learn?”

Following from this, taking an *integrated* approach to education means, for example, that when the common assessment results come out, we seek not only to look at issues strictly related to what happens in the classroom, but also what happens *before* and *after* the classroom: what’s the connection between literacy and physical activity? mental wellness? eating breakfast every day? Our long history as a sort of “connective tissue” of the public education system makes Home & School uniquely positioned to advocate for a broader, more holistic view that makes these sorts of connections.

Our other great strength at Home & School is that we are truly a “bottom up” organization, with our roots firmly planted in our local Home & School associations in each school. It is in our local associations that the real work of Home & School happens, and you need only to read the annual reports of our local presidents to see this clearly. Across the province our members – parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff, I say again – have worked together, in countless ways, to improve the lives of our children, to engage families in the learning process, to highlight excellence in our teachers and staff. Our provincial organization is, truly, a *federation* of these local associations, and supporting them must stay at the core of everything we do.

The theme of our Annual Meeting this year is “Many roots, many voices!” and that is a reflection of all of the above: it’s a recognition that we’re richer when we collaborate and that we are stronger when we

are rooted in our many communities.

In this spirit allow me to cast an eye back 64 years to a report in *The Guardian* on February 13, 1952 on the meeting of the Murray River Home and School, a report that reads, in part:

The program consisted of a skit "why parent education," put on by eight members and the chairman, after which discussion was raised on the better method of parent-child education.

While we may no longer be putting on skits together – *although maybe we should!* – the substance of Home & School remains now as it was then.

The Guardian over the last 75 years is filled with reports just like this: members of the community gathering together to talk about the meaty issues of educating our children and improving our communities.

It is in this tradition that we all should proudly follow.

Our work as a Federation could not happen without the work of our dedicated staff: Executive Director Shirley Jay, Education and Engagement Coordinator Ghislaine O'Hanley and administrative support person Cherie LeMoine.

Over the year they have fielded hundreds of telephone calls and emails, organized meetings, collated minutes, engaged in research to support the board, and undertaken countless other tasks. We all owe them a great debt for their devotion to their work.

Credit also must go to the members of our provincial board: the executive, and our 10 regional directors (one for each family of schools) have worked together to ensure that the Federation continues to prosper. Please take a moment to thank them for their volunteering of their time and their energy.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Rukavina

MURRAY RIVER HOME AND SCHOOL

"The regular meeting of the Murray River Home and School met in the school room on Feb. 11th with an attendance of thirteen members and twenty visitors.

The meeting opened with "O Canada," followed by prayer for the Home and School. The visitors were then welcomed and the minutes of the last meeting read and approved. The president then gave an outline of the objective of the Home and School.

A letter was read by the secretary from Miss Bowness of Summerside stressing education week and asking for a note on what was done at the meeting. A letter was also read from Miss Connell, vice-president of the Federation of Home and School, hoping that the Home and Schools of P.E.I. might some day be joined in the Federation.

The program consisted of a skit "why parent education," put on by eight members and the chairman, after which discussion was raised on the better method of parent-child education.

Mrs. A. D. MacKenzie asked for information regarding the Musical Festival and was answered by Mrs. Holden MacLure, music teacher for Murray River school. The meeting closed with the national Anthem after which a delicious lunch was served.

A large number of the Montague Home and School Association were guests at the meeting by special invitation.

Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

Minutes of the 62th Annual General Meeting – April 11, 2015

Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Peter Rukavina at 8:45 a.m.

Marion Murphy acted as Parliamentarian. Ellen Campbell acted as Recording Secretary.

President Peter Rukavina introduced the head table, members of the PEI Home and School Federation (PEIHSF) executive in attendance as well as invited guests.

1. Adoption of Agenda 2015

MOTION: That the agenda be approved as presented. Moved by Laura Bird. Seconded by Pam Montgomery. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes 2014

MOTION: That the minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented. Moved by Cory Thomas. Seconded by Shelly Keenan. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. President's Report

Peter Rukavina referenced his printed President's Report, included in the Book of Reports on p. 9-11, and provided a brief summary of the highlights of the year.

MOTION: That the President's Report be approved as presented. Moved by Peter Rukavina. Seconded by Laura Bird. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Financial Report

Treasurer Shelley Muzika presented a report on the financial position of the PEIHSF, referencing the financial information on pages 24-27 of the book of reports.

MOTION: That the Financial Report be accepted as presented. Moved by Shelley Muzika. Seconded by Heather Mullen. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION: That David Wright, CGA, be appointed as PEIHSF's accountant for next fiscal year. Moved by Shelley Muzika. Seconded by Pam Montgomery. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. Other Reports

President Peter Rukavina encouraged all in attendance to read the Book of Reports collaboratively with their respective Home and School Associations in an effort to be more informed and to gain insight with the work of other Island Home and School Associations.

6. Resolutions

Nicky Hyndman, PEIHSF Director, Colonel Gray Family of Schools, chaired the resolutions portion of the meeting.

**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION
RESOLUTIONS 2015**

RESOLUTION 1-2015 STUDENT CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Submitted by Three Oaks Senior High Parent Council

- WHEREAS** it is important for schools to offer character education programs that promote social tolerance, provide empathy training and leadership development that increases personal power and self esteem, and
- WHEREAS** these social skills are important in the ethical development of students and are critical in the development of caring citizens, translating into positive student behaviour in school, home and community, and
- WHEREAS** several schools across the province have already recognized the need and benefit of such activities and have undertaken the development and run student workshops at the senior high level such as: Climate Days, Breaking Down the Walls, Challenge Day, and
- WHEREAS** the goal of the Character Development Program is to empower the students to carry the themes of the program back to their school and community population, and
- WHEREAS** one of the goals of public education on PEI as stated in the “Education Handbook for School Administrators” is to enable students to develop a respect for community values, a sense of personal values and a responsibility for one’s actions, and
- WHEREAS** one of the guiding principles of the PEI Home and School Federation is to foster high ideals of citizenship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the English Language School Board and Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development implement age-appropriate character development programs that promote social tolerance, provide empathy training and leadership development, in all schools, primary to 12 grade levels, as part of the School Effectiveness Plan.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
 English Language School Board

BACKGROUND:
Three Oaks Climate Days

Philosophy: Student leaders in any given school building come in many forms and from many social groups. It is virtually impossible to put 800 students through a workshop on empathy training and many do not have the maturity or mindset needed for this to be successful. However, it was determined if the

leaders and sub-leaders of the various social groups in the school could be trained, then there would be the possibility of a positive “trickle down” effect to the students who follow them. In this way, we would have a better chance of affecting more students, and this is exactly what happened! All Climate Days, with the exception of Climate Night 2014, were co-facilitated by Nicole Haire and Peter Bolo. Positive student leaders were “planted” in discussion groups to model appropriate participation and keep the discussions flowing.

Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs states that the following “building blocks” must be in place-in order for a person to achieve self-actualization:

- Basic Needs (food, clothing, shelter, etc)
- Safety (physical, emotional and psychological)
- Belonging
- Self-Esteem (authentic success due to their own efforts)

Climate Days addresses Safety and Belonging. The time spent establishing and maintaining high expectations for a positive school climate allows students the opportunity to come to school each day and focus more fully on the school work at hand.

History:

- The Climate Days workshop was developed by Nicole Haire, in consultation with Leadership teacher Peter Bolo, in the spring of 2011. 58 students and 12 teachers participated in the first Climate Day workshop which took place off campus-in “neutral territory”-at the Loyalist Inn.
- In the fall of 2011, Phil Boyte was contracted to facilitate his “Breaking Down the Walls” workshop with 300 students over three days. This workshop has a similar philosophy to Climate Days and was held at the school.
- In 2012, the Climate Crew was formed by students concerned about fostering and maintaining positive school climate as well as an additional 300 students participated over three days in TOSH Climate Days held at the school.
- In the spring of 2013, 100 students participated in a TOSH Climate Days workshop
- In the spring of 2014, 85 students participated after school hours in a 6 hour climate workshop termed “Climate Night”.
- In the fall of 2014, 100 students participated in a Climate Day workshop at the school.

Summary: The positive “ripple effects” of this workshop have been noticeable and profound. Most of the results come from observation of student behaviour; feedback from students, staff and parents about the positive “feel” of our school; participant surveys; and anecdotal sharing from individuals who say that participating in Climate Days had a significant, positive effect on their lives. Invariably, participants say that it changes how they see others and how they respond to people and situations for the better. Our school has become a gentler, kinder place as a result and bystanders have become more likely to stand up and speak for what is right

MOTION: To approve Resolution 1-2015. Moved by Karen Smith. Seconded by Margie Donovan. **MOTION CARRIED (with 13 opposed and 0 abstentions).**

RESOLUTION 2-2015 STORM CLOSURES
Submitted by West Kent Home and School Association

- WHEREAS** the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and English Language School Board are striving to improve student achievement using multiple initiatives following disappointing PISA and PCAP assessment scores for Prince Edward Island students (which demonstrated that our students scored below the Canadian average in math, reading and science testing;), and
- WHEREAS** according to Stats Can Publication 81-604-X Table D 1.1, PEI students average 25.8 hours less instructional time than the Canadian average each year, and
- WHEREAS** PEI students lose significant classroom time due to storm closures, and in the 2013-2014 school year this amounted to an estimated loss of between 5-10% of instructional time; and
- WHEREAS** cumulative lost classroom time due to storm closures may be a significant contributor to poor academic performance by Island students; and
- WHEREAS** neither the ELSB nor the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development publish the number of school storm closures on an annual basis, making it difficult to quantify the potential impact on student performance without readily available data; and
- WHEREAS** some storm closures have been based on predicted vs. actual weather events and prove to be unnecessary, and some parents are frustrated with the number of school storm closures after a winter storm that seem to be due to a lack of coordinated and/or expeditious snow removal; and
- WHEREAS** there is no published policy outlining the process by which a decision is made to cancel school;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the ELSB to form a committee consisting of board and department staff, home and school representatives and transportation experts to review current practices, develop and publish a Storm Closures Policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the ELSB to ensure those responsible for storm closure decisions have adequate resources and training to make informed decisions, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the ELSB to publish the number of school days lost to storm closure for each family of schools in the ELSB's Annual Report.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
 English Language School Board
 Department of Transportation

BACKGROUND:

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL BOARD PROCEDURE:

The English Language School Board (ELSB) collects information from a variety of sources when determining if classes should be cancelled due to weather/road conditions on a daily basis. A team of approximately four staff are involved in the process. The group examines a variety of weather forecasts for the day, reviews road report information from across the province obtained from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, and road condition information obtained from board transportation personnel. The information is compiled between 4:30 AM and 6 AM and a decision is usually made prior to 6:30 AM on whether to proceed with the day, initiate a one hour delay, initiate an hour delay with a further announcement, or to close for the day. Family of school closures or delays may be initiated if conditions differ from across the province.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2-2015. Moved by Jill Cunniffe. Seconded by Peggy Roach Savard. **MOTION CARRIED (with 12 opposed and 10 abstentions).**

**RESOLUTION 3-2015 SAFE STUDENT TRANSPORTATION WITH RELATED
COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES**

Submitted by M.E.Callaghan Home and School

- WHEREAS** students, parents and guardians need a guarantee of safe and timely transportation to the school as many families are in situations where parents must leave for their work prior to the bus picking up their children, and
- WHEREAS** bus drivers have to be confident that roads are prepared for travel prior to departing for their runs, and
- WHEREAS** there must be sufficient spare drivers to support the regular bus drivers in time of need, and
- WHEREAS** notification of any delays or cancellations of individual runs needs to be communicated in a timely manner to students, parents, guardians and the school as per ELSB policy, and
- WHEREAS** current communications are not adequate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the English Language School Board to ensure effective communication regarding day-to-day transportation of students is reported directly to parents, guardians, students and the school.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
English Language School Board

**Addition to Resolution 3-2015 SAFE STUDENT TRANSPORTATION WITH
RELATED COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES**

Submitted by M. E. Callaghan Home and School Association

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the English Language School Board establish regional support for each family of schools to meet the needs of safe and timely transportation for students.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 3-2015 with addition. Moved by Kelly Herget. Seconded by Jessica Campbell. **MOTION CARRIED (with 0 opposed and 5 abstentions).**

RESOLUTION 4-2015 REQUEST FOR OFFSITE ALTERNATE EDUCATION CLASSES

Submitted by Montague High Parent Council

- WHEREAS** this resolution addresses an important issue as it pertains to education, safety and health to many students in the education system, and
- WHEREAS** the current education system is considering relocating all Alternate Education programs from off-school sites to standard school sites, and
- WHEREAS** the physical layout of most school facilities is not conducive to an Alternative Education site with a separate entrance, kitchen facility and office/meeting space, and
- WHEREAS** we need to address and support the students requiring Alternate Education and understand that the need for alternative education program is largely as a result of not being able to attend classes in the current physically structured system for various reasons¹, and
- WHEREAS** PEI's education system expects Island schools to provide education for all students, including those requiring learning environment adjustments and who are unable to attend regular school, i.e. Alternate Education;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and English Language School Board designate and allocate all Alternate Education be provided with off-school site facilities to more realistically reflect the needs of those requiring an adjusted learning environment, thereby promoting the total well-being of ALL of our children/youth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the English Language School Board release an immediate communication plan for the Alternate Education policy to key stakeholders.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
 English Language School Board

MOTION: To approve Resolution 4-2015 Moved by April MacLean. Seconded by Robin Davidson. **MOTION CARRIED (with 4 opposed and 14 abstentions).**

¹ Alternative education programs are in place to accommodate the needs of students who are unable to attend regular school usually because of serious social/emotional issues which, after appropriate interventions have been tried, are not able to be managed in the regular school setting. The main focus of the programs is to assist the student in acquiring some life skills training which will enable them to return to the regular school setting. Students are also expected to follow an academic course of studies which parallels as much as possible the academic program they would be following in regular school. Participation in alternative school programs is a short term intervention which aims at return to regular school as soon as possible. The full time programs are staffed by a teacher and a youth worker. "There is no single formula yielding a model that is an ideal 'school for the unsuccessful' "(Raywid, 2001, p. 584) "Despite inclusive schooling and the provision for diversity, mainstream education is not necessarily successful for all students" (de Jong, 2005, p. 363)

References: De Jong, T. (2005). A framework of principles and best practice for managing student behaviour in the **Alternative Education Guidelines (English School District)** Australian context. *School Psychology International*, 26(3), 353-370. Raywid, M. A. (2001). What to do with students who are not succeeding *Phi Delta Kappan*, 82(8), 582-584

RESOLUTION 5-2015 ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS
Submitted by West Royalty Elementary Home and School Association

- WHEREAS** it is important to recognize that students at elementary and intermediate levels need to have access to enriched programs as there are many interventions for students who cannot manage the curriculum, and
- WHEREAS** every student deserves to achieve their full academic potential, through respect and planning for diverse potential; and
- WHEREAS** all stakeholders need to work together to ensure that the public school system in PEI should be striving to meet the needs of all students, recognizing appropriately paced individual learning; and
- WHEREAS** high achieving students may be required to learn at a slower pace than they are capable and may become disengaged in a system where their needs are not being met, and
- WHEREAS** IB (International Baccalaureate) or AP (Advanced Placement) programs at the high school level is a delayed intervention, and
- WHEREAS** teachers need resources and training to meet the needs of all students; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development introduce an enrichment program for the core learning areas (Math, Science, Language Arts) at the elementary and junior high levels

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
 English Language School Board

<p>MOTION: To approve Resolution 5-2015. Moved by Denise Bulger. Seconded by Colleen Henderson. MOTION CARRIED (with 2 opposed and 20 abstentions).</p>

**RESOLUTION 6-2015 PROMPT ESTABLISHMENT OF ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS
POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

Submitted by Prince Street Home and School Association

- WHEREAS** some Island schools have piloted innovative, popular, and successful projects that utilize animals within their schools to support curriculum outcomes, enhance student learning, personal and emotional development, and build school-community relationships, and
- WHEREAS** the health, safety, and wellbeing of students, teachers, staff, and animals in a shared school environment must be given full respect, and
- WHEREAS** the importance of interacting with animals and nature is well-established as essential to students learning; however, schools in urban environments have less access to natural areas where students can observe and interact with animals; additionally, students living in low-income households often have less access to companion animals in their homes and
- WHEREAS** some students require, or would benefit from, having service or companion animals with them or present in their school; and some students would benefit from lessons that incorporate the presence of animals and
- WHEREAS** there is a gap in school board policy and procedures that currently limits a school's ability to support the presence of animals in schools, negotiate agreements or moderate differences of interest related to animals in schools, or plan for programming that could include animals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF request the English Language School Board to expedite the development of policies and procedures related to the presence of animals in schools and establish these to be in place no later than the 2015- 2016 school calendar year.

DESTINATION: English Language School Board
 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

<p>MOTION: To approve Resolution 6-2015. Moved by Laura Bird. Seconded by Jane Ledwell. MOTION CARRIED (with 3 opposed and 2 abstentions).</p>
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**RESOLUTION 7-2015 ENHANCING SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATIONS
WITH LOCAL HOME AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS**

Submitted by Prince Street Home and School Association

- WHEREAS** much of the energy, creativity, effort, and work related to successful innovative school-based programs (such as community programs held at school, extracurricular programs, and staff-led learning intervention programs) come from the collaboration of many school and community members including students, teachers, administrators, staff, parents, home and school committees, and the

wider school community, and
WHEREAS schools and their communities have much invested in programs old and new, and
WHEREAS school boards must respond to concerns about school-based programs and make decisions about the future of such programs, and
WHEREAS school boards have processes for handling complaints and concerns but no formal requirement to communicate with local home and schools or to include them or the wider community in problem-solving, planning, decision-making, or conflict resolution, and
WHEREAS unequal access to information can shut out local home and schools (as organizations representing the school-wide community);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the English Language School Board consults with and include local home and school organizations in communications and planning processes when the ELSB decision suspends or significantly changes or abolishes an established program.

DESTINATION: English Language School Board
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

MOTION: To approve Resolution 7-2015. Moved by Jane Ledwell. Seconded by Kara Smith.
MOTION CARRIED (with 0 opposed and 2 abstentions).

RESOLUTION 8-2015: ESTABLISH A PROVINCIAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM FOR ALL ISLAND CHILDREN.
Submitted by Montague Consolidated Home and School Association and Montague Regional High School Parent Council

WHEREAS current research suggests that poor diet is associated with poor school performance.ⁱ
WHEREAS in 2012, 35.7% of children in PEI were considered overweight; of these, 13 per cent fell into the higher risk “obese” category, both of which were higher than the Canadian average.ⁱⁱ
WHEREAS diet quality and obesity have been linked to a number of chronic diseases and higher health care utilization and spending.ⁱⁱⁱ Childhood obesity has been shown to have significant negative influences on mental health.^{iv}
WHEREAS the best approaches to obesity prevention are population and community-based, rather than being the sole responsibility of the individual.^v
WHEREAS one in five children in Prince Edward Island live in households affected by some level of food insecurity and 79% of food insecure households were reliant on wages or salaries from employment (as opposed to social assistance, pension or other senior’s income, employment insurance, or other). This is the highest rate in Canada.^{vii}
WHEREAS food bank use in PEI has increased by 18.7% since 2008 and 38% of those

helped by Island food banks are children.^{viii}

WHEREAS recent research in Canada has demonstrated a strong link between food insufficiency and poor mental and physical health in childhood, adolescence and adulthood.^{ix}

WHEREAS PEI children's lunches are consistently of poor quality The vast majority of Island children are not consuming enough fruits, vegetables and milk and they are consuming less healthy foods too often.^x

WHEREAS approximately 40% of children's daily caloric intake occurs at school and schools provide an ideal opportunity for learning about nutrition and healthy lifestyles.^{xi}

WHEREAS lunch programs that rely heavily on parent volunteers contribute to inequalities in access to healthy food across the Island; and, food programs that rely heavily on teachers and school staff reduce the number of hours of instructional time they are able to provide.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the P.E.I. Home and School Federation request the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Minister of Health and Wellness establish *a provincial school lunch program for all Island children* that adheres to the school nutrition policies and regulations.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the P.E.I. Home and School Federation request the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Minister of Health and Wellness ensure that all school lunch programs are developed in collaboration with school communities and encourage and facilitate the use of locally produced food and support local businesses.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
English Language School Board
Departments of Health & Wellness and Communities Services & Seniors
PEI Food Security Network
PEI Healthy Eating Alliance
Department of Agriculture & Forestry

HOUSEHOLD FOOD INSECURITY: insecure or inadequate access to food due to financial constraints and includes: worry that food would run out before there was enough money to buy more; the food does not last and there is no money to buy more; not being able to afford balanced meals and reliance on low-cost foods to feed children; reducing the size of meals or skipping meals because there was not enough money to buy food; being hungry but not being able to afford food; losing weight because there was not enough money to buy food; going for a whole day without food.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 8-2015 Moved by Lisa MacDougall. Seconded by Sarah MacKay. **MOTION CARRIED (with 4 opposed and 4 abstentions).**

**RESOLUTION 9-2015 ACTIVATION OF AND ACCESS TO THE
STUDENTS-ACHIEVE SYSTEM BY PARENTS AT
THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEVEL**

Submitted by the P.E.I. Home and School Federation

WHEREAS the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) and English Language School Board (ELSB) in Prince Edward Island have been encouraging greater parent engagement in students' education, and

WHEREAS studies show the level of parent engagement¹ ²is directly linked to student achievement and outcomes, and

WHEREAS parents and students are frustrated and overwhelmed by the host of engagement tools used by teachers/schools such as teacher blogs, websites, social media sites, StudentsAchieve System (SAS), etc., and

WHEREAS the DEECD and ELSB systematically supports teachers' timely use of SAS as the primary communication tool for student attendance and mark management at the intermediate and senior high school levels, and

WHEREAS the greatest level of overall parent engagement occurs at the elementary school level;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and English Language School Board allow parents' access to the StudentsAchieve System at the elementary school level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the DEECD and ELSB to support elementary school teachers' use of SAS beyond that of school attendance at the elementary school level and establish consistent and clear procedures for use by teachers that is communicated to parents.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
 English Language School Board

MOTION: To approve Resolution 9-2015 Moved by Peter Rukavina Seconded by Ellen Campbell. **MOTION CARRIED (with 6 opposed and 5 abstentions).**

¹ Parent Involvement: The Key To Improved Student Achievement *Steven R Hara and Daniel J Burke* <http://www.adi.org/journal/ss01/chapters/Chapter16-Hara&Burke.pdf>

² Capacity Building Series K-12 - Parent Engagement Working with Families/ Supporting Student Learning Ontario Secretariat Special Edition #29
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/CBS_parentEngage.pdf

7. Nominating Report/Elections

Chair of the Nominating Committee Pam Montgomery presented the report of the committee, putting forward the following nominations for vacant positions on the PEIHSF board:

Executive Positions:	Nominees:	Two Year Term Expires:
Secretary	Lisa MacDougall	2017
Treasurer	Shelley Muzika	2017

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Family of Schools:	Nominees:	Two Year Term Expires:
Bluefield	Windsor Wight	2017
Kensington	Trevor Moase	2017
Souris	Tara Hill Burke	2017
Three Oaks	Cory Thomas	2017
Westisle	Kelly Herget	2017

Other vacant positions to be filled Post-AGM by the Federation Board:

Charlottetown Rural	2016
Montague	2016

MOTION: That the candidates presented to fill the vacant positions on the PEIHSF be confirmed as presented. Moved by Ellen Campbell. Seconded by Shelley Muzika. MOTION CARRIED.

The 2015-2016 PEIHSF Board of Directors and Executive will thus consist of:

EXECUTIVE		TERM EXPIRES
President:	Peter Rukavina	2016
Vice-President:	Joanna Campbell	2016
Past President:	Pam Montgomery	2016
Treasurer:	Shelley Muzika	2017
Secretary:	Lisa MacDougall	2017
REGIONAL DIRECTORS (Family of Schools)		
Westisle	Kelly Herget	2017
Three Oaks	Corey Thomas	2017
Kensington	Trevor Moase	2017

Kinkora	Ann Miller	2016
Bluefield	Windsor Wright	2017
Charlottetown Rural	vacant	2016
Colonel Gray	Nicky Hyndman	2016
Montague	vacant	2016
Souris	Tara Hill Burke	2017

PEIHSF board was inducted by Marion Murphy.

8. New Business

No new business.

9. Adjournment

Peter Rukavina declared the regular business portion of the meeting concluded. Jessica Campbell moved for adjournment at 11:00 a.m.

Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.

2015 Semi-Annual Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

6:00 – 8:30 PM

Three Oaks Senior High School, Summerside, PEI

Registration began at 5:45 pm. Shirley S. Jay and Ghislaine O’Hanley distributed meeting packages to registrants upon their arrival.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Peter Rukavina at 6:07 p.m. Lisa MacDougall acted as Recording Secretary

Peter welcomed members and guests, including Hon. Hal Perry, Minister, and Susan Willis, Deputy Minister, Early Learning and Culture, English Language School Board Superintendent Cynthia Fleet, English Language School Board Chair and Members (Fred Osborne, Gary Doucette, Cindy McCardle, David Mitchell, Kent Nicholson, Colleen Parker, June Jenkins), and Director of Curriculum Delivery, Dr. Tammy Hubley-Little, CUPE reps (Stacy Delaney, Carolyn Vandaele, Nicole Couture, Karen Tsistinas)

2. Adoption of Agenda October 20, 2015

MOTION: That the agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by Ann Millar. Seconded by Cory Thomas **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Approval of Minutes of October 21, 2014 Meeting

MOTION: That the minutes of the October 21, 2014 meeting be approved as presented.

Moved by Joanna Stewart. Seconded by Trevor Moase. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Treasurer’s Report

Shelley Muzika prepared the report and it is included in the registration package.

MOTION: That the Financial Report be approved as presented.

Moved by Cory Thomas. Seconded by Donna MacLeod. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. President’s Report

Peter Rukavina’s written report for October 20, 2015 was submitted with highlights as follows:

- New employee Ghislaine O’Hanley was hired as Education and Engagement Coordinator
- The Minister’s responses to the Resolutions from April 2015 are included in the registration package
- Provincial School Lunch Program Summit in June was a success
- Leadership training workshops and informal mixers were held in September
- A Director for Kinkora Area schools is needed
- Advice to Chairs including an explanation of Committee Chair roles and types of activities for committee work

6. New Business

No new business

7. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. Moved by Anne Millar. The business of the 2015 Semi-Annual meeting ended and, following a 15 minute break, registrants participated in break-out sessions.

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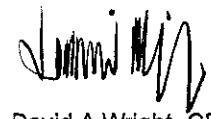
REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members' of:
PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC

I have reviewed the statement of financial position of the PEI Home and School Federation Inc. as at December 31, 2015 and the statements of operations and excess and cash flows for the year then ended. My review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures, and discussion related to information supplied to me by the organization.

A review does not constitute an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNFPPO).



David A Wright, CPA, CGA

Charlottetown, PE

March 8, 2016

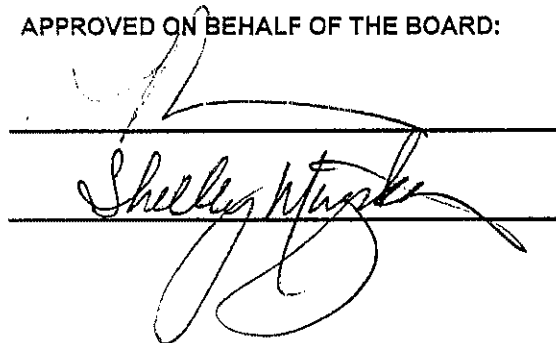
PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2015

Statement 1

(UNAUDITED)

	2015	2014
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and deposits	\$ 118,624	\$ 130,730
Accounts receivable, trade	200	450
Harmonized sales tax receivable	1,574	1,754
	<u>\$ 120,398</u>	<u>\$ 132,934</u>
LIABILITIES AND EXCESS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,622	\$ 2,285
Government remittances payable	626	222
Deferred revenue (Note 4)	22,437	25,280
	<u>24,685</u>	<u>27,787</u>
EXCESS	<u>95,713</u>	<u>105,147</u>
	<u>\$ 120,398</u>	<u>\$ 132,934</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND EXCESS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

Statement 2

(UNAUDITED)

	2015	2014
REVENUES		
Grants	\$ 80,143	\$ 75,556
Membership dues	4,400	4,450
Donations and fund raising	975	1,372
Registration and display fees	4,265	3,879
Investment income	964	1,683
	<u>90,747</u>	<u>86,940</u>
EXPENSES		
Advertising, donations and awards	1,907	1,359
Meetings	6,054	4,248
Parent Engagement grants	23,035	36,056
Postage	184	473
Professional fees	1,284	1,223
Rent	2,899	2,899
Supplies	5,876	4,381
Telephone	1,216	1,370
Travel and conference	6,244	1,021
Wages and benefits	51,482	40,593
	<u>100,181</u>	<u>93,623</u>
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(9,434)	(6,683)
EXCESS, beginning of year	105,147	111,830
EXCESS, end of year	\$ 95,713	\$ 105,147

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

Statement 3

(UNAUDITED)

	2015	2014
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash receipts	\$ 88,334	\$ 86,729
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(100,440)	(92,641)
DECREASE IN CASH	(12,106)	(5,912)
CASH AND DEPOSITS, beginning of year	130,730	136,642
CASH AND DEPOSITS, end of year	\$ 118,624	\$ 130,730
AS REPRESENTED BY:		
TD Canada Trust Business Investor Account	\$ 1,001	\$ 1,001
TD Canada Trust Business Chequing Account	17,329	14,350
TD Canada Trust Term Investment Account	100,294	115,379
	\$ 118,624	\$ 130,730

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015

(UNAUDITED)

1. MISSION

PEI Home and School Federation Inc. is a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the province of Prince Edward Island. 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. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

a) Revenue recognition

(i) Grants and members dues

Grants and members dues are recognized proportionately over the fiscal year to which they relate. Revenues received in advance of the fiscal year to which they relate are recorded as deferred revenue.

(ii) Investment income

Investment income comprises interest from term deposits. Revenue is recognized on an accrual basis.

b) Donated services

The work of the Federation is dependent on the voluntary service of many individuals. Since these services are not normally purchased by the Federation and because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, donated services are not recognized in the financial statements.

c) Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and 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. Actual results may differ from the estimates, the impact of which would be recorded in future periods.

d) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are not capitalized, but are expensed in the year they are purchased. Office furniture in the amount of \$1,860 was purchased in the current year and is included in supplies expense.

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2015

(UNAUDITED)

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Federation is exposed to various risks through financial instruments, such as cash, investments, accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Credit risk

Cash and investments: Credit risk associated with cash and Canadian fixed income investments is minimized by ensuring that these assets are invested in guaranteed investment certificates

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Federation will not be able to meet a demand for cash or fund its obligations as they come due

The Federation meets its liquidity requirements by anticipating investing and financing activities and holding assets that can readily converted into cash

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk is comprised of currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk.

Interest rate risk

The Federations cash includes amounts on deposit with financial institutions that earn interest at market rates

Changes in risk

There have been no significant changes in the Federations risk exposures from the previous year

4. DEFERRED REVENUE

2015 **2014**

Deferred revenue represents core funding and project grants received in the current and prior fiscal years for expenditures that will be incurred in future fiscal years, and is related to Provincial government funding, and the Telus and Wellness projects. The Statement of Operations grant revenue has been increased or reduced accordingly

Provincial government funding	\$	18,625	\$	24,268
Telus project		1,012		1,012
Wellness project		2,800		
	\$	22,437	\$	25,280

P.E.I. HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION**Shirley Smedley Jay, Executive Director**

Your kid's mental health is more important than their grades. Amanda Weber

Wellness is the key message this year. Parents, guardians, educators, and custodians contribute to the total well-being of each and every student in the whole of Prince Edward Island's education system! Working together, each one of us advocates for the best possible learning experience for school aged children helping to grow a young citizen who will contribute positively to community wherever they-land in our world.

Communicating is essential: Presidents receive print mailings three times during the school year: September school start up package, October Semi-Annual registration package and April Annual Meeting & Conference registration package. All other messaging is done electronically. We ask you to post this information on your Home and School's social media sites, ask the school secretary to include details in the school newsletter, and add discussion points to your Home and School meeting agendas.

Twitter, Facebook and Federation Website: Our website is updated regularly as well as Facebook page and Twitter. Follow us on Twitter; friend us on Facebook.

Getting Organized: Fall leadership training sessions were offered to all Home and School members and are available, upon request, throughout the school year for individual members/Associations. Contact the office to put in your request.

Saying thank you for your efforts: Recognizing people and saying thank you for your effort - is important! The Federation awards include: Extra Mile, Volunteer of the Year, Life Member, School Bus Driver, and, our new, Crossing Guard of the Year. Ask 2-4 people to be your school's Volunteer Committee to watch for these deadlines. Find details at: <http://peihsf.ca/content/awards>

Working together: When issues arise that expose a gap in the education system, discuss it with your Home and School: teachers, parents, and principal. Research the topic and write a resolution with help from everyone around the table. Our process is listed at: <http://peihsf.ca/search/node/resolutions>

History: Presidents are asked to submit annual reports listing activities from September to June. Together we are writing the history of Home and School in Prince Edward Island.

Thank you to Peter Rukavina, Federation president, for his dedication and selfless giving of time and skills. It is an honour to work with the board who are focussed on the full range of issues that impact all students in our education system! Many thanks to Cherie and Ghislaine who assist with everything that happens in the Federation office.

The number one priority for parents is their children's well-being. A child's self-esteem grows when the whole school family is pulling together for them. One way for you to help your child succeed: **Join** the Home and School Association

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION
Ghislaine O’Hanley, Education and Engagement Coordinator

There has been a lot of activity for me since starting in this role on October 6, 2015. Shirley has been an immense support in getting me oriented and up to speed. PEIHSF is a diverse and intriguing organization, and I learn something new every day about our role in supporting students in PEI schools.

My work is primarily with administering the Parent Leadership Grants and supporting members to develop and advance your Policy Resolutions. Additionally, I have been coordinating a series of Wellness Presentations focused on student mental health.

Parent Leadership Grants

A total of 16 grants have been approved for 2015-2106. Additionally, there were 4 projects carried over from last year that were completed this school year. There are some innovative as well as practical projects being done in our schools, on topics like math literacy, mental health, community engagement and student empowerment. If you are interested in applying, but are unsure of what to do, please get in touch at the office. I have examples and templates for successful projects that you can use as a model.

Resolutions

The 2015 Universal School Lunch Program resolution from Montague Consolidated has a lot of traction right now, both locally and nationally. I play a supporting role in assisting Lisa MacDougall in moving that forward.

Wellness Grant

PEIHFS received \$3500 from the Dept of Health and Wellness to present to families of schools on mental health issues prevalent in their schools. Based on input from local associations, I developed the framework for delivery – 2 hour sessions focused on Anxiety, Coping and either Healthy Relationships or Triple P. There will be 9 presentations in total, all across PEI. The feedback thus far has been very positive, and the audiences have been very engaged and thankful for the information and strategies presented.

PROVINCIAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Lisa MacDougall, Chair

On January 27, 2015 Shirley Smedley Jay and Peter Rukavina held a brainstorming workshop at Montague Consolidated School. The principal and several parents attended the session, along with one parent from Souris. It was agreed that students coming to school without sufficient and healthy food is a big problem and that poorly-nourished students cannot learn effectively. The issue of food security was also discussed at the brainstorming sessions held at Summerside Intermediate and Bloomfield Elementary. There was some discussion about what could be done to solve this issue and who is responsible for it. The larger issue of poverty also affects learning in many other ways, including behavioural issues, access to physical activity and technology.

The Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Annual General Meeting was held on April 11, 2015 and the theme was “From Ideas to Action ” At that meeting, the Montague Consolidated School Home and School Association and the Montague Regional High School Parent Council put forward a Resolution calling for a universal provincial school lunch program. The Resolution was passed.

The highlight of the AGM was a leadership debate on education. Questions developed by the Home and School membership during the morning roundtable discussions were posed to candidates and all party leaders expressed support for the idea of a provincial school lunch program.

A Provincial Lunch Program Committee was established at the regular meeting of the Board on June 4, 2015. Lisa MacDougall was named as Chair. Since that date, a position was created at the Home and School office to support action on all Resolutions, this one in particular, and additional members were added to the Committee. Current committee members include: Peter Rukavina, Shirley Smedley Jay, Ghislaine O’Hanley, Shauna Humble-Mellish, Sarah MacKay, Susan Myers, Bethany MacDonald, Bobbie Kerwin, Windsor Wight, Leslie Cudmore, and Andrea Richard.

A School Lunch Program Summit Meeting was held June 10, 2015 at the Culinary Institute. Gerry Hopkirk facilitated the session, which brought together educators and people involved in food, including the PEI Federation of Agriculture, the PEI Fisherman’s Association, the Culinary Institute, the Food Security Network, the Healthy Eating Alliance, the Carrefour. The goal was to scope out what it will take to have a universal provincial school lunch program.

In September 2015, the PEI Home and School Federation joined the Coalition for Healthy School Food, a national organization that is working with organizations across Canada to advocate for a national Universal Healthy School Food Program.

Lisa and Ghislaine attended Changing the Menu, Canada’s First National School Food conference in Montreal from November 12-14. We learned the importance of celebrating the successes of existing programs that contribute to healthy school food and address food security. The Coalition for Healthy School Food and their parent organization, Food Secure Canada see a National School Food Program as the “low hanging fruit” or an achievable goal on the road to food security in Canada. There is agreement that access to healthy food in schools would have a significant impact on student learning and engagement.

Ghislaine and Lisa presented what they learned from the conference at the PEIHSF Board of Director's meeting on November 25, 2015. Lisa's presentation was entitled "Can food grow a village?" It was noted in the minutes that Windsor Wight (Bluefield Area Representative and Principal of East Wiltshire Intermediate School) commented that when students wanted to change the school menu to include healthier options, the changes have been successful.

Throughout the past year, Peter Rukavina has been working hard to develop relationships with our partners in supporting the wellbeing of the whole child. I sit as a representative from the PEIHSF on the Healthy Eating Alliance *Healthy Eating in Schools Advisory Committee* and we have met with the SHAPES group several times. In November 2015, the SHAPES team revised their survey to include questions about breakfast foods. In December, I nominated Tracy Michael from the Healthy Eating Alliance to sit on the Provincial Learning Partners Advisory Council and the nomination was accepted. I am confident that Tracy will be a strong voice for student well being on the Council!

The Provincial School Lunch Program Committee is currently collecting information about school food in the province. We are working with SHAPES and the Healthy Eating Alliance, and we are also conducting our own survey, which will be sent out to local Home and School Associations and Area Representatives. We appreciate your help with this and we are also looking forward to hearing your stories about school food during roundtable discussions at the Annual General Meeting!

Following the AGM, the Committee will be holding a stakeholders meeting with the goal of developing an implementation plan for a provincial school food program. Please contact the office if you are passionate about school food and would like to participate!

The goal of the Committee is to compile the information from all sources and present it to relevant decision makers in government in May 2016.

PEI LITERACY ALLIANCE
Committee Chair Report – Nicky Hyndman

Meetings:

September 15, 2016 (AGM)
September 29, 2016 (Board meeting)
November 17, 2016

Activity:

Participation in the Raise a Reader fundraising activity in cooperation with The Guardian and the Journal Pioneer.

Attendance at AGM and board meetings.

Near future activity:

I have been in discussion with Amanda Beazley (program director) about how I can contribute to the Literacy Alliance. Given my connections with the PEIHSF we agreed that my experience and contacts would benefit both the PEI Volunteers for Literacy adult tutoring program and the Summer Tutoring Program for Kids.

1. PEI Volunteers for Literacy: Currently in the pilot phase of this program. There is a need to recruit more tutors and learners on an ongoing basis while having an annual tutor training and learner matching schedule in place. This has been identified as an area where my help may be useful in making connections to recruit qualified tutors for the program.
2. Summer Tutoring Program for Kids: The Literacy Alliance hopes to have enough funds to run this program this summer. Improvement in the area of parent engagement and communications between parents and tutors this year has been identified as a goal. Amanda Beazley and I have made a plan to work on finding some effective ways to engage parents this summer.

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION
Joanna Stewart, Parent Engagement Committee

Members: Joanna Stewart, Nicky Hyndman, Ghislaine O’Hanley

Parent Leadership Grants

The first round of grants in October saw 3 projects awarded grants, with 3 others carried over from the previous year. Projects included Numeracy Coaching, Geocaching, Multicultural Fair and a Math night.

The second round of grants in January saw 11 projects receive funding for initiatives around Literacy, Painting, STEM, Student Empowerment and online safety. These projects will reach thousands of students and hundreds of parents and enrich skills, address difficult issues, create connections and help parents support children’s learning at home.

Meetings

The committee met in the fall to discuss new strategies for engagement, including parent engagement at home and not just at school.

The Committee also met to review Grant applications and offer feedback to applicants.

MINISTER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY
Maureen Kerr, Representative

The Minister's Advisory Committee on CIT (Computers and Information Technology) advises the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development on matters related to the use of information technology – computers, software, email, the Internet, etc. The committee consists of representatives from the Department of Education, the Department of Finance's IT Shared Services division, the school boards, the PEI Teachers Federation, the French parents association, and the PEI Home and School Federation.

There were two meetings: one in the fall of 2015 and one just recently, on February 29th, 2016. Guy Albert retired and therefore is no longer chair of the committee. Austin Johnston is the interim chair.

Highlights of the committees discussions in the past year:

From the first meeting

Department Update:

Terry reported that the Wireless/Infrastructure and the Active Directory projects are moving forward with the help of Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture and IT Share Services funding.

All High Schools except Three Oaks will be converted to Active Directory by the end of this fiscal year. TOSH will be converted when renovations are done

The Student Information System was also mentioned. Started to look at the requirements for the replacement of our Student Information System called Trevlac. The new software could also replace other applications such as Student's Achieve. Most other Atlantic provinces have moved to a product called Power School. This however will require a four to five year implementation plan and there are no plans to start this process this year. It would be difficult to begin the project while implementing Active Directory. It is certainly something that will be considered in the next few years.

ITSS Update:

Austin informed the committee that 2 more servers, Westwood and Queen Elizabeth, have been replaced or virtualized. ITSS is moving TREVLAAC from Fox Pro to SQL. The wiring for all high schools has been completed and ITSS is now looking at school via geographic areas to wire the next cluster of schools, ie

Summerside family of schools. A new application for English as an Additional Language (EAL) and French as an Additional Language (FAL) is in the final stages of testing and should be operational by end of October.

ITSS staff have been on site at Colonel Gray and Charlottetown Rural for the first 3 weeks of September to support their move to AD/W7. They went back for a day or so to work with teachers on any additional issues they may have. Some teachers delayed taking the training thinking that it would be offered at a later date.

The next three schools to be converted to Active Directory are Bluefield, Westisle and École Évangéline. Terry, Jamie and Austin visited each school and worked on the hardware request with principals. Since Google was deployed, the internet has been slow. Everything is going through NetSweeper and that seems to be where the bottle neck occurs. CheckPoint is presently being tested in Colonel Gray and testing is going well so the next step will be to move it to other Active Directory schools. This should provide some relief to NetSweeper filtered Novell schools.

Highlights from February 29th meeting:

- suggestion for next meeting to be at a school is being considered (the Rural);
- wireless and new laptops are going in nearly all of the schools by the end of the school year;
- Advisory council doesn't consider programming as part of the curriculum to be relevant to the council and referred me to Derek McEwen, director of curriculum development;
- did say that as new curriculum is coming out that they are working on "tucking technology into the curriculum" all of the time;
- an online forum for problems with anything technology related for teachers and schools was suggested but not adopted;
- google for education is being adopted by more and more schools as the new WIFI installs are happening;
- ITSS and Department are both extremely pleased at how the rollout is going, with the early mistakes that were made at the first couple of schools now fixed and the rest of the schools are going smoothly.

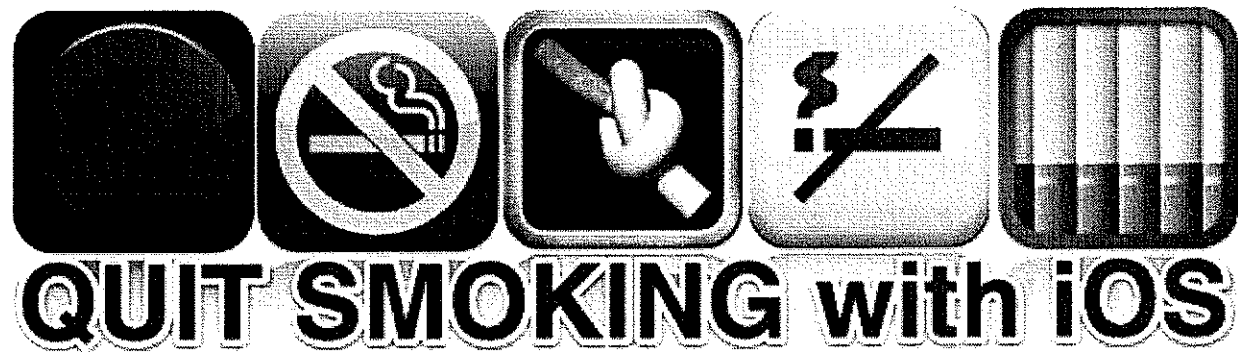
Respectfully submitted by Maureen Kerr

PEI TOBACCO REDUCTION ALLIANCE (PETRA) / COUNCIL FOR SMOKE-FREE PEI
Shirley Smedley Jay

Revealing the Truth

Revealing the Truth is a Tobacco Media Awareness Resource for teachers; PETRA provided in-service to 5-7 teachers providing support for the implementation and evaluation of the resource.

- 13 Language Arts teachers participated in-service to introduce this resource, Feb 26/16
- A PETRA display was set up at the PEI Home and School Federation's Semi-annual Meeting held at Three Oaks Senior High in October; PEI Phys. Ed. Association Professional Development Day; Stonepark Parent/Teacher interviews
- Application Software (APPS) developed: Supporting Young Adults who want to Quit Smoking; community based smoking cessation environmental scan indicated there is promising evidence, in the short-term, regarding the use of mobile phones, text messaging and social networks (Twitter and Facebook) to deliver smoking cessation interventions to young adults.



- Substitution activities, such as physical activity programs for smokers can help to manage withdrawal issues and may be attractive to younger smokers.
- PETRA wanted to determine feasibility on how to move forward on a cessation intervention whether it be a substitution activity, cessation support group or hybrid - formed a Nordic Pole Walking for Smokers Program for any age.

Flavoured Tobacco

The PEI government regulations process to ban flavoured tobacco is still underway and may take another 3- months. Members have heard that the government is not going to include menthol in the list. PEI Home and School Federation has a policy that supports a ban on flavoured tobacco including menthol.

Summary of results of the Youth Smoking Survey 2012-2013

Flavoured tobacco products include menthol cigarettes, as well as flavoured cigarillos, cigars, shisha (water-pipe tobacco), pipe tobacco, blunt wraps, bidis, smokeless tobacco and rolling papers. The prevalence of youth in grades 6 to 12 who reported using at least one flavoured tobacco product in their lifetime has decreased over the past three cycles, from 19% (2008-2009), to 17% (2010-2011), to 15%

(2012-2013). The overall prevalence of past 30-day use of flavoured tobacco among students in grades 6 to 12 is unchanged at 8% (approximately 205,000 youth) compared to the previous cycle (2010-2011), however, some changes in prevalence have been identified among grade 10 to 12 students. The section below provides an overview of the changes identified.

Youth Smoking By Province

In 2012-2013, among students in grades 6 to 12, the prevalence of having **ever** tried smoking a cigarette ranged from a low of 19% in British Columbia to a high of 33% in Saskatchewan. Within provinces, the prevalence of students reporting having **ever** tried smoking a cigarette decreased since 2010-2011 in Newfoundland & Labrador (from 35% to 26%), Nova Scotia (from 32% to 24%), Alberta (from 29% to 22%), and British Columbia (from 30% to 19%). The prevalence of youth **ever** trying a cigarette is unchanged in the provinces of Prince Edward Island (25%), Quebec (31%), Ontario (21%) and Saskatchewan (33%). The prevalence of students reporting having **ever** tried smoking a cigarette in New Brunswick was 31% in 2012-2013 (the province declined to participate in the 2010-2011 survey).

Youth Smoking Survey

Health Canada's Youth Smoking Survey (YSS) looks at tobacco use in youth in grades 6–12. The most recent survey (2012–2013) found that the rate of current smokers in this group has gone down since the 2010–2011 survey. About 4% of youth in grades 6–12 were current smokers in 2010–2011, which is down from 6% in 2010–2011. The 2012–2013 YSS also found that most young people (74%) in grades 6–12 had never tried smoking cigarettes, not even a puff. This is a sizeable increase from the 2008–2009 survey rate of 67%. While this trend is positive, the number of young people trying tobacco products increases with age and grade. According to the 2012–2013 YSS, Canadian data reports:

- 13% of youth in grades 6–9 reported having ever tried a tobacco product.
- 33% of youth in grades 6–12 reported having ever tried a tobacco product.
- The average age at which youth reported smoking a whole cigarette for first time was 13.6 years.
- Cigarettes are still the most common form of tobacco product that youth tried.

For PEI the Percent Use of Tobacco Products in the Last 30 Days PEI **Grades 9-12**:

- 15% smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days
- 20% used some form of tobacco in the last 30 days
- Of those who used tobacco in the last 30 days, 40% used flavoured tobacco, 28% percent used menthol cigarettes

The increasing variety of tobacco products available in Canada has made them more attractive to youth. Many of these tobacco products are heavily flavoured. These include little cigars or cigarillos, water pipe tobacco, menthol cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products. Fruit and candy-flavoured tobacco makes it easier for youth to become addicted. The 2012–2013 YSS reports that the number of youth using flavoured tobacco products in the past 30 days was 8%. There was also an increase in the number of youth in grades 6–12 using a water pipe to smoke flavoured tobacco in the past 30 days from 13% in 2010–2011 to 17% in the 2012–2013 YSS. These statistics show that there is an urgent need for federal and provincial governments to ban all flavoured tobacco products to protect Canadian youth.

References: <http://www.cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/cancer-101/what-is-a-risk-factor/tobacco/canadian-tobacco-statistics/?region=on#ixzz42yAKp0Bv>

<http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/publications/healthy-living-vie-saine/youth-smoking-survey-2013-enquete-jeunes-tabagisme/index-eng.php>

ALBERTON HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Jennifer Rozell, President****Executive Members:**

Secretary: Carrie Ann Dunbar

Treasurers: Jennifer Rozell/ Carrie Anne Dunbar

Alberton Home and School Committee continues to meet monthly and uses this time to discuss a variety of topics. We have some new parents on our team this year as well as our dedicated parents from the past. Our school Principal and/or Vice-Principal attends our meetings as well. We continue to post information in the Alberton Elementary Newsletter and Facebook page to communicate to the staff and parents.

Our fundraising efforts have increased this year as we are trying to raise money to replace a large portion of our playground equipment. Thus far, we have been raising money through hot dog sales, chocolate bar sales, PC Exhibition parking, RCMP vs. Fireman Hockey game, and our annual Christmas Bazaar.

The Breakfast Program at Alberton Elementary is being run by a sub-committee through the Home and School. This is provided every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We did receive funding from Breakfast for Learning this year, as well as many donations from the people and businesses within our community.

We still have a lunch program at our school where children can buy hot lunches three days per week which are provided by a local business. The menu gets changed periodically and includes such choices as: chicken burgers, pizza, subs, etc.

For Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, the committee members, along with some parents, provided the staff with beverages, treats, and two hot meals on separate days.

Our Home and School committee continues to work well together keeping in mind the interests of our staff and students. As we move forward with our fundraising initiatives, we are eager to achieve our goal and provide our students with new playground equipment within the next fiscal year.

AMHERST COVE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Sharon Kamperman, President

Members: Krista Murphy – Treasurer & Parent Advisory Council Representative
 Robyn Walsh – Breakfast Program
 Rebecca Muttart
 Mary MacDonald-Pickering – Member of Borden-Carleton Town Council
 Cherisse Bryanton – Teacher
 Sarah Bennetto O'Brien
 Randy Gallant - Principal

Our home and school is a committee that consists of 8 regular members that come together the first Tuesday of every month to plan events and discuss multiple topics related to families and education in the community.

Involvement 2015/2016:

- November 18th 2015 - Student volunteers from UPEI came to ACC to host a *Let's Talk Science* Night. This outreach initiative is a national, community-based program connecting educators and youth with outstanding volunteers to deliver a wide variety of meaningful science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activities for families.
- Spring 2016 – Student athletes and coaches from Holland College and members of PEI Sports and Recreation will come to ACC to host a multi sport night with different stations to introduce families to sports that may not be offered in our area and to show families the importance of staying active.
- May 12th 2016 – Mary Pop-Ins production at the Confederation Center. Field trips have long been a foundation for education. In past years, field trips to theatrical performances were a yearly event at Amherst Cove. Unfortunately, this has not been a reality for our students in the past few years. With cuts to educational funding in the province, the budget for field trips is extremely limited. Our parent council would like to revive this tradition and see our students reap the many educational benefits that come with exposure to the arts. A major advantage of culturally enriching field trips is that they are often to places that students do not yet know they might enjoy. It is our goal to expose our students to artistic realms and enhance their education. Event sponsored by Vector Aero Space (\$500) and raised funds from our Bingo fundraiser at ACC. Transportation funded by the Town of Borden-Carleton (\$750).
- June 2016 – Botany 101 at ACC! Families from ACC along with the Town of Borden, Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association and Taylor Leard from Dalhousie's Agricultural College will get together for a fun filled day to restore and update our Butterfly garden in remembrance of students of Amherst Cove that have passed.

- Breakfast Program – runs every Tuesday morning along with a new addition this year--The ACC healthy snack initiative! Students are treated every few weeks to healthy recess snacks from the local gem, Scapes Restaurant. Thanks to the PEI Healthy Eating Alliance & Chef Sarah Bennetto O'Brien for making morning recess a whole lot tastier! Our program also recently received a generous grant from the Egg Farmers of PEI & Breakfast Clubs of Canada
- Feb 2016 Staff Appreciation week – Parents and students brought snacks and treats to all staff members throughout the week and hosted a big lunch that Friday where parents relieved the staff of their lunch duties.
- Fundraiser Bingo Night at ACC- Local companies donated over 15 prizes and the Town of Borden donated dabbers, bingo machine and sheets to host the event. The grade 8 leadership committee hosted activities in the library to keep children occupied and also sold baked goods for their yearend trip. Two hundred dollars were raised for the grade 8 class and \$886 were raised for the Home and school for family events and the theatre field trip in May
- Spring 2016 - The ACCS Art Program is a fundraising project from the students of Amherst Cove. Our students meet once a week throughout those two months to create two pieces of art from any of the four medias of their choice (paint on canvas with acrylic or oil paints, sculpture with air drying clay, sketching with pencil or pastels or water colors) along with a class project that is engineered with recycled materials. In May the students and volunteers will host an event in the gymnasium to display and sell their works in art gallery style. This annual project is to raise funds for the Pure Art Foundation initiative of the *One School For All* program (www.pureartfoundation.org, Registered Canadian Charity #84709-8787 RR001) and give the *GIFT of EDUCATION* to the children of Pucallpa, Peru through the imagination and creativity of the youth on Prince Edward Island. In return, the gift of education will also be realized within ACCS for the music and literacy programs.

Please join our Facebook page for more information and updates at: ACCS Parent Council (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300853426778526/>)

ATHENA CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Kimberley Studer, President

Executive:

Treasurer: Jennifer Tang-Campbell;

Administration: Jerry McAulay, Principal

Elementary Liaison: Lorelei MacArthur

Athena's Home and School meetings are held monthly on the first Monday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. To date, six meetings have been held, with three more planned for March, April and May. We also have a sub-committee that meets on the same evening to plan our playground fundraising. In addition to these working meetings, Home and School members are active with special events, fund-raising and other initiatives throughout the year.

Communications:

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

- Meetings are circulated by email to those who have provided email addresses. They are also posted on the Home and School webpage, under 'school community' on the school's website.
- The President is given opportunity to address parents during Parent Orientation Night at the beginning of the school year.
- Parent Volunteer and Contact Info forms go home early in the year, with the slate of planned activities for the year ahead. Parents "sign up" for activities they wish to help with. The form also requests contact info, including emails, to assist with mass communications.
- Throughout the year, memos go home with students to provide info and updates for ongoing events.
- Home and School can also submit info to the school's monthly newsletter and to a weekly piece in the town's Saturday newspaper.
- Home and School has a Blog that families can subscribe to. We also post information on the school Blog.
- A Facebook group has also been started for members of the Playground Committee to post about our activities and progress.

Special Events & Fundraising:

- Our committee ran 2 dances for the Elementary students (fall and winter dance).
- We also have had a few cupcake sales for the students throughout the year.
- Many parents helped out in February, as they do every year, with Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week activities.
- Our largest initiative for the year has been planning our Playground fundraisers. Last spring we ran a very successful Bingo night, which we are exploring repeating this year.
- We are currently running a raffle draw for a variety of prizes that have been donated, and we hope to raise more funds.
- Many of our Playground committee members have been exploring and applying for various grants to help us raise the funds we need for our playground.

BELFAST CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Debbie Beck & Kyla Thomson, Co – Presidents****Executive:**

Kristine Vandenberghe: Secretary

Tammy Davies: Treasurer

Our association meets six times per year, every second month. We have a dedicated group of parents that attend our meetings with our administrators, Dave Bryand and John Munro. We find the information sent out monthly via email helpful for keeping us up to date on current funding and upcoming events. Our executive plans to attend the AGM in April.

This year we introduced a breakfast program which is sponsored by the Montague Rotary Club. The Point Prim/Mt. Buchanan Women's Institute also donated to this program. This program is a welcome addition to our school as we want to make sure all of our students are starting their day off with a healthy breakfast! We continue to offer a daily hot lunch and healthy snack program, which is popular with our students, staff and parents! Tammy Davies continues to co-ordinate this program.

We have a number of extracurricular activities for our students this year. They include wrestling, golf, track and field, gymnastics, badminton, cross-country, co-ed basketball, curling and volleyball. Our boys' volleyball team had a very successful season with their first ever Gold Medal Midget A Provincial Championship! We introduced a chess club afterschool with our teacher Allyson MacDonald. We also have a drama club again this year, with our teacher Lana Mill. We are offering the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Program for our grade 9 students. Game Force PEI was offered for the Junior High Students for one week after school with Fred Irving.

The Home and School Beautification Committee purchased pavement for a ball hockey area and four square. The students are really enjoying both of these additions! We also received a School Health grant for \$1200 to purchase equipment for our students. This included tekouch ball (European game), 14 Ultimate Frisbees and omnikin balls. GOPEI is also offering a free afterschool program which will run from February until June. This program is offered to grades K – 3 and is led by grades 8/9 with teacher supervision. We have a large number of students who take part in this program. We also purchased a table tennis table for our junior high students which they are enjoying! Our lobby was updated with new furniture which was a welcome addition to our main entrance!

Our Teacher/Staff Appreciation week was a success again this year! Our teachers/staff enjoyed all the meals and treats that were sent in through the week. We had a "Sims Restaurant" Gift Card draw to end the week, which was won by our teacher, Erin Vaive. We nominated our vice-principal, John Munro for the "Extra Mile Award" but unfortunately he was not successful at the provincial level.

We had a busy year fundraising this year as one of our grade 3 students was diagnosed with leukemia and has to spend 9 months in Halifax. Our school held numerous fundraisers to help out his family. We also held our magazine campaign with QSP and are currently selling our 2 for 1 coupon books.

We proposed introducing French Immersion to our school but were told we do not have the student numbers to support this program.

BIRCHWOOD INTERMEDIATE PARENT COUNCIL
Catherine MacInnis and Erin Costello, Co-Chairs

Birchwood Parent Council has had one productive meeting so far this year, held during the school dance in February. Although it has been a small group of parents, those that attend continue to bring enthusiasm and commitment to helping support the Birchwood community. The meetings are also well-attended by our staff, who are passionate about our school.

Meeting Topics for Discussion:

At our February meeting, a call was made for a new Chair, or co-chairs. Ron Carragher outlined the role of the Chairs/Co-chair, Catherine MacInnis offered information from her experience. Erin Costello (parent) agreed to co-chair. Other parents were very eager to help, but did not feel ready to take on a role a chair at this time.

Discussion was had regarding Teacher Appreciation Week. A decision was made to send a note to all parents from the Co-Chairs reminding them of the week and encouraging participation. In the e-mail, ideas for recognition were suggested including: homemade gifts, notes, cards or treats. Several parents came forward and delivered treats during the week, which were appreciated by staff.

Information was shared on the February 23, presentation: “Anxiety, Coping and Healthy Relationships”, and parents were encouraged to attend. Discussion was also had regarding opportunities to highlight the advantages Birchwood has to offer our youth and it was agreed that this topic be explored further at a future meeting.

This Year’s Focus:

The agenda item which continues to be the focus of discussion at every meeting is the need for rezoning. Birchwood is under populated and has been for a number of years. This year, French immersion enrolment is so low that we have been required to have a Grade 7/Grade 8 split class. At just over 200 students, Birchwood could benefit a great deal from student population growth. Birchwood is a diverse school which naturally promotes tolerance, inclusion and a sense of belonging. The Parent Council wants to see more students take advantage of the positive environment that Birchwood has to offer.

The Parent Council has communicated with the English Language School Board to request its support in our efforts to achieve a rezoning which would see a more equitable division of students between our four Charlottetown area junior high schools. We are making our best efforts to ensure growth of our student population in the coming years.

Future Meetings:

It was decided that meetings would be held during school dances when possible. The next meeting will be in April or May.

CENTRAL QUEENS ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Carrie Barlow, President

Executive:

Rayanne Frizzell: Vice President

Cavelle Murphy: Secretary

Kim MacLeod: Treasurer

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of every other month in the school library at 7 PM. We started the year with 3 of 4 of our executive being new to their roles. We sent home volunteer sheets to the parents with a letter attached telling them about Home and School and providing some volunteer opportunities for the upcoming school year. We got a great response from parents who are interested and willing to help.

We have had 2 successful fundraisers to date. In December, we host our annual fudge and bake sale during the school Christmas Concerts. Parents/Grandparents/Guardians are great to prepare a wide variety of baked goods for this event. In February, we joined forces with Gulf Shore Home and School for a successful fundraiser with the Island Storm Basketball team. The fundraisers we complete raise funds for such things as purchasing microwaves for classrooms, providing bussing to school skates, free lunch for all staff and students on Winter Fun Day, and art lessons with local artist Maurice Bernard for all students. We received a Parent Leadership Grant for a Literacy evening. Camp Read S'more will happen in our school gym later this spring! Last year, we fundraised quite aggressively to fund a new piece of playground equipment, so this year has been a bit quieter!

As volunteers, our members contribute to our school in many ways. To name a few:

- In November and March, we provide supper to our staff on Parent Teacher Interview night
- In February, we have a staff appreciation coordinator who organizes décor, treats and special prizes for our staff over the week. We do a buffet lunch one day for all of the staff to enjoy and we encouraged parents to help their child be creative in showing their teacher their appreciation
- Members help prepare the hot meal on Fridays.
- Each Tuesday, we provide a healthy snack for the students
- Several times a year, members go into the school and do head checks
- Members provide assistance in the library throughout the year.
- Members help with the book fair which is held twice a year.
- Our school purchased the hotlunches net system for ordering lunches this year. We have played a supporting role in this change and have seen a very smooth transition

We ensure we have representation at all Federation events where possible. Two members attended the Leadership Training Workshop, 1 member the Semi-Annual meeting, and we hope to send 4 representatives to the AGM. We also have selected our representative to the Family of Schools District Advisory Council.

Our average attendance at our home and school meetings throughout the year is 15 and we stay in touch with the broader membership via email and our facebook page. We are looking forward to a positive year end and building on our successes for next year.

CHARLOTTETOWN RURAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Martha Ellis, President

Executive:

Tracy Willoughby: Treasurer

Kate Liu

Tonya Gray

We were very pleased that Kate Liu has agreed to represent Charlottetown Rural Home and School on the District Advisory Council. Kate moved to Charlottetown from Taiwan eight years ago. She is currently working on her thesis for Masters of Education on Economic Immigrant Parental Involvement in Prince Edward Island.

The Charlottetown Rural Home and School works very closely with the school administration. The Home and School Association is a sounding board for issues such as reducing student absence rates and changing school curriculum. Principal Dylan Mullaly reviewed the CRHS School Effectiveness Goals and presented the Career Course for Grade 10 "My Plan: A Guide for High School Students."

The Charlottetown Rural Home and School Association worked with the Culinary Institute to provide a hot food buffet to students, parents, teachers and relatives following the 2015 Graduation Ceremony.

Charlottetown Rural High School will be producing "Mary Poppins" this year at the Confederation Centre, which is a major undertaking. The school is fortunate to have parents assisting in all aspects of the show to make it a success.

The Charlottetown Rural Home and School Association spoke at both the Meet the Teacher Nights in September and February. Donations were made to the Home and School Activities at these events. This year the association is pleased to be donating \$500 to the school for Grade 12 Prizes.

Teacher/ Staff Appreciation Week in February saw great contribution from Charlottetown Rural parents. The Charlottetown Rural Home and School is very lucky to work with a caring teacher and administration group.

DONAGH REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Bobbi Ford and Tracey MacDonald, Co-Chairs

Executive:

Patti David: Secretary

Melissa Corrigan: Treasurer

Topics:

- ELSB new rezoning policy
- CHANCES after school program
- Zumba night
- Christmas Dinner
- Christmas concert
- Advisory Council Position
- Lunch program
- Parent Engagement

The PEIHSF's monthly emails are a great way to stay informed and an easy way to forward this info on the parents/guardians.

We have submitted a proposal for a parent engagement night to be held in late April. It is titled: DATA, DRISHTI, AND DOJO! The parents will be listening to a speaker about what Island students are encountering online, internet safety and what parents can do if problems arise. Meanwhile, students will learn and experience Judo and Yoga.

Our parents are more than welcome at our monthly meetings and are involved in meet the teacher night and Christmas Dinner prep and serving. We have a parent on the Advisory Committee, and our lunch program.

For Staff Appreciation week, the bus drivers get a gift card and through the week parents can sign up to bring in food.

Selling community calendars is a long standing and successful fundraiser and it provides our operating funds. Funds go to support school trips, end of year activities, Christmas Dinner, Christmas Family, Zumba night, and much more!

We use the schools monthly newsletter and have a Facebook page to communicate with parents and keep them informed.

We are also in the midst of planning a Bike Rodeo late May/early June with Cycle PEI. It's a great program that helps kids work on their skills, check their equipment and road rules for all around safety. Organizing is also underway for the babysitting program as well.

EAST WILTSHIRE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Karen Clare and Jackie Wheatley, Co-Presidents

Membership:

Our Home and School Association has 24 members, including our Principal and three staff members. We meet approximately four times each school year. Between these meetings, information is shared with our Home and School Association members via e-mail (in addition to the EWS Announcements e-mail distributed to all parents on a daily basis).

Discussion Topics:

During the year our Home and School Association members are engaged in various discussion topics such as staffing changes, school events, student assessments, breakfast program, parent-teacher interviews.

Home and School Involvement for School Programs:

Our home and school parents volunteer at school dances throughout the year. Funds raised are used for the Breakfast Program and other activities. There is minimal fundraising at EWS and the majority of our fundraising involves students in Band or French Club, rather than the Home and School Association.

Home and School Representation:

Our members have represented the EWS Home and School Association at events throughout the year, including the PEI Home and School Federation’s Semi-Annual Meeting in October 2015; the PEI Home and School Federation’s Leadership Workshop in October 2015; the Government of PEI’s Family of Bluefield District Advisory Council and Principals Council, both launched in February 2016; and the upcoming PEI Home and School Federation’s Annual General Meeting in April 2016. Participation in these events is valuable to our members in attendance and they are able to bring the knowledge gained back to our Home and School Association.

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon:

Our Home and School Association members organized the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, which was held on February 17, 2016. This was well received by more than 50 teachers and staff that attended and many look forward to this event every year.

Closing:

Given how busy parents are with work, students, extra-curricular activities, etc., we are pleased that we have a good turnout at our Home and School meetings. Our Home and School Association members show a keen interest in our school and students and this is very much appreciated. The exchange of information and discussion amongst members benefits all in attendance.

ELIOT RIVER HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Kara Smith and Laura Hagen-Grant, co-Chairs

Executive:

Jennifer Bowness: Treasurer

Laura Hagen-Grant: Co-Chair

Norma Vickerson: Secretary

As a way to establish a mandate for our association, we distributed a five-question electronic survey to all parents and received 156 responses. We used the responses to plan our activities for the year.

One concern parents raised was class size. As a result, the home and school wrote an open letter to all the education stakeholders on behalf of parents asking for them to consider all aspects when determining funding for education.

Another issue raised in the survey was bullying and anxiety in school. Therefore, in February, our home and school hosted a “Triple P” Parenting session and a session about how to cope with anxiety. These were put on in conjunction with the Provincial Home and School Federation and very well attended.

Parents also gave us input on lunch options in the school with many asking for more healthy options. The school has since initiated some changes to the lunch program, introducing a few healthier options for students.

Eliot River nominated Ricardo Angel to be our representative on the Family of Schools District Advisory Council for the Bluefield family of schools. Regular reports will be filed with the local home and school association in order to keep everyone up to date.

Other Activities:

- As a way to raise funds, our association held a Best Seats in the House fundraiser for the grade four Christmas concert and plan to do the same for the Spring Fling.
- Our association supported Staff Appreciation Week. Various treats for all Eliot River staff were brought in by Eliot River parents.
- We continue to improve parent communication by updating our Eliot River Home and School website, Facebook page, and twitter account.
- We meet approximately four to five times a year and welcome all new members.

ENGLEWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Rosie MacFarlane and Rachel Lowther-Doiron, Co-Chairs

Executive:

Secretary: Charmaine Milligan

Treasurer: Sandra Callbeck

Englewood Home and School Association maintains an active Facebook site and it is growing in popularity. This is an excellent way to share information about school events, promote our Home and School Association, and provide a forum for parents and staff to communicate.

We are fortunate at Englewood School to have a principal and teachers who are extremely supportive of our Home and School Association. At each regular meeting, it is not uncommon to have the principal or vice principal and a number of teachers present to update our Association on school activities.

Initiatives:

In 2015, our Home and School adopted an online lunch program. This has greatly simplified our lunch program, making it easier on H&S volunteers and teachers/staff. Parents and students appear to appreciate the new system. Hot lunches are provided 3 days/week and milk orders are also included on the site. Prices are kept low, as we are not running the lunch program to make a profit.

H&S operates a canteen at the school and stocks it with a small variety of healthy snacks. We received a small amount of money from the PEI Healthy Eating Alliance which will allow us to provide healthy snacks in each classroom once per week.

In December, Englewood students attended *Aladdin* at the Confederation Centre. Our Association was pleased to support the trip by contributing money to offset the cost per student. Each year, our H&S Association asks teachers at the school where monies are needed. In 2015, we supported the school's band and physical education programs, as well as resource. We are communicating with administrators and staff at the school to determine where monies will be directed before the end of the 2015-16 school year.

Englewood Home and School was successful in obtaining a Parent Leadership Grant that will be used to host a workshop on using Geocaching as a learning tool in spring 2016.

Sessions:

We had two members of our executive attend the PEI Home and School Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting in October at Kensington's Queen Elizabeth Elementary School.

Fundraising:

Our Home and School tries to limit fundraising. Our major fundraiser in 2015-16 was selling coupon books. There was a good uptake of the books in the fall but we anticipate a greater uptake during the spring campaign.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

The Home and School Association greatly appreciates the dedication of our teachers and staff at Englewood school. Our Association hosted a luncheon at the school on February 18th. Volunteers were

on hand to supervise lunch time activities, which allowed teachers and staff to have a sit down lunch together. Through an online signup sheet, parents provided a number of salads, entrees and desserts for the occasion. During the week, parents were encouraged to show their appreciation by bringing in snacks and treats.

We are fortunate at Englewood School to have wonderful bus drivers who safely transport our children to and from school and to special events. We plan to once again show our appreciation by providing coffee and treats for the drivers on our “Bus Driver Appreciation Day.”

Other:

Englewood has an active Green Club at the school. This year, they coordinated National Sweater Day, in which the thermostat at the school was lowered and students were encouraged to wear a sweater. The school also supported anti-violence week through a “wear pink” day on February 24, 2016.

Our Home and School Association is pleased to have a representative on the new District Advisory Committee. We thank Emily Smith for serving as our representative and look forward to participating in the new education model for Prince Edward Island.

In closing we would like to thank the parents, teachers and school administrators who have attended our meetings so far this school year. We are proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to continued success in the remainder of the school year.

GLEN STEWART PRIMARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Paula Pollard, Chair

Executive:
Lindy MacQuillan, Treasurer
Kathy Campbell, Secretary
Jennifer Orlowski, Social Media

Glen Stewart has an active school community. Every day we have parent volunteers at our breakfast program as well as numerous fundraisers throughout the year. Parent volunteers also help out during book fairs twice a year.

This year, our three major fundraisers were selling spring and summer editions of the Super Saver Coupon booklets, Christmas craft fair and a Spring Fling. The funds raised through these events purchased outdoor play equipment carts, FM systems for classrooms that did not have them, a class set of robotics, and an industrial toaster for the breakfast program.

February our school community celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week. We treated the teachers to Papa John’s pizza lunch, Subway lunch, biscuit and jams break time snack, and our very popular potluck lunch. Our potluck is such a huge success thanks to all the wonderful selection of dishes made by so many of our parents. We have lots of volunteers on this day to help set up, clean up, as well as supervise the students during lunch recess. Every teacher and support staff were also given a bouquet of tulips. We didn’t forget the bus drivers who ensure our children get to and from school safely; they were treated to Tim’s gift certificates.

Glen Stewart Primary was lucky to get a date for Indigo’s FUNdraiser events. People are invited to come to Indigo during the two night event; and if they let the sales associate know at time of purchase, a percentage of sales will be given to the school in the form of a gift certificate. Parent volunteers and students are on site to greet customers and let them know who they will be helping. The students were excited and made bookmarks to give out as a thank you for supporting their library.

Parents for French continues to be an active part of Glen Stewart Primary. They encourage French based activities and organize events for families to take part in. The music man was invited to an evening of French songs which is always a huge hit with the students. Once a month they have a French night of conversation for parents where they teach some basic French.

GREENFIELD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Angela Carpenter, President

Executive:

Stacey Curry (Vice-President)

Marla Smallwood (Secretary)

Jackie Ellis (Treasurer)

Major Stewart (District Advisory Committee Representative)

In the fall, the Greenfield Home and School Association met monthly in September, October, and November. We will be meeting every second month over the winter and will reassess in the spring. We originally planned to meet every second month, but early in the school year a key piece of equipment was removed from our kindergarten playground due to safety concerns. The previous Home and School Executive had started work on replacing some of the playground equipment, but with the removal of this piece, the playground became the priority for this year's executive. We do have a Playground Committee but would like to have all parents involved as much as possible, so we do spend extra time at Home and School Meetings discussing the playground fundraising activities.

Some of our activities over the past year included the following:

Our Welcome Back Greenfield Picnic-The fifth annual picnic was a great success again this year. We had beautiful weather and many families attended. We sold 570 tickets for a dollar per meal. Many parent volunteers helped out collecting tickets, serving food and cleaning up afterwards. The Credit Union donated hot dogs, buns, drinks and condiments, which were greatly appreciated. A karaoke machine was set up outside for lots of singing and dancing, and families also enjoyed playing sports and chatting with old and new friends.

Norcard Fundraiser-This fundraiser was well supported by the Greenfield School families and is our major fundraiser. Most of the money raised went towards our Greenfield Playground Committee. There were a few issues with late deliveries and damaged items, so we are looking at another fundraiser for next year.

Greenfield School Calendars-We sold Greenfield School Calendars again this year, with the school's contact information, bell schedule, lunch menu and PD/holidays. Local businesses were approached to sponsor a month in exchange for having their logo featured on that month's page, and the calendars were sold to staff and families for \$10 each. The money raised went to our playground committee. We plan to sell the calendars again next year.

Breakfast Program-Greenfield has a very successful breakfast program that operates five days a week for all students. This year we remain financially secure; however, getting volunteers can still be a struggle at times. There are many loyal parents who help out regularly, and the teachers are great to fill in; but we still need more parent volunteers to keep things running smoothly. There have been a few changes to help make the transition to class time a little easier, but the mornings are still busy!

Christmas Hampers-The Christmas Hamper Committee, in conjunction with the St. Eleanor's Lions Club, had another great year! The money collected from various fundraising events held in the fall was used to purchase gifts for 17 families (including 45 children) this year. Greenfield parents, students and

staff helped with this project which is a real community event for the school. The staff at Access PEI decided to donate the money they raised from casual days to the Greenfield Christmas Hamper Campaign which we were so appreciative of!

Teacher/Staff Appreciation-This year, Home and School hosted a coffee break on every Wednesday in February. Coffee from Samuel's Coffee House and snacks brought in by parents were provided to staff once a week for the month instead of each day during Teacher/Staff Appreciation week to spread things out a little more. A potluck for staff will be held later in the year on a Professional Development day at the school.

Greenfield is Going Green!-In an attempt to reduce the amount of paper used at the school, the principal has stopped printing hard copies of the Monthly Newsletter and other notices. The principal has been posting information on the school website and parents can sign up to receive emails with the information from the website. So far, 209 people are registered to receive email notifications. The Greenfield Home and School Association has a Facebook page, and we have tried to keep parents informed of events and important information on the Facebook page. That page has 286 likes. We also started on-line ordering for school lunches this year with HotLunches.com.

District Advisory Council Representative-The dissolution of the school board in November meant that we were required to select a representative from Greenfield to sit on the District Advisory Council. Major Stewart is our representative and it was decided that he should be included as part of the Home and School Executive to facilitate communication between Home and School and the District Advisory Council. Major is a great addition to the team and we are very happy to have him as our representative.

Greenfield Playground Committee-In September, with very little warning, one of the two pieces of playground equipment on our kindergarten and grade one playground was taken out due to safety concerns. Replacing the playground equipment has been discussed for several years, with two pieces purchased over the previous two years. It was decided that replacing all of the playground equipment at the school would be a priority for Home and School this year. A Playground Committee was formed, and money allotted to the Committee to purchase a new piece of equipment as soon as possible. The structure was purchased but unfortunately it could not be installed before winter so it will be put in place as soon as possible in the spring. Several fundraising events have been held to raise money for the playground including a grocery bagging day at Atlantic Superstore and Gold Canyon Candle sales. We have also been fortunate to receive donations from Greenfield families and Community Members to put toward our Playground Fund. More fundraising activities are planned in the coming months.

Technology Open House-Greenfield Home and School, along with staff, are hoping to host an Open House at the school to show parents the new computer equipment at the school. Work is ongoing to install the new equipment, and training for staff is planned for April. Once staff is ready to demonstrate the benefits of the technology upgrades, we will plan an Open House so families can see the demonstrations and ask questions.

Literacy Fair-This will be held again this spring, and is always a huge success with many families participating. The staff at Greenfield plan and host this event, with some parent volunteers.

Literacy Run/Walk-The 4th Annual Family Literacy Run/Walk is planned for later in the year. Money from this event is used to purchase books for Greenfield classrooms.

GULF SHORE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Lisa Langdale, President

Executive:

Vice-President: Julie Walsh
Treasurer: Shannon Johnston
Secretary: Erin MacRae-Forrest

Our year started out, as usual, with the Meet the Staff night. It was again an opportunity to introduce the Executive of the Home and School Association and to invite parents/guardians to attend our meetings. These meetings normally take place on the third Wednesday of each month (except December and March) in our Gulf Shore School Science Lab.

Initiatives:

Home and School (H&S) helps run the Milk program, Lunch program, Food For Thought Cupboard, Terry Fox BBQ, and organizes Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. We are very grateful to Paul Gallant, Manager of the North Rustico Co-op, for his continued support of our Food For Thought Cupboard and other Home & School initiatives. The Food for Thought Cupboard is experiencing heavy use this year. Children’s nutrition is an on-going concern.

Last year, the school held “Soup for Shirley.” Shirley is a mother in our school who passed away from cancer this year. Shirley was passionate about children having proper nutrition and “a warm bowl of soup.” H&S will now help with an annual soup event in her memory. At least once a year, every child in our school will have an opportunity to have a healthy bowl of warm soup for lunch at no charge. This happened on Friday, January 29 this year. Thank you to the caterers and a family in our school, Jennifer and Mike Levy, for the delicious soups.

We used Survey Monkey to conduct our vote for representative for the newly created Parent Advisory Council. Sandra Skeffington was elected.

With the start of this school year, we introduced a committee structure. The committees are: Fundraising, Food, Guest Speaker, and Grant.

Fundraising:

Our major fundraiser was once again selling tickets for Christmas trees at Smith’s Christmas Tree Farm. This business is run by a family from our school. Each tree was \$35 with \$10 going to H&S. During the last 2 weeks of school before Christmas break, we placed boxes in each classroom asking for donations for our library in lieu of Christmas gifts for teachers. The boxes raised just under \$200 this year.

We sold tickets to an Island Storm basketball game in conjunction with Central Queens Elementary School H&S. Between the two schools, we sold nearly 500 tickets and we then ran the 50/50 at the game (February 28). We were told it was the largest 50/50 this year, with each school bringing home more than \$800, plus \$5 back from each ticket sold. Much of the money Gulf Shore Home and School raised will go towards helping with library improvements.

We participated in Indigo’s Adopt a School; and while we did not win, our library still benefitted from this endeavour.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

Once again H&S helped organize for this week. Because of the ease of use last year, we again used an online signup sheet (signupgenius.com) to help ensure that each day the staff was receiving at least 4 treats/snacks.

Other:

Our school took part in Pink Shirt (Anti-Bullying) Day on February 24, 2016. A few members of the Charlottetown Islanders hockey team came to talk about bullying. The kids thought it was great. They also enjoyed it when a few Island Storm Basketball players came to visit earlier in February.

We have a Home and School page on our Gulf Shore School website where each month’s minutes are posted. All parents, guardians and teachers are welcome to use the Gulf Shore Home and School Facebook page to share information and reminders. Our email address is gulfshorehomeandschool@gmail.com.

HERNEWOOD INTERMEDIATE PARENT COUNCIL
Kelly Shea Rayner, President

Executive:
Vice President: Sandra MacCallum
Secretary: Anita Rayner

Our parent council is made up of representatives from 5 feeder schools.

Alberton Elementary:	Kelly Shea Rayner
Bloomfield Elementary:	Wendy Handrahan
O’Leary Elementary:	Krista Locke-Ellis
Ellerslie Elementary:	Kelly Ramsay
John J Sark:	vacant

Hernewood Parent Council has 5 scheduled meetings per school year. There is no fundraising done by the council. We meet to discuss issues and receive updates from the principal and the Student Council. There is a parent that is part of the health and safety committee at the school. Wendy Handrahan is the parent representative and they meet monthly to do inspections. Kelly Shea Rayner, Anita Rayner and Sandra MacCallum are the parent representatives for the school effectiveness committee. This committee will have met 3 times by the end of the school year.

Hernewood parents run the breakfast program 3 days per week under the guidance of Sandra MacCallum. Hernewood participated in the INDIGO “love of reading contest” and received a wonderful surprise, “\$5000.00 in free books from COLES in Summerside. It was given as part of a national prize. The students and teachers were very pleased to receive this funding. Hernewood parent council organized a potluck for “Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week” and had a bouquet of flowers delivered to staff.

There is a “Fun with Painting” night being planned as part of the Parent Leadership Grant. Parents and students will participate in an evening art class together. Hernewood has also received a donation from Vector Aerospace in the amount of \$500 for the student’s needs.

The student council and staff have worked to develop a Personal Electronic Device Agreement. It hasn’t been implemented as of yet as there are permission slips that need to be signed and administration wants every form returned before they will allow the students access to their devices.

Peter Rukavina was invited to come up to present “how to write a resolution” after the session was cancelled in O’Leary due to lack of interest. He was invited to present at Alberton Elementary as there was a Home and School meeting scheduled and timing was good for a better turn out. Approximately 10 Bloomfield, Alberton and Hernewood parents attended.

Social Media – A Facebook group called Hernewood Parent Council was created and all announcements are posted to the site. Daily emails are still sent by the school to advise parents of Hernewood Happenings.

Election of representative to the Family of Schools District Advisory Council -- Kelly Shea Rayner was nominated and elected by acclamation after a special meeting held in November. A message was sent out to staff and parents about the elections with no interest. Principal Patti Sweet nominated Kelly and Wendy Handrahan seconded the nomination.

President Kelly Shea Rayner attended the Semi-Annual meeting and a few school board meetings throughout the winter.

A Membership request was made to the West Prince Arts Council; as a member we may be eligible for different art grants

KINKORA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL
Janet Payne, Parent Rep

Executive:

Our Parent Council has not held formal elections to elect a President; Jaime Cole, Principal, chairs meetings while Janet Payne has been asked to represent parents on the District Advisory Council and be available as a contact person for the KRHS Parent Council. While attendance at monthly meetings may vary, the parent community is very involved and can be relied on to help out with a wide range of activities throughout the year. In this regard, Parent Council represents only a small number of the parents and grandparents who are actively involved in supporting the school community.

Monthly Meetings:

Kevin Stewart (Teacher Rep) and Laura Johnston (Student Council Rep) share reports at each monthly meeting. This is also an opportunity for Jamie Cole (Principal) to share information about school policies, upcoming events, and school initiatives, as well as a chance to gather valuable information and feedback from parents.

Parent Initiatives:

- 1 **Beef Supper-** The annual KRHS Beef Supper is our main fundraiser and happens as a result of co-ordinated efforts within our community. Parents work closely with students and teachers to organize, cook, and serve a lovely beef supper to approximately 400-600 people each year. This is a great opportunity for parents to get to know the staff better outside of the classroom, to feel connected to the school community, and to carry on a tradition that has been part of our community for many years. **Exam Breakfasts** – Also a yearly tradition are the many treats and nutritious snacks that parents bake, purchase and serve to the students each morning before scheduled exams. This happens twice each year and has been happening for as long as parents can remember. This is yet another opportunity for parents and grandparents to connect with the students, feel comfortable in the school, and wish the kids good luck before exams. More importantly, it's one more example of how the community as whole is invested in the success of our young people.
2. **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week** – There's no better way to remind our KRHS staff how important they are to us than by sending in homemade treats throughout this special week. In addition to this, parents organized, cooked and served a hot turkey dinner to the staff this year and were happily welcomed into the school once again.
- 3 **Coaching** –It goes without saying that it is never difficult to find willing volunteers interested in coaching a variety of sports teams, as many of these parents played for our school in the not-so-distant past. Likewise, many of the parents who become involved in one school sport remain involved from year-to-year and can also be relied upon to coach more than one team throughout the year.

- 4 **Communication-** With the availability of Facebook it is becoming very easy to connect with a large group of parents within a short period of time when any of these parent initiatives and traditions occurs throughout the year. In this regard, it is now very possible to reach the many parents who are interested in being involved, but who may not be able to attend Parent Council meetings on a regular basis.

Benefit:

The main benefit of having an active Parent Council as well as parent–lead initiatives is that there are many opportunities throughout the year to welcome parents into the school and keep them involved in their children’s education. Of importance is not the baked goods nor the turkey dinners; it’s the relationships between parents and school that allows parents to feel fully involved in their children’s education. Furthermore, relationships developed in positive circumstances also allow parents and teachers to connect once again when more challenging situations arise. After all, we are all in this together. ☺

Respectfully Submitted:

Janet Payne

“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it ” Marian Wright Edelman

L. M. MONTGOMERY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Karen Trainor and Cathy Hennessey, Co-Chairs

Executive Members:

Claudette Callaghan, Treasurer
Jill Wood, Secretary

It has been a fantastic year for the L. M. Montgomery Home and School. We started our year with an Ice Cream Social/Meet the Staff Night. This event was a huge success. It was a great kickoff to meet the parents and welcome the children back to school. Home and School members met with parents before, during, and after they had met with the teachers in the classrooms. It was a great way to meet other parents and also recruit a little help throughout the year.

Fundraising:

Our Annual Family Fun Night was held December 4th. Despite the snowstorm, once again it was a huge success, thanks to the Ways & Means committee and many other volunteers. The children were entertained with lots of carnival games and activities. For the adults, the gym was filled with numerous silent auction items, theme baskets and 50/50 draw. The bake sale, popcorn and snow cone stations were well received again this year. This fundraising event continues to be a success for our school, raising over \$8000 this year.

Lunch Program:

Our online lunch orders system continues to be a success. This program has proven to be a benefit to our staff and parents. The students have the opportunity to order chicken strips, pizza, subs, and a variety of other hot items throughout the month.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

During Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, the Hospitality Committee and parent volunteers showed the staff how much they are appreciated and valued by providing snacks, treats and door prizes throughout the week.

We are very proud of the dedication and support that our Home and School receives from the school, staff, parents and community.

M. E. CALLAGHAN HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Kelly Herget, President

Executive:
Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Shelley Gaudet

Our group met first in mid-September and has continued to meet every 4-6 weeks throughout the year. Attendance has been good, consistently between 8-10 people at each meeting, including a mix of parents from all three grades as well as two staff members. The agenda always includes a financial update, PEIHSF provincial update, principal's report as well as any new business brought forward.

Financially, we focus on one fundraiser sponsored by the Tignish Credit union. We would like to thank them for their support. Money fundraised is used for the day-to-day operations of our association and to support our staff appreciation week but, most importantly, to support our summer student tutoring program. We have been providing this program for the last five years and hope to continue this year. The application for funding has been submitted and we hope to hear of our success in the next couple of months.

We had two of our members attend the semi-annual meeting of the PEIHSF in October and both felt this was a positive experience. There was a lot of great discussion and information to bring back to our local association.

The principal's report is always an important part of our meetings, providing an inside look into the school our children attend and the issues/initiatives happening within. At our November meeting, assessment results were shared with attendees as well as the schools SMART goals that were created to work on this year.

Some of the discussion topics from this year included the state of our technical equipment and the need for upgrading ASAP, timing of report cards, new structure for the governing of our education system, including the new District Advisory Councils (DAC's) as well as electing our school's representative, Mr. Doug Lyon.

Communication is always a struggle, so to combat this, we developed a parents group for our Home and School through Facebook. This was used to help organize a meal and treats for the staff for Staff Appreciation week and I was delighted with the success of both. Parents that are a part of the closed group will get a notification when anything new is posted on the group and this has been a huge success in helping keep parents updated.

In conclusion, the benefits of volunteering with the M. E. Callaghan Home and School association are many, from becoming a more informed parent to helping improve the school life of our students. I encourage parents to continue to support their local associations.

MISCOUCHE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Jannett Jones and Carrie MacLellan, Co-Chairs****Executive:**

Jacqueline Lecky (Secretary)

Tracy Jones (Treasurer)

Miscouche Home and School Committee generally meets on the 1st Monday of every month. Attendance at the meetings averages 8–12 attendees (this includes members of the executive, parents and school faculty). The four board members remain the same as 2014-15 year.

The home and school minutes are posted on our school website so that parents who were unable to attend, or are in need of a refresher, can see what took place during the meeting. The agenda and minutes are also posted on our Facebook page. The upcoming meetings and events are also listed in the school newsletter which goes home with all children monthly.

Each month we discuss any concerns parents may have and do our best to answer any questions attendees have. The school principal and/or vice-principal is/are always there to answer questions and offer clarification when needed. We also discuss fundraising needs and methods, upcoming events at the school to where we can offer support, as well as assessment results and what they mean for our school in particular.

This year, the home and school has held a few successful fundraisers and has made a great donation in support of the school's first winter field trip in some time. We also designed and purchased a friendship bench in memory of a dear friend and student who passed away last year. The bench was installed in the school playground after a special assembly and presentation to the family of the dear boy.

We are also excited to announce that, through the dedication of our home and school, we have our breakfast program back up and running two days a week. This huge undertaking was spearheaded by Jannett Jones, but she is quick to pass the credit to the many awesome volunteers. We are also grateful for the financial support of some local businesses and the PEI Healthy Eating Alliance.

Miscouche Consolidated had two representatives attend the 62nd Annual Home and School Federation meeting who brought back a substantial amount of useful information to the committee. We are currently seeking new volunteers to attend the 63rd Annual Meeting.

Miscouche Home and School has an open door policy and welcomes any and all new and returning members to join us for a monthly meeting sometime. We are continuing to build on the positive momentum we have going, and as always, our goal is to be a positive voice for our children in the school community.

MONTAGUE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Sarah MacKay, President

Executive:
Shauna Mellish: Secretary
Susie Myers-Garrett: Treasurer

Our meeting discussions have included: food security for children in the community, mental wellness and anxiety in children in the community, the need for more resources (not just in our school but in elementary schools as a whole), and the dissolving of the school board and how it will affect us. Susie Myers-Garrett has taken on the role of the rep for the Montague District.

We had Shauna, Susie and a parent, Karla Carnegie-MacDonald, attend the leadership workshop held in Cardigan. Shauna attended the semi-annual meeting in Summerside.

We fundraised at the Christmas Concert to raise funds to put toward the purchase of more exercise bikes in the school. We are in the process of planning for our Spring Fling. This will be our only fundraiser for the association for the year.

The Breakfast program is thriving, and serving approximately 75 kids per day. We have applied for and received the milk and egg subsidies. The hot lunch program is working out very well for us. We purchased 2 books for each classroom during the last book fair, for the teacher to have a draw to give the kids the books. We provided free babysitting services during the last parent teacher interviews, as well as during our home and school meetings, so that parents who may not be able to make it because of child care can come. We hosted the Health and Wellness Presentation.

We celebrated our teachers and school staff during Teacher Appreciation Week by hosting a potluck, treats each day, coffee and muffin breaks, and we bought each staff member a \$5 Tim's Card. I think everyone was very happy with their treats.

MOUNT STEWART HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Linda Craig, President

Executive:

Vice-President: Leanne Feehan

Treasurer: Marla MacDonald-Gidney

Secretary: Samantha Baranowski

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, with no less than 10 members at each of our meetings. Topics discussed: provincial assessment results, occupational health and safety concerns, the murals in our school, hot lunch program, breakfast program and a volunteer handbook was written. We have seen a great increase in volunteers coming into the school to help out with various activities including our breakfast program, lunch program, guitar, cribbage, crochet clubs as well as helping teachers in the classroom.

We received funding for a parent engagement night on writing and literacy. We had a writing coach and a literacy coach come in to do sessions with the parents and UPEI athletes came in to do different activities for the children. We had a great turn out and everyone was pleased with the way things went.

In partnership with the Masons, we are doing the Bikes for Books campaign. For every book read by a child, they receive a ballot to be entered for a chance to win a new bike. There will be two bikes per class, one for a boy and one for a girl.

We are also in the process of applying for the Indigo grant to help out our library.

Teacher/Staff appreciation went very well. We had treats every day in the staffroom and hosted a potluck on parent teacher Friday in March. We also gave each staff member a thank you card and a \$5 Tim's card.

We try to do only 2 fundraisers a year, one of which is the Birthday calendars which is in its 22nd year. These seem to sell very well and we have some great volunteers who have been doing it for the past number of years. This year we are going to sell the Spring Saver Coupon book and we are hoping this will go well. These funds go towards activities that the students take part in and any extra supplies that teachers may need.

We have a Facebook page that seems to work very well. We share news from the provincial office, and events that are going on at the school and around our area. If a parent has a question, they can ask it here. We have 120 families in the school and 128 members on our page.

We have a great group of parents and are growing each year!

O'LEARY ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Jeannie Burden, President

Executive:

Vice –President: Rhonda Boulter
Treasurer: Joanne Ellis
Secretary: Krista Locke-Ellis

The O’Leary Home and school committee meets every two months throughout the year to discuss a variety of topics and receive information from the school. We post information in the school newsletter and on our Facebook page which is beneficial to all.

In September, a back to school BBQ was held at the school to meet the staff and welcome the children back to school. We helped to distribute the food. Home and School also had the opportunity to speak and explain our role and invite new people to join.

This year again we are able to provide the students with a hot breakfast every Thursday morning. We also provide a healthy snack two mornings a week. We were happy to receive funding from Healthy Eating Alliance for a new fridge for our supplies. This program is able to take place because of a dedicated group of parents and volunteers who assist in preparing the food and serving the students.

In November, we sent two representatives to the Semi-Annual meeting of PEI Home and School Federation. We also made a donation to the school for a smart board, new guided reading books and some games/activities for the students to use on indoor days.

In December, Home and School fundraised for the breakfast program by hosting a Christmas house tour and by holding a bake sale at the Christmas concert. This month we also met to choose a representative from O’Leary Home and School new District Advisory Committee.

February brought teacher appreciation week and this Home and School planned and hosted a chicken dinner with all the trimmings and dessert for the staff.

As parents we are very happy to work with the school for our child’s well being and learning.

PARKDALE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Andrea MacNeill, President

Executive:

Vice-President: Jack Wheeler

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Tami Lewis

Parkdale Home and School monthly meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month. All parents are encouraged to attend. If child care is an issue, they are encouraged to bring their children with them and we try to keep meetings to no more than an hour to an hour and a half. Attendance is on par with other years.

There have been a number of changes at Parkdale Elementary for the 2015-2016 school year. The administration with Principal Lynn Hufnagel, vice principal Sandra Walker and Secretary Jackie Lund are all new this school year. Under the leadership of Mrs. Hufnagel the transition has been an easy one for staff as well as students.

Jumping right into the fundraising scheme of things, Parkdale in partnership with Hillside Motors held a Buick Drive One for the Students event late into November. The event was held at Hillside Motors and for every test drive that was taken, Buick donated \$20 to the school. A very special thank you to all who came out and to the volunteers who helped out.

The Christmas concert, or I should say concerts, were held in early December. Grades K to 2/3 had their concert on Tuesday, December 9, with the grades 3 to 6 holding their concert on December 10. A bake sale and 50/50 draw was held before each concert with funds raised going to Parkdale Home and School. Thank you to all who donated baked goods.

The Breakfast program is still running at Parkdale with a large number of students taking part. It not only provides students with breakfast before school, it is a great social time for them as well.

Parkdale Home and School will again this year provide teachers and staff with a hot catered lunch for Appreciation Week as well as other treats and surprises throughout the week.

Home and School in partnership with the teachers and staff of the school will hold two parent engagement nights – one in February centered on math and numeracy skills and the other, a literacy night, in April.

Parkdale Home and School along with support from the school and Ardgowan (Parks Canada) are still trying to develop the natural playscape playground. This has been a huge undertaking and will hopefully come to fruition in the next year or so.

PARKSIDE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Joanna Stewart, President

Executive:

Sara Courtney: Co- President

Lisa Schurman-Smith: Treasurer

Rhonda Caissie: Secretary

Principal: Janet Cameron

Teacher Reps: Sarah Grace Schurman, Danielle Keough-Delgado

Member: Crystal Gaudet

Parkside Home and School Association continues to meet monthly with an average of 8-10 parents attending. We have about 365 students. We provide opportunities throughout the year for parents to be involved. Some of these opportunities include the following:

- This past September we held our yearly Family Fun Night, but as it was in the fall instead of the spring we decided to call it Family Welcome Night. We had a wonderful turnout, making money when we were not even focusing on that!
- A QSP Magazine fundraiser in September/October;
- Healthy Snack is prepared and delivered by volunteers to all students about once a month to expose them to different varieties of fruits and veggies;
- Christmas Concert Bake Sale. Proceeds go to the school music or gym program;
- One round of Teacher Requests where money raised from the magazine fundraiser was given to the school in many different areas including the music department, library, and reading software and extra books for the classrooms;
- The parents worked very hard during the month of February for ISAW to provide snacks, a potluck and wonderful and heartfelt decorations for the teacher's classroom doors;
- In May we will again host our annual Bike Rodeo generously organized and put on by the Summerside Police Department;
- This spring we will also be holding elections for some positions on our executive;
- We are looking into having a speaker in the spring to inform parents about drug and alcohol issues for our children;
- We will also begin preparations this spring for a math night to be held in the fall of 2016.

PRINCE STREET ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Catherine Nicholson, President****Executive:**

Past-President: Laura Bird

Vice President: Ramona Doyle

Treasurer: Heather MacEwen

Secretary: Jane Ledwell

Since the beginning of the current school year, the Parents of Prince Street have met four times: October, November, January, and February. We plan to have two additional meetings before the end of the school year.

Our meetings continue to benefit from great engagement from the school team and include reports from Principal Erin Johnston and vice-principal Kelly Gillis as well as participation from parents and guardians, teachers, and staff. Our Prince Street students have worked together for new watchwords for Prince Street PRIDE: * Proud * Respect * Inclusive * Never Give Up * Caring* Empathy. Furthermore, Mrs. Gillis has received grant money for a second Art Smarts project that will fund a student dance video that corresponds with the Prince Street School song that was created under last year's Art Smarts project.

At our meetings this year, we have discussed provincial assessments and school-wide data, student wellness, and student and classroom needs. We discuss fundraising goals and community-building goals. We have purchased several items for the school and for classrooms with the funds that are raised by our fundraising events. Some such items include new instruments for the music department, teaching literacy resources, a diversity duplo set, classroom leveled readers and new sports jerseys.

When possible, meetings include translation, permitting a larger number of parents to participate in our Home and School meetings. During the meetings, there is childcare provided to make it easy for parents to attend. Attendance this year ranges from about 10 to about 25 parents and staff. We love the diversity of our school and the way people work together to meet challenges!

The Prince Street Home and School's biggest challenge this year has been to encourage parents and community involvement in the school. In an attempt to engage parents we promoted the Triple P Wellness presentation to provide parents with the knowledge and coping skills to assist children dealing with anxiety. I believe this was a very successful evening for all in attendance.

Highlights from the past year include the following:

- The continuation of the "Start with a seedling" project, this promotes healthy eating in kindergarteners who are paired with a "Garden Buddy" from the community.
- During teacher/staff appreciation week, February 15 - 19, our Home and School asked students to write what they most appreciated about the school staff. We then compiled all of the notes to

create a picture that was presented to the staff on the last day of teacher/staff appreciation week. Snacks for teachers and staff were also provided each day during the week.

- Our major fundraiser each year is the community celebration called “Spring Fling,” with low-cost snacks, games, and activities for children of all ages. It is very well-attended by students, families, and community members, with parents, teachers, and staff putting in a lot of hard work and effort to make the event a success. This year’s Spring Fling will be hosted on Friday, June 3, 2016.
- This past October, as a replacement for Movie Nights we have held in the past, our home and school put on a low-cost Family Fun Night with board games, crafts, dance, Bricks for kids, karaoke, snacks, and fun for the whole family. This was a huge success for building community in our school and something that we plan on continuing each year.

The volunteer efforts at Prince Street School continue to be phenomenal. Teachers and staff, parents, and neighbours make our breakfast program and much more a success. The school has a wonderful neighbour in Trinity Clifton United Church, whose members help ensure bellies are full and holiday stockings are full and who annually treat the whole school to an old-fashioned turkey dinner before the holidays in December.

Our meeting minutes can be located at the following website/blog <http://princestreetschool.ca/>. The school’s Facebook page is very active thanks to teachers and administrators, with a parent volunteer that makes updates from Home and School. In addition, our twitter account is @princestschool.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Allie Keedwell, Chair

The Queen Charlotte Home and School Association strives to create a relationship among staff, students and parents that encourages engagement and support. We meet on a bi-monthly basis, offering parents a casual and welcoming atmosphere in which to voice their thoughts and to share their experiences in supporting their children in school.

Some of the issues discussed have been the following:

- co-constructing a new dress code
- supporting the growing immigrant/refugee community within the school
- educating parents and students with regard to the immigrant population
- dissolving of the ELSB
- creation of the district advisory councils
- progress monitoring: does it now have a future? what about all the work that went into its development
- breakfast program
- grade nine trip
- grade nine graduation
- band concerts

The Breakfast Program continues to be run at QCIS on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. It is run by parent and teacher volunteers.

Our Parent Leadership Project consisted of homework tool kit night. It was done in two sessions: spring and fall. Three teachers presented during the spring session: Alison Giggey, Rachel Arsenault and Kara Witnell. Each teacher shared practical/hands-on ways parents could support their children with homework. The focus was literacy: digital and print. During the fall sessions, two teachers presented: Trevor McNeil and Amy Cudmore. Homework was the focus and the subject was math. The sessions were well attended; a Q and A session followed.

A staff potluck lunch was held during **Teacher/Staff Appreciation week**. A lot of food was donated and the staff was very appreciative.

New School Groups: The school has started a **Duke of Edinburgh Program**. Interest has been high. The students went on a successful overnight camping trip to Cavendish in the fall.

Summary of Events 2014-2015:

- Winter 2014: Coyotes Connection Day at the Cari complex. Students were given the chance to make use of the Cari's athletic facilities.
- Sept-Oct: Meet the teacher, Terry Fox Run, Book Fair, Haunted Hallway Movie Night, Halloween Hat or Dress Day. Money raised went to support an Island family.
- Nov-Feb: band concerts, skating at Simmons, skiing at Brookvale, Grade Nine trip to Quebec and Ottawa

QUEEN ELIZABETH ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Darby McCormick and Bev Campbell, Co-chairs

Executive:

Trevor Moase: Vice President

Catherine Gallant: Treasurer

Cavelle Andrews-Dewitt: Secretary

QEES Home and School held our first meeting on September 2, 2015, with 25 parents, caregivers and staff in attendance. There were many familiar faces along with lots of new ones. The initial meeting focused on the successes we had the previous school year and what new initiatives we were hoping to focus on for the coming one.

We are very proud to be able to share with you how we have been working in our school and community:

In May 2015, thanks to a very generous donation from the Malpeque Bay Credit Union and help from First Response Training, we were able to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) for the school and train 12 staff members on its use.

We have had a few of our staff and volunteers recognized for their hard work and dedication. In the spring of 2015, bus driver Steven Waugh was selected to receive the Bus Driver of the Year award, and volunteer Juanita Boucher was recognized by the Voluntary Resource Council with the Outstanding Volunteer Award in the fall of 2015. Most recently, as a fantastic finale to our Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, Kindergarten teacher Kim Crozier was selected to receive the Home and School Federation's Extra Mile Award. These three are only a small representation of the fantastic teachers, staff and volunteers that help QEES be the school that it is.

Our Breakfast Program has continued for a successful second year. Every school day, volunteers, led and organized by Anji McIver, provide a healthy breakfast for every student who wants to attend. Thanks to a few grants, the Breakfast Program is currently providing fresh fruit, toast, cheese, and, twice a week, eggs. A grant from Breakfast for Learning has allowed us to purchase an industrial size fridge and freezer pair.

In addition to providing healthy breakfasts for our students, QEES is very proud to have been able to move to a healthy lunch program as well. Healthy, homemade lunches are prepared four days a week by Chef (and H&S co-chair) Bev Campbell. Parents and caregivers order their children's meals on a monthly basis using our online ordering system that has been in use by the entire school this school year. Lunch options range from soup or casseroles to ham and scalloped potatoes, with 'fun' meals such as pizza and hot dogs available on Fridays. All food is cooked onsite and feedback from students, parents and staff alike has been nothing but positive. As an added bonus, a small portion of the cost of each meal is donated back to the school. Volunteer Tawnia Craig has continued to do baked potatoes for lunch on Wednesdays, completing our week of healthy lunches and also functioning as an ongoing fundraiser for the Home and School.

The largest new initiative our Home and School has taken on this year is a program that we call *It Takes a Town* (ITAT). We knew that through our breakfast program and new onsite healthy lunch program we could be sure that every student would have something to eat through the school week. We also knew that there were some students that would potentially be going without through the weekends and extended breaks from school. The ITAT committee, made up of teachers and parents, was able to build a program tailored to work

best for our school family that rolled out in November 2015. Since then we have been sending totes home on a weekly basis to five families, consisting of 13 children and 13 adults. Totes, containing on a rotating basis items such as bread, pasta and sauce, condiments, rice, fruit, potatoes and other vegetables, are packed and delivered by the committee on the last school day of each week. Thanks to help from parents, staff and the Malpeque Bay credit union, as well as community donors, the ITAT totes that went home prior to the Christmas break included many extra items such as hats, mittens, snow pants, toiletries, books, toys, gift cards, additional food items and small treats. QEES Home and School is very proud of the *It Takes a Town* program and have received genuine thanks from the families involved.

There have been several successful fundraisers organized by the Home and School this year. A jumbo freezie sale called *Jumbos for Jacob* raised \$282 in support of a younger brother of two of our students who had to travel to Toronto to receive a bone marrow transplant. Our annual Flea Market just before the Christmas Break allowed students to purchase surprise gifts for their families for \$25 each and this year raised \$411. A new fundraiser called *Best Seat in the House* raised \$311 by letting parents and guests at the Christmas concert purchase tickets on a chance to enjoy the concert from a comfortable couch, front and center. Proceeds from the *Best Seat* and a fudge sale at the concert were shared with the school's Music Department.

In April 2015, thanks to a PEIHSF Parent Leadership Grant and much hard work from the evening's committee, we held a very successful Numeracy Games Night. All families were invited to the school for an evening of grade specific games that helped promote numeracy and family involvement. Each child was able to take home the games that they played, and a few students won extra prizes of board games to take home and play with their families. We have applied and are currently waiting to hear if we have been successful in receiving the grant again this year, this time to put on a similar evening with a focus on literacy.

In an attempt to make the days that require indoor recess more enjoyable and productive for teachers and students alike, the Home and School purchased several new items for each classroom. The items included board games, K'nex kits, and arts and crafts supplies from teacher wish lists. These were hand delivered by Santa Claus and Rudolph just before the Christmas Break. The students were all very excited to see a special visitor at their doors with surprise gifts for their class!

With the absence of a full time librarian, the Home and School has taken on the task of organizing and hosting the Scholastic Book Fair. The first fair will be held the week of March 7-11, followed by another in the fall of 2016.

QEES Home and School is very lucky to have a fantastic relationship with our administrative and teaching staff, parents and caregivers and the surrounding community. We have several very dedicated members that give freely of their time and energies to make QEES a warm, supportive school full of proud, bright, caring and kind students. We look forward to the remainder of this school year and those yet to come.

"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts" -Aristotle

ST. JEAN ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Tracy Bergman, President

Executive Members:

Erin Hennessey, Treasurer
Pam Cheverie
Janna Lynne Durant

Hyundai Car Wash:

We kicked off our school year fundraising with a carwash at Hyundai. The event was very successful and a great start to the year.

Back to school BBQ:

The 6th annual Home and School BBQ was a great event. It's so great to see more and more parents coming out each year! We host our BBQ for the families and we tie it in with the "Meet the Teacher" night.

Spooktacular:

This year's second annual Spooktacular was so much fun for everyone. We had students from The Holland College sports program facilitate the crafts and games and hosted a canteen. It was so much fun for the children of the school and the community.

Christmas concert:

The concert was amazing this year with lots of culture and St. Jean pride; the Home and School sold 50/50 tickets and VIP seating and held our annual bake sale.

End of year:

For the remainder of the school year we are going to cost share the end of year trip as well as a special trip for our grade six class.

Teacher appreciation:

We love to spoil our amazing teachers. This year we made them hot lunches as well as supplied coffee and Timbits from Tim Hortons and pizza from Dominos.

Concerns/advice/tips:

It would be great for the school board to perhaps reach out to the Presidents when making decisions on closures as I am sure that they are aware each school faces its own challenges.

SOMERSET ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Donna MacLeod, President

Executive:

Treasurer - Jennifer Duffy

Vice-President - Bonnie Goguen

Secretary - Tracey Nichol-MacDonald

Somerset Elementary is a K-8 school located in beautiful Kinkora. We meet approximately every six weeks. Our attendance has been up this year. We average about 8-10 people per meeting.

It's been a busy year at Somerset Elementary. We started off this year by donating Soccer and Basketballs to each class. In October we invited a special speaker to our school, the local public health nurse, to talk about head lice and how to prevent them.

With a generous grant from Home and School Parent Engagement, we hosted a Family Fun Night. During this night we had special stations set up throughout our school; i.e., Floor Hockey, Forensic Science, Cup stacking, Hair and Nails, Photo Booth, Mr. Magic etc. Attendance was terrific and it was a fun night for both kids and parents.

Somerset Elementary held its second annual Christmas Bazaar in December. It was wonderful to see the children shopping for their families with bright eyes and big smiles. We also hosted a PJ/Pancake Breakfast just before Christmas. It was fun for the whole school!!!

Throughout the school year we have several hot dog, cookie, frozen yogurt and healthy snack days. We were able to have a free yogurt tube and free ice cream day as well. Each year we donate to our band to help with the cost of their trip to Halifax. We also donated three prizes to our grade eight graduation ceremony.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation week was a huge success again this year. We started off the week with treat bags for each staff member and a lasagna/salad/garlic bread lunch. Treats were provided for our teachers each day; there was a Pancake breakfast; and to close out the week, we ended with a Chili and Chowder lunch!!!! We also recognized our Custodial Staff and our Administrative Assistant with a small gift of appreciation for all they do for our Home and School.

We are planning on sending five delegates to the Annual meeting in April. We find these meetings invaluable to our local Home and School.

SOURIS REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Carol Ann MacPhee and Shelly Keenan, Co-Chairs****Executive:**

Secretary: Heather Ching

Treasurer: Paula Paquet-Lutz

Members at Large:

April MacIntyre, Lisa O'Keefe –MacAulay, Tara Hill-Burke, Kirsten Mallard, Shelly Manning, Krystal Jamieson

Souris Regional School has completed all interior renovations as of the Summer of 2015. There is still some work being completed in regards to the exterior grounds, including the Grades 4-6 Playground. That has been the topic of much discussion this year as we have been brainstorming for ideas on how we would fundraise for it. Our school will be kicking off a Vesey's Catalogue fundraiser in March, 2016, and all proceeds will go towards equipment for the Grades 4-6 playground.

Like last year, our meetings consisted of focusing on the needs of all students from grades K-12. Parents, our principal, vice-principals and teacher representatives meet approximately every 6 weeks to discuss a variety of issues which include Nit team, playground development, fundraising opportunities, grant applications, allocation of funds, and, new this year, the advisory councils.

Shelly Keenan was selected as our parent representative along with Morgan Cornwall and Britney Blaisdell as our student representatives for the Souris/Morell District Advisory Council. With the first meeting being held in February, we were anxious to learn what topics would be discussed at meetings. Much emphasis at the first meeting was directed towards the staffing model and the purpose of assessments. Shelly brought this back to us during our February meeting, and we are implementing different ways to seek feedback from parents on the different topics discussed. The information will be compiled and brought back to the next meeting in April.

Business was as usual in September with our nit team getting into the school and doing frequent head checks. We feel this is a vital parent volunteer committee and is instrumental in keeping lice outbreaks to a minimum.

We wanted to assist the grades 7-12 this year in helping add to their classroom libraries. A Bingo for Books was organized by the council in December and was successful in providing more books to these grades. We will continue focusing our efforts in helping add to this vital classroom resource.

This winter, Teacher/Staff appreciation week activities were planned. Each day we had a theme which had parents supplying food to coincide with the theme. A Potluck lunch was provided on the Friday along with door prizes donated by many community businesses. This is one of our favorite weeks of the

year. We appreciate all that our teachers do and we love when we get the chance to spoil them a little bit. We had an assembly during teacher/staff appreciation week to present the first ever “Souris

Regional Excellence Award” to one very deserving teacher. This award will be presented each year during Teacher /Staff appreciation week to a staff member who goes above and beyond for their students and their school. We were very excited that Karen Power was the recipient of the award this year. The outpouring of letters and support of Karen from her coworkers, parents, and past and present students was amazing. Congratulations Karen!!!

Next up on our agenda will be the much anticipated Wellness Presentation provided to our school by the PEI Home and School Federation. Due to a storm day, the presentation was rescheduled for March 15th. In April our school is hosting a Numeracy Night to engage parents and children in math activities. Children from grades K-9 will be participating along with their parents in different activities to help understand the new curriculum.

The Souris Regional Home and School Council has a wonderful group of parents and educators on our committee that work hard so that our children and teachers have a positive environment for learning. We’ve had a successful year so far and we look forward to what’s in store for us in 2016/17

SOUTHERN KINGS CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Krystal MacKay, President

Executive:

Treasurers: Kristen White and Melissa Leeco

Secretary: Kim McGuigan

We continue to offer the following programs and assistance:

1. Lunch program every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
2. Breakfast program every day.
3. Help organize the school Book Fair
4. Organized a canteen for the Cross Country Meet.
5. Organized a canteen for the Volleyball Tournament.
6. Tick Team- a prevention team that checks for lice (Very Effective).
7. Purchased lice treatment for families in need available for the school to give out when needed.
8. 50/50 draw during our annual Xmas concert.
9. Prepaid lunch for students for Winter Carnival.
10. Organized snacks and treats as well as gifts for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week.
11. Provide lunch for judges at the SKC Science Fair.
12. Set up seasonal display in the SKC Lobby.
13. Purchased a new refrigerator and freezer for our Breakfast and Lunch Program
14. Children from Grades K - 5 made cards for Christmas for some seniors in the surrounding seniors living facilities and homes.
15. Present our Grads with a gift at Graduation and a Male and Female Award for positive attitude/friendship.
16. We will continue to fundraise for new instruments for our Music Department.
17. Donate to various activities during the school year such as field trips at the end of the year and students going to the pool or skating rink. Help purchase various items to help staff and students.

SPRING PARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Sheldon Opps, President

Executive:

Jennifer MacLeod, Past-President
Jill Olscamp, Secretary
Rebecca McQuaid, Treasurer
Laura Bevan, Communications Officer
Tammie Rose, Volunteers Officer
Tracey Willoughby, Member-at-large

Health and Nutrition Committee Chairs:

Megan Miller and Kali Simmonds
Canadian Parents for French Committee Chair:
Marina Silva-Opps
Capacity (Fundraising) Committee Chairs:
Angela Lawlor and Trine Vom Braucke

Vision and Strategic Planning Exercise:

With overcrowding concerns for our school, a growing and large international community, concerns about supportive resources for our growing French immersion program, inadequate “clean eating” food options for our lunch program and a non-existent breakfast program, and other important academic concerns, there was a need to carry out a vision/strategic planning exercise to identify the key issues and priorities that resonate with our community. In point/topic form, these issues have emerged as: (1) capacity issues for existing schools; (2) lack of enrichment opportunities; (3) inadequate support for French immersion; (4) more support and assistance for newcomers and our diverse community; (5) more natural and cultural experiences for our children; (6) better nutritional options and healthy choices at school; (7) increased mental health support; (8) more afterschool programs; (9) well defined yearly goals for each grade with grade-level communication strategies (to ensure that all parents receive the same message); (10) more resources and staff to address curriculum issues/outcomes for both the English and French immersion programs.

New Committees and Community Engagement:

In an effort to address some of the priorities identified above, to improve parent attendance at Home and School meetings, and to increase our level of parent engagement, a number of new committees were created so that we can do more for our school and community:

(a) Health and Nutrition Committee: one focus for this committee is to improve the quality of food provided through our lunch programs and to educate our community on healthier choices for their children. Although our Home and School provides morning snacks for needy children, we are currently working on introducing a breakfast program that is badly needed at our school. This committee also helped to facilitate an important **Mental Wellness Presentation** that was held at Spring Park school and co-hosted between our Home and School and Prince Street Home and School. This was a very successful event.

(b) Canadian Parents for French (CPF): in an effort to enrich the French immersion experience at our school, our Home and School moved forward to create a local chapter of CPF at Spring Park School. One immediate goal is to provide exciting extra-curricular activities for our children, so that learning French can be extended out of the classroom and become part of their broader experience. Stay tuned for some fun and exciting upcoming events.

(c) Capacity (Fundraising) Committee: This committee was struck to begin brainstorming on new and innovative ways that we can strategically raise funds for key school/community initiatives (with well-

defined goals and outcomes). The first key issue to address by this committee is **how are funds currently raised** by our Home and School and, in turn, how are such funds utilized.

Parent Leadership Projects:

Diversity Awareness Week: In an effort to **engage our parents**, we introduced a new week-long school event to celebrate our diverse community. Daily activities were conducted, including: (a) playing the national anthem from different countries; (b) parents visited classes to talk about their heritage/origin; (c) music and sports from different countries were showcased through the week; (d) heritage-tree charts were created by children with the assistance of parents; (e) parents provided traditional dress for their children and we had a traditional dress/flag day (22 beautiful flags were purchased and now adorn our library); and (f) two general assemblies were held with guest speakers from different cultures.

Communication:

Efforts were made to improve communication with our community to ensure that parents were aware of important events and, as well, to increase the level of parent engagement (including attendance to Home and School meetings). To this end, we have: (a) created a nice newsletter through **Mail Chimp**; (b) solicited feedback through **Survey Monkey** polls; and (c) announced events through **Face book** and our **website**. Efforts are currently being made to improve the website.

Proposed Policy Resolutions:

We recently submitted a school policy resolution to address the current status of **French immersion** in the province, given the growing number of children in French immersion. A major concern is the availability of qualified and quality French immersion teachers and substitute teachers, along with adequate supportive classroom resources.

Fundraising Activities:

Our students greatly benefit, either directly or indirectly, from the following special fundraising activities:

1. **Spooktacular bake sale:** Our Home and School assisted with the school's annual Halloween event in October by hosting a bake sale to help support our teachers and their classrooms.
2. **Coupon books:** We sell coupon books, twice during the year, to raise money for the end of year school field trips.
3. **Christmas Shoppe:** This is a wonderful annual event organized by our Home and School where students have a chance to purchase Christmas gifts for their family. These gifts are provided as donations from our community and the funds raised went to support our local CBC Turkey Drive and to assist a teacher in our school needing special medical treatment

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

To show our gratitude for all that our teachers and staff do at Spring Park school, this year we tried to "spread the love" throughout the week by showing our appreciation through small daily gestures including: (a) creating a large "thank you" banner showcased at the front of the school; (b) delivering thank you cards with apples to each of our teachers and staff; (c) bringing flower bouquets to the front office and staff room; (d) having a fun "smoothie" day; and (e) capping off the week with a special lunch for the teachers and staff and providing gift bags for our bus drivers.

SUMMERIDE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Andrea Pickett, President**

Highlights from SIS this year include the following:

- SIS was chosen as the pilot school for the new Grade 9 Social Studies Aboriginal program.
- Staff Appreciation week went well. Staff lounge was decorated; staff was treated to a potluck from parents on Wednesday, February 17; and various treats were served throughout the week.
- We hosted (with the federation) February 17 a presentation overview of Triple P parenting and anxiety for parents for Three Oaks family of schools; it went very well.
- School has been busy preparing for wireless internet; this should be taking place after the March Break.
- Our Breakfast Buddies program is doing fantastic. It is running 5 days a week, exclusively by parent volunteers. We serve approximately 100 students per day with healthy items such as: English muffins, juice, milk, cereal, yogurt, fresh fruit, and toast.
- Jr. Mayor and Council were picked during "Winter Carnival" week in mid-February; activities were also held throughout the school for students.
- Andrea reported on behalf of the school as Representative at the District Advisory Council meeting held in February with various schools province wide. She provided feedback (as a parent) on school issues and initiatives.
- We as a school notice the Student Achieve system is a great communication tool between home and school; it has been working tremendously well to strengthen student achievement and keep parents informed.

STONEPARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Tracy Willoughby and Margaret Morse, Co-Chairs

Executive:

Treasurer: Carolyn Courtney

Stonepark Intermediate is an active, energetic school of 800 students. In our bi-monthly meetings, we discuss school activities, safety, assessments, achievements, SGB (Stonepark Gives Back) activities, grants and new initiatives.

Communications:

Home and School uses a blog to report meeting minutes as well as PEIHSF updates. The school uses daily announcement emails, monthly in-depth newsletters, SAS and teacher blogs to keep parents up to date. The school site also has Twitter, YouTube and a new Hour of Code link. The school YouTube channel is used by staff and students to produce info videos such as new traffic flow pattern and green team sorting.

Fundraising:

Home and School passes the hat once a year during parent/teacher night. We also run a snack table during socials. This provides enough funds to provide assistance for Grade 9 closing, staff appreciation, donation to SGB, and end of year gift to school. This year's donation went towards a garden. The school ran a magazine campaign that was successful. The presence of an illusionist boosted sales this year. There was a Ford Drive 4 UR School event that was well attended. SGB charity pick this year is the Humane Society. Events such as ugly sweater day, red/green day, cupcake day as well as student fundraising all support this worthy cause.

Grant:

In conjunction with the IT committee, we have submitted an application to host a symposium on STEM information, awareness and education opportunities.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

This week is always a great week, hugely supported by the parents. Mr. Beck provided for Tuesday. Wednesday was healthy Treat day with fruit/veggie and cracker/cheese trays. Thursday was a luncheon of salads, entrees and desserts. Friday was Timmy's coffee and Timbits. All staff received homemade fudge on as well. Parents also sent in 35 gift cards and items for the daily draws. This is our time to really let the staff know how much they are thought of and it is greatly enjoyed by all.

New Initiatives:

Green team really swung into action this year. Under Ms. Burry's guidance, a student rep from each class joined the team. They partnered with Call2recycle in a battery collection contest, winning the

Waste Ace Award as the top school in PEI. New sorting stations were bought by the school and the team has worked hard teaching proper sorting technique to students and staff. We are very impressed with the commitment of our students!

Parking Lot safety improvement:

The traffic flow for afternoon pick-up was re directed to reduce the chaos that presided. This has resulted in a much safer pick-up routine for students and has actually reduced waiting time. All involved worked very hard to make this happen and we are very grateful for this.

Other:

Chess club runs every two days at lunch, thanks to a parent volunteer that comes in to teach and run the games. That club has been a great success. New this year are the popular expressions and dance club. On parent teacher nights we host “foyer events.” We have hosted groups such as Healthy Eating Alliance, PEI Cancer Society, displaying tobacco information and samples, and Canadian Parents for French with display tables promoting awareness. This year we also had free bridge kits available to promote engineering.

STRATFORD ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Danielle Boyce, Chair

Executive:

Vice-Chair: Natalie Fraser
Secretary: Lisette Jenkins
Treasurer: Sherri Davis

It's been a busy year so far at SES! Some of topics we have discussed at our meetings include:

- Fund raising goals and consideration of teacher and principal's requests.
- Fund Raising Campaigns (Coupon books, Christmas Craft Fair, Ice cream sales, facilitating scholastic book fairs, Spring Fling).
- Teacher Appreciation
- Educational outcomes
- Student reports
- Provincial Assessments

We've been working very effectively with the school administration, Principal, Kenny MacDougall, and Vice-Principal, Shelley King Compton. School requests for Home and School funds were related to much needed basic learning materials.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week was organized by Patricia Callaghan. Patricia created lovely and unique ideas for lunches and treats which were very much appreciated by teachers, staff and bus drivers. Parents contributed great cooked dishes and desserts to make the luncheon absolutely delicious!

Our major contribution to the students so far this year has been over \$6,500 toward English and French reading books for the classrooms and \$5,000 towards snow shoes and stationary bikes. We also contributed to Christmas Family Aid and Anti- Bullying Awareness Bracelets.

Our communication goal from last year seems to be working. People are aware of the things going on at the school that are communicated to them. Family support of initiatives has been positive; however, attendance at Home and School meetings remains very low, with only the Executive and School Administration and a few parents. Volunteer turnout for events seems to be a bit better so far this year. We focused on educating parents of the school on what Home and School contributes to Stratford Elementary School for the students.

THREE OAKS SENIOR HIGH HOME ANSD SCHOOL
Leigh Dymment and Kelly Perry, Co-Chairs

Executive:

Shelley MacFadyen: Vice President and Secretary

Members:

Joanne Steele: Grade 11 Representative

Leona Gallant: Grade 10 Representative

Jeff Clow: Principal

TOSH Home and School hold monthly meetings. Minutes are posted on the school website,
<https://threeoakshighschool.wordpress.com/tosh-parent-council>

TOSH Home and School had a table at the Annual TOSH Craft Fair. \$408 were raised and donated to the TOSH Breakfast Program.

A Triple-P (Power of Positive Parenting) session was held November 24 at TOSH from 7-9 p.m. The topic was Raising Responsible Teenagers. The session was well attended and there were lots of questions and discussions by attendees.

A list of on-line learning opportunities was raised and posted to the TOSH website,
<https://quoreddit.quora.com/The-Best-Online-Learning-Centers>

The Presbyterian Church next to Three Oaks provides Kraft Dinner for TOSH Students on Thursdays. An estimated 120 students attend lunch. A KD fund drive is being held and donations will go to the Presbyterian Church.

Three Oaks continues to offer a breakfast program five days per week. It cost about \$9000 last year for breakfast and lunch programs. Three Oaks received approximately \$4000 in funding this year to help offset costs.

Three Oaks is undergoing a large renovation over the next two years. The tender has been awarded to Chandlers. Reviews of plans are underway. Much needed lighting will be installed on the outside of the school March 18 and in the parking lot March 28.

A lunch was held on February 17 for Staff Appreciation Week. Many donations were graciously accepted and there was a great variety of food available to all staff members. Thank you to Jeannie Martin and Saralie Vriends for volunteering to help out with set up and clean up for the lunch.

TOSH Home and School has representation on the newly formed District Advisory Council, whose mandate is to help shape an education system that is focused on and meets the needs of learners, by advising the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture on education matters. The first meeting was held and generated significant discussion around a variety of topics including the following:

- Shortage of Educational Assistants
- Lack of early testing and long wait times for testing
- Need for Mental Health support across all schools
- Sources of anxiety in schools; e.g., home issues, learning difficulties, addictions, public speaking, hunger, heavy workloads due to many tests hitting at the same time
- Shortage of Advanced Placement opportunities
- Lack of self study or self paced learning and what some teachers/programs are doing to overcome this
- French Immersion and the lack of elective choices in the program
- Breakfast Programs

A survey was sent to parents via SAS to find out if there was interest in having an evening information seminar. Results of the survey indicated significant interest in an anxiety session. The responses were split between interest in a guest speaker and having printed material available. As a result of the survey, a session will be held at TOSH on March 14, 2016, from 7:00 – 8:00 P. M. The session will provide written information about anxiety and depression and will feature a seminar by Dr. Wm. Neil McClure, Clinical Psychologist from Summerside.

Topics for the presentation by Dr. McLure will include the following:

Definitions and presenting characteristics for Social Anxiety Disorder, Agoraphobia, and Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

Transitional Anxiety

Nature vs Nurture

How Anxiety affects school performance and attendance

Interventions to treat Anxiety (including Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapy and Medication)

Information handouts will be available from the following:

- Dr. Wm. Neil McLure (<http://www.mclurepsychology.com>)
- PEI Mental Health Association (<http://pei.cmha.ca>) and/or Health PEI's Mental Health dept (<http://www.healthpei.ca/mentalhealth>)
- Triple P Parenting (<http://www.triplep-parenting.net>)

Three Oaks Culinary students will be preparing food for the session

VERNON RIVER HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Colleen MacPherson and Janessa McCabe, Co-Presidents

Executive:

Co-Secretaries: Amy MacLean and Lisa McCabe

Co-Treasurers: Kathy Currie and Christina Compton

District Advisory Council Member: Deb Sieon

Lunch Coordinator: Cheryl Drake

Topics discussed at local meetings:

- Fundraising ideas for Gym Sound System and Playground Equipment: Lunch program, Fall Family Fun Run, Big Comfy Couch at Christmas and Spring Concerts, Fudge Sale at Christmas and Spring Concerts, Gift Card Tree, Yoga Classes, Adult dance and Ford's Drive 4 UR School
- Reports from: President, Treasurer, Grade 9 students, Principal, Lunch Program and Occupational Health and Safety.
- Parent engagement project titled "Creating Connections between Home and School". A proposal was completed and the application was accepted. Two themed evenings are currently being held to strengthen the Academic Connection and Health and Wellness Connection. Math Night was held in November with numeracy coaches presenting to parents at all grade levels. Literacy Night will be hosted in April with a presentation to parents by a Literacy Coach and gym night for the students.

Provincially attended meetings:

- Members of the committee and parents of the school plan to attend the Annual General Meeting this spring.
- Our representative for the School District Advisory Council was nominated and accepted. She will attend meetings in the future.

Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week Activities:

- Celebrated during an assembly - Linda Roach, our Kindergarten teacher, for winning the PEI Home and School Federation's "Extra Mile Award". Congrats Linda!
- Tuesday to Friday was filled with snacks in appreciation of our staff.
- Many students wrote thank you/appreciation letters, cards or pictures describing what their teachers mean to them and how much they are appreciated.

Benefits to Students from Efforts:

- Hosted our 5th annual Fall Family Fun Run on Halloween and had 60 participants.
- Sold tickets on a "Gift Card Tree" to raise money for a sound system for the gymnasium.
- Due to poor acoustics in our gymnasium during concerts, Home and School hired a

professional sound person for our concerts. The sound quality was 100% improved and feedback from families was positive.

- Big comfy couch draw at concerts as well as fudge and water sales.
- Our lunch program is on its 6th year and runs three days per week with an average of 65 orders per day. The vast majority of the students order on line via our hotlunches.net system.
- Yoga classes are taught on a weekly basis for members of the community with all proceeds going to Home and School.
- Adult dance to be held in April as a fundraiser to assist with new playground equipment.
- Home and School is able to provide assistance funding, including appreciation gifts for volunteers, assisting grade nines with their trip and graduation and supporting the school's year end trip activities.

Website:

- The Home and School has a link on the VRCS Website. This site lists the executive members and contact information. It also has information regarding our Hot Lunch Program.
- We continue to maintain our Home and School face book page to communicate upcoming events like parent engagement nights

WEST KENT HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Jill Cunniffe and Mary Robinson, Co-Chairs

Executive:

Rhonda Nicholson, Treasurer

Bev Geig, Secretary

Fundraising

- Held West Kent's 11th Fall Fair, October 31, 2015. West Kent parents and staff organized and hosted this major fundraiser. Proceeds from this event support: classroom educational activities such as Caribou Math; the purchase of literacy materials; a range of sports supplies; new library furniture, etc.
- Hosted a West Kent School Library fund-raiser at Indigo February 25 and 26. WK staff, parents and kids volunteered both evenings at Indigo. The children thoroughly enjoyed representing and fundraising for their school. Funds from this event will help provide additional books for our library.

Activities

- Started the school year with our annual "Welcome Back to School" ice cream social.
- Holding West Kent Home and School meetings every 4 to 8 weeks. Continuing with the goal to increase parent involvement in WKHS. This year childcare or art classes are being offered during WKHS meetings for children of parents attending the meeting.
- Appointed Kent Nicholson as the WK School parent rep on the District Advisory Council for the Colonel Gray Family of Schools. As requested, WKHS prepared a list of items to present at the first DAC meeting. Unfortunately, there was no opportunity to present this list at the first DAC. The highlights of this list include:
 - Curriculum improvements
 - Knowledge Exchange of Co-curricular Funding
 - PD Day Information Session for Parents
 - Rezoning
 - Mid French Immersion for West Kent
- Extended the lunch program to full weeks. WKHS continues to support the on-line lunch ordering system to ensure the lunch program has a minimal impact on both instruction and administrative time.
- Organizing a Family Dance for April 8. Continuing to build and foster a sense of community by bringing parents, staff and children together. This dance will introduce students to school dances prior to junior high school.

- Secured snowshoes via the School Health Grant.
- Established a “Snow Shoe Library”, offering snowshoes to our students and families for the weekends, promoting fitness and family time.
- Visited the idea of a breakfast program.
- Promoted the Triple P parenting sessions.
- Applied for and received a “70th Anniversary Dutch-Canadian Friendship Tulip Garden”. Each WK student planted a bulb in the WK front garden as part of a Remembrance Day Ceremony held at WK on November 10. Purchased books (“The Blooms of Friendship”), repaired the school gazebo and flower beds.
- Developed a Community Outreach Policy to offer support to WK families impacted by misfortune such as poor health.
- Supported Staff Appreciation Week with WKHS providing various treats and covered lunch duty to allow staff to have lunch together.
- Continue to work toward improving parent communication through the WK Face Book page and Twitter.

WEST ROYALTY ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**Colleen Henderson and Vanessa Ford, Co-Presidents****Executive:**

Vice President: Cathy Nabuurs

Secretary: Shawna MacDonald-Wong

Treasurer: Deanna Bellamy

Website: <http://www.westroyaltyhs.ca/>**Events / Volunteer Opportunities:**

Meet the Staff Night – September 15

Magazine Fundraising Campaign – September 16 - 30 (online all year)

Indigo Fundraising Nights -- September 24 and 25, November 17 and 18, February 4 and 5, June 2 and 3

Green Space (Fall Cleanup of Flower Beds) – October 4

Walking School Bus – October 7

Halloween Dance – October 22

Pancake Breakfast (NEW Initiative in 2014 with MLA Bush Dumville) – December 12

Christmas Family – December

Parent Engagement Session: Numeracy Sessions – January 12 (K-3), January 19 (4-6)

Teacher Appreciation Week – February 15 - 19 (Lunch February 11)

Spring Carnival – April

Spring Fun Day – June

Green Space (Spring Cleanup of Flower Beds) – May/June

Grade 6 Fundraising – Year Round

Healthy Snack – Year Round

Meetings:

Meetings are held monthly alternating between the second Tuesday and second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm and concluding by 8 pm. We follow a set agenda, with updates from the principal and committee chairs, which helps to keep the meetings on track. We have a small but loyal group of parents in attendance at each meeting, who are backed up by a dedicated group of volunteers that we can call on whenever necessary!

Provincial Meetings Attended:

Leadership Training – October 1

Semi-Annual Meeting of PEI Home and School Federation – October 20

Annual Meeting of PEI Home and School Federation – April 9

Parent Engagement:

We held very successful Parent Engagement sessions on January 12 and 19, 2016. Numeracy Coach, Bev Coles, presented two evening information sessions. The first session, “Exploring the Big Ideas in Mathematics,” was for K-3 parents. The second session, “Conquering Math Facts,” was geared to 4-6 parents. Bev provided strategies for parents to help make their child more successful in Mathematics.

An information package, including a list of community resources, was provided to participants; and some excellent books were added to our parent resource library.

Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week:

There were treats and snacks for the teachers throughout the week, with a special lunch provided by parents on Thursday, February 11. Parent volunteers monitored each of the classrooms for an indoor recess so that the teachers could enjoy their lunch. There were draws and giveaways for the teachers and staff. Many staff described it as their “favourite day of the year”!

Distribution of Funds Raised:

The Home and School has one primary fundraiser, the Magazine Campaign through QSP. The principal recently provided the executive with a ‘wish list’ of items for consideration; however, our resources are limited this year with the number of initiatives we are already supporting with these funds. As a result, the school has opted to do its own separate fundraiser as well, by selling coupon books.

External Funding Sources:

In order to capitalize on external sources, our Home and School Executive has been busy trying to access local funding opportunities. We have been running shop nights at Indigo throughout the school year with 20% of sales that evening going to West Royalty teachers to increase classroom libraries.

Communication:

We are fortunate to have a mix of skills on our Home and School Executive again this year. We have a few members who have been involved for a number of years, as well as some new members who bring fresh perspective; and we have been actively recruiting parents of younger children to volunteer. We are working to continue providing open communication to the parents of West Royalty Elementary through our website and updates in the school newsletter.

We are truly fortunate as a Home and School Association to have so many volunteers who give tirelessly of their time and effort throughout the school year. **THANK YOU!** It is a blessing to have so many caring and dedicated parents who take the time to attend our meetings and ensure the success of all our events and programs.

WESTWOOD PRIMARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Margo Thistle and Heather Stevenson, Co-Chairs

Executive:

Co-Chairs: Margo Thistle and Heather Stevenson

Treasurer: Amy MacFarlane

Secretary: Karen Wight

Member-at-Large: Ricardo Angel**Communications:** Kim Porter

Our goal this year was to increase parent engagement through events at the school and fundraising activities. Our executive and sub-committees met several times throughout the school year.

Fundraising

To help support activities and equipment that are not normally included in school budgets, we do some fundraising throughout the year. This year our money was put towards the purchase of five Spark Brain Bikes, iPads, art education and the development of a kindergarten outdoor play space.

Our fundraising activities for the year included:

- A kick-off Mabel's Labels campaign in September;
- a Regal catalogue campaign, and;
- a Family Fair celebrating Westy's birthday including a silent auction and lots of fun kids activities.

Other Activities

- Our association supported Staff Appreciation Week by coordinating the drop off of various treats throughout the week by Westwood parents.
- We plan to have a parent engagement session on developing/refining motor skills for Pre-K, Kindergarten and Grade 1 children/parents in our school community.
- We continue to advocate for a safer parking lot and drop-off/pickup zone.
- Local artist, Maurice Bernard, will come to the school for a week in March to do a small art project with each classroom. Our association initiated and is funding this activity.
- We continue to improve parent communication by updating our Westwood Home and School website, Facebook page, and Twitter account.

Contact<http://westwoodhsa.wikispaces.com>westwoodhsa@gmail.com

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.

2016 NOMINATION REPORT

Submitted by: Pam Montgomery

EXECUTIVE

Executive Positions:	Nominees:	Two Year Term Expires:
President	<i>Lisa MacDougall</i>	2018
Vice President	<i>Cory Thomas</i>	2018

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Family of Schools:	Nominees:	Two Year Term Expires:
Charlottetown Rural	<i>Tami Lewis</i>	2018
Colonel Gray	<i>Sandy Nicholson</i>	2018
Kinkora	<i>Donna MacLeod</i>	2018
Montague	<i>(One Vacancy)</i>	2018
Morell	<i>Nathan Jay</i>	2018

**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION
PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS 2016**

RESOLUTION 1- 2016 SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Submitted by Alberton Elementary Home and School Association

WHEREAS social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc) are used by students, parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff to communicate, promote, discuss, and share all matter of professional, educational and personal material, and

WHEREAS the nature of social media is, in general, that anything that is posted and shared is available to the general public, forever, and,

WHEREAS the dividing line between the personal and the professional, and the appropriate and the inappropriate, on social media is less clear than in older forms of communication, and

WHEREAS there are not currently policies for the effective, appropriate use of social media by administrators, teachers, staff, students and home and school associations;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation work with the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture, the PEI Teachers Federation, the Canadian Union of Public Employees education locals, and other education partners to jointly draft a policy for the use of social media, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the goal of the social media policy be to ensure that, to the greatest extent reasonably possible, social media is used in a way that maintains standards of professionalism for educators, that youth are protected from harm, and that the maximum positive educational use can be made of social media tools.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture
 PEI Teachers Federation
 Canadian Union of Public Employees

RESOLUTION 2-2016 TEACHING PROFESSION ACT
Submitted by Albertain Elementary Home and School Association

WHEREAS Alberta enacted the “Teaching Profession Act” in 2000, British Columbia enacted the “Teaching Profession Act” in 1996, Ontario enacted the “Teaching Profession Act” in 1990, and

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island lacks similar legislation;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation collaborate with the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture and the PEI Teachers Federation to explore the possible benefits of enacting a similar “Teaching Profession Act” for Prince Edward Island

DESTINATION: Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture
 Minister of Justice and Public Safety
 P.E.I. Teachers’ Federation

RESOLUTION 3-2016 PUBLIC REPORTING AND REMOVAL OF SCHOOL FEES
Submitted by PEI Home and School Federation

- WHEREAS many schools on Prince Edward Island collect fees from students, including general “student fees,” materials fees, school supplies fees, activity fees, extra-curricular activity fees, and field trip and travel fees, and
- WHEREAS these fees can place a significant financial burden on Island families, and
- WHEREAS the School Act, section 68, guarantees “the right to free school privileges in the public schools of the province” and these fees contravene the spirit of that guarantee, and
- WHEREAS in the 2008 *Speech from the Throne*¹ the government committed to begin the process of removing school fees, and
- WHEREAS the nature of school fee collection means that it is difficult or impossible to understand the financial contribution to school through school fees by Island families, and the operational impact of their removal, and
- WHEREAS immediately removing these fees would place undue burden on the ability of schools to operate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation request that Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture develop a system for reporting to each public school community, on an annual basis, a summary of the school fees collected in that school, and a summary of how the fees were used, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture use the same information to provide an annual report on school fees summarized for all schools in the province taken together, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture develop a plan toward the gradual elimination of school fees, ensuring that the pace of elimination does not unduly inhibit the ability of schools to offer curricular and extracurricular activities equitably to all students.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture

References

1. From the 2008 *Speech from the Throne* (<http://www.assembly.pe.ca/speech/2007/index.php>)
“My Government also understands that programs offered by our schools should be equitably available to every Islander. On the basis of that understanding, my Government will begin to eliminate student fees for curriculum-based activities. This measure will remove any potential impediments to families who only want the best for their children.”

RESOLUTION 4-2016 FRENCH IMMERSION
Submitted by Spring Park Elementary Home and School Association

- WHEREAS the percentage of students on PEI in the French Immersion program is 24%, compared to the national average of 10%¹, and
- WHEREAS PEI’s population is projected to increase from 147,590 in 2016 to 161,792 by 20,552, primarily due to net international migration, and
- WHEREAS the average percentage increase of students entering the French Immersion program on PEI over the last four years has been roughly 2% per year¹, and
- WHEREAS French Immersion offers unique enrichment opportunities that are seriously lacking on PEI, and
- WHEREAS there is a tangible benefit of speaking at least one other language as regards global competencies, and
- WHEREAS it is challenging to attract and retain high-quality French Immersion teachers to PEI and to maintain a sufficient pool of qualified French Immersion substitute teachers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation request that the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture acknowledge the importance of French Immersion on PEI and develop a strategy to address the increased growth and demand for French Immersion on PEI, specifically:

1. Sufficient resources be allocated to support and augment the current recruitment program aimed at attracting and retaining high-quality French Immersion teachers to PEI;
2. Ensuring that there is a sufficient pool of qualified French Immersion substitute teachers on PEI;
3. Existing French learning materials, including additional resources in school libraries and in the classroom, are augmented;
4. Adequate training is provided for French Immersion teachers to maintain French proficiency.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture

BACKGROUND:

1. Canadian Parents for French (<http://cpf.ca/en/files/2014-Enrolment-Stats.pdf>)

2. PEI Statistics Bureau (http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/pt_pop_proj.pdf)

RESOLUTION 5-2016 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS
Submitted by Queen Elizabeth Home and School Association

- WHEREAS the Heart and Stroke Foundation reports that up to 40,000 cardiac arrests occur each year in Canada (one cardiac arrest every 12 minutes) and without rapid and appropriate treatment, most of these cardiac arrests will result in death, and
- WHEREAS thousands of lives could be saved through public access to automated external defibrillatorsⁱ, and
- WHEREAS when an automated external defibrillator and CPR are immediately available, the chance of survival from sudden cardiac arrest is substantially improvedⁱ, and when combined with CPR, the use of an automated external defibrillator may increase the likelihood of survival by 75% or moreⁱⁱ, and
- WHEREAS for every one minute delay in defibrillation, the survival rate of a cardiac arrest victim decreases by 7 to 10%, and after more than 12 minutes of ventricular fibrillation, the survival rate is less than 5% ⁱⁱⁱ, and
- WHEREAS response time data for October, November and December of 2015 published by Health PEI reports the median response times in minutes (an average of these times shows Souris as 10:22, Montague as 10:12, Charlottetown as 7:31, Summerside as 8:20, O’Leary as 9:15 and Alberton as 12:09^{iv}), and
- WHEREAS the estimated total number of students and staff present at island schools daily amounts to 21,242, and
- WHEREAS automated external defibrillators are simple devices requiring little maintenance and can be safely and effectively used by trained and even untrained users, and
- WHEREAS our schools are buildings vital to our communities and as such are used day to day after school hours by groups and organizations other than students and staff for meetings, sporting events and extracurricular activities, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests that the Departments of Education and Health provide funds to place and maintain automated external defibrillators in each school across PEI, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests that the Ministers of Education, Early Learning and Culture and Health and Wellness provide funds and establish a system to ensure that at least 50% of the staff at each school on PEI has current CPR and First Aid training at all times.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture
 Minister of Health and Wellness

References:
i, ii, iii Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada Position Statement
PUBLIC ACCESS TO AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDs)
http://www.heartandstroke.com/site/c.ikiQLcMWJtE/b.3799199/k.F45A/Position_Statements_Public_access_to_Automated_External_Defibrillators_AEDs_Position_Statement.htm
iv. Health PEI, <http://www.healthpei.ca/ambulanceresponsetimes>

Responses to 2015 Resolutions



June 19, 2015

Mr. Peter Rukavina
President
Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.
PO Box 1012
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

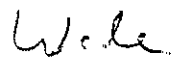
Dear Peter:

Thank you for your letter dated June 11, 2015.

This is a good initiative on the part of the Home and School Federation and other partners.

I look forward to further reports.

Sincerely,



Wade MacLauchlan
Premier of Prince Edward Island



Education,
Early Learning
and Culture

Éducation,
Développement
préscolaire et Culture



Office of the Minister

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

Bureau du ministre

Centre Holman
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October 20, 2015

Mr. Peter Rukavina
President
Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc
P.O. Box 1012
Charlottetown PE C1A 7M4

Dear Mr. Rukavina:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the resolutions passed at your 62nd Annual General Meeting held last April. First, let me thank you for giving me the opportunity to meet with you earlier this spring. As you know, I strongly believe that engaged parents make a significant contribution to learning.

With regards to the resolutions, I am pleased to provide the following responses:

REGARDING RESOLUTION 1/2015 – STUDENT CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The themes of character development and leadership skills are woven throughout the health, physical education, and career development curricula. The Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture places a great importance on promoting positive character development and strong leadership skills in Island students. There are numerous outcomes in this area that are covered through the curriculum. Across the grade levels, a student is expected to have covered curriculum outcomes on Citizenship and Personal Development.

RESOLUTION 2/2015 – STORM CLOSURES

As this resolution is a school board matter, I will let the school board respond regarding this matter.

RESOLUTION 3/2015 – SAFE STUDENT TRANSPORTATION WITH RELATED COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES

As this resolution relates to the operations of the school board, I will defer this to the English Language School Board for their response.

RESOLUTION 4-2015 – REQUEST FOR OFFSITE ALTERNATE EDUCATION CLASSES

As this resolution relates to the operations of the school board, I will defer this to the English Language School Board for their response.

RESOLUTION 5-2015 – ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Prince Edward Island curriculum is student-centred, inclusive, and is designed to help all students reach their potential through a wide variety of learning experiences. The curriculum seeks to provide equal entitlements to learning opportunities for all students. Rather than plan separately for enrichment, it is best to integrate enrichment opportunities with the mainstream curriculum, and with other in school and out of school activities. Enrichment must enhance the curriculum and the student's general learning experience.

The Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture English Curriculum Division is creating front matter that will be a part of all curriculum documents for teachers. This front matter will include information that outlines expectations for differentiated instruction. In recognizing and valuing the diversity of students, teachers must consider ways to:

- provide a climate and design learning experiences for each student;
- model the use of inclusive language, attitudes, and actions supportive of each student;
- adapt classroom organization, instructional strategies, assessment strategies, time, and learning resources to address students' needs and build on their strengths by
 - providing opportunities for students to work in a variety of learning contexts, including mixed-ability groupings;
 - identifying and responding appropriately to diversity in students' learning styles;
 - building upon students' individual levels of knowledge, skills, and attitudes;
 - designing learning and assessment tasks that correspond to diverse learning styles;
 - using students' strengths and abilities to motivate and support learning;
 - offering multiple and varied avenues to learning.
- celebrate the achievements of students.

RESOLUTION 6-2015 – PROMPT ESTABLISHMENT OF ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS POLICY AND PROCEDURES

As this resolution relates to the operations of the school board, I will defer this to the English Language School Board for their response.

RESOLUTION 7-2015 – ENHANCING SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATIONS WITH LOCAL HOME AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

As this resolution relates to the operations of the school board, I will defer this to the English Language School Board for their response.

RESOLUTION 8-2015 – ESTABLISH A PROVINCIAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM FOR ALL ISLAND CHILDREN

Schools provide breakfast and snack programs for all students and government budgets \$200,000 to assist schools to offer this service. I appreciate the numerous parent and community volunteers who provide assistance to offer this program. Regarding the lunch programs, we have calculated the cost of delivering such a program and it is a very costly initiative. At this time, there are no plans to provide a lunch program for students.

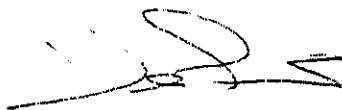
Government has also increased the food allowance rates available to families through the social assistance program.

RESOLUTION 9-2015 – ACTIVATION OF AND ACCESS TO THE STUDENTS-ACHIEVE SYSTEM BY PARENTS AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEVEL

As this resolution relates to the operations of the school board, I will defer this to the English Language School Board for their response.

I look forward to continue our collaboration with your organization.

Yours sincerely,



Hal Perry
Minister



English Language School Board

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October 15, 2015

Mr. Peter Rukavina, President
PEI Home and School Federation Inc.
P O Box 1012
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

Dear Mr. Rukavina:

In response to your correspondence of April 22, 2015, I am providing the English Language School Board response to the resolutions passed at the PEI Home and School Federation's Annual General Meeting.

Resolution 1-2015 - Student Character Development Programs
(Three Oaks Senior High Parent Council)

While the English Language School Board agrees with school initiatives to address and support character development, the Board is responsible for implementing provincial curriculum and programs as authorized by the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture (DEELC). The board participates in and supports program and curriculum development initiatives of the DEELC. The school district office consultants are required to prioritize their work-plans in conjunction with the board's strategic plan. In 2015, the Curriculum Delivery Department experienced a reduction of 7 positions and is currently challenged to fulfill its work obligations as required. Therefore, initiatives such as a student character development program would be additional programming offered through school climate days, for example, and would remain at the local school level.

Resolution 2-2015 - Storm Closures
(West Kent Home and School)

The established process for responding to inclement weather situations that impact the school day and/or student transportation will be posted on the English Language School Board website.

The English Language School Board follows specific procedures in determining whether the school day and/or student transportation will be impacted by inclement weather conditions. Decisions regarding school closure, delayed opening, and early/late dismissal result out of concern for student and staff safety.

The process of gathering relevant weather and road condition information begins days in advance by monitoring weather patterns and forecasts from multiple information sources. Travel condition information is gathered primarily from transportation experts at the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy.

The English Language School Board will continue to work with school administrators and teachers to lessen the impact of lost instructional time due to inclement weather within the parameters of the school calendar, as established by the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture.

Resolution 3-2015 - Safe Student Transportation with Related Communication Strategies (ME Callaghan Home and School)

The English Language School Board has approximately 260 drivers and school buses on the road each school day. The school board is committed to ensuring that its transportation system provides a high quality service to the students it serves and provides students and parents with timely notification of deviations from the normal schedule.

The school board works in coordination with the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy to ensure buses are mechanically ready to do their routes on a daily basis. Unfortunately, sometimes mechanical issues arise on short notice and necessitate repairs. Late buses are announced on local radio stations as soon the information is known.

The English Language School Board has been working proactively to recruit additional spare drivers to assist in ensuring late buses are minimized as much as possible. Some endeavors in this area include: the development of a new Minister's Directive on bus driver training that will make it more efficient and less costly for people possessing prior skills to attain their bus driver qualifications; the board's hosting of open houses to promote the opportunities within the board for bus drivers; the board working cooperatively with communities that had special training funding from the Province to train new bus drivers; and promoting bus driving opportunities through the web and other on-line sites as well as through traditional print media. The board is making new efforts to ensure an appropriate substitute driver pool exists to minimize bus delays. Delays are announced on local radio stations as soon as they are known and delays are announced the day before, if they are known with certainty.

The English Language School Board endeavors to announce any family of school delay/closure or system-wide delay/closure by 6:30 a.m. on local radio stations, the ELSB website, and on Twitter. There are very few instances when this is not able to be achieved. The exceptions would be due to changes in weather or road conditions that would warrant a delay or closure which would result in a later than usual announcement. The school board recently began announcing closures the night before when it was known with certainty that schools would not be able to open due to road conditions.

The English Language School Board is very committed to ensuring the transportation system operates in an effective manner and that any deviations from the regular schedule are communicated in as timely a manner as possible.

Resolution 4-2015 - Request for Offsite Alternate Education Classes
(Montague High Parent Council)

The school board continually evaluates the optimal placement for students in order to ensure they access appropriate academic programming that will support maximizing their success. The multi-year plan to transition alternate programming to Montague Regional High School was completed in September 2015 and the current monitoring of the program indicates that it has been a very successful move, not only for the students who were being taught in the basement of a local church but also for other students currently attending the school. The school is now able to share the resources previously made available to only a limited number of students with other students who also benefit from them, both in way of learning materials as well as professional support from the resource teachers and youth worker. Students who have alternate programming included in their Individual Education Plans (IEPs) now have immediate access to all the school's resources and specialized learning areas, which they could not access previously because of their off-site location.

The ELSB is not provided with additional funding for new building construction or the renting of additional off-site learning facilities, and current high school designs now consider the need for alternate programming to be located within a school where appropriate. Having alternate programming available within a school building enables a school to offer a greater variety of services to more students and, most importantly, increases the chances of success for students to transition, over time, from the alternate site within the school to the regular classroom – which is the goal of providing educational programming to students who need to be in a temporary learning environment other than the regular classroom. The delivery of alternate programming in this manner also ensures that opportunities provided to students in urban areas are also available in more rural parts of the province, where warranted.

Resolution 5-2015 - Enrichment Programs
(West Royalty Elementary Home and School)

Student Services and Curriculum Delivery Departments work together to support individual academic programs in the form of Individual Education Plans (IEPs) which address the needs of students who are achieving below grade level and those who require programming that is more advanced than the requirements of the grade level outcomes. Curriculum is enhanced by teachers through instruction and support for the diverse learners in their classrooms. School co-curricular and extra-curricular activities often supplement learning opportunities for all students and sometimes become part of a student's IEP.

Resolution 6-2015 - Prompt Establishment of Animals in Schools Policy and Procedures (Prince Street Home and School)

Animals in schools can provide unique learning opportunities and experiences for students. The English Language School Board is working on the development of operational policy and procedures to provide guidance for the inclusion of animals in schools. The continuation of this work is included in the Board's policy priorities.

Resolution 7-2015 - Enhancing School Board Communications with Local Home and School Organizations
(Prince Street Home and School)

The English Language School Board values local school programming which supports school board policy and enriches a student's school experience. Changes to local school programming will be made in consultation with school administration and communicated to students and parents through the school principal.

Resolution 8-2015 - Establish a Provincial School Lunch Program for All Island Children (Montague Consolidated Home and School and Montague Regional High Parent Council)

The English Language School Board agrees that external funding and delivery of a district-wide school lunch program would be beneficial to students. The Board acknowledges that the provision of such a program is outside its mandate, but would welcome its implementation.

Resolution 9-2015 - Activation of and Access to the Students Achieve System by Parents at the Elementary School Level
(PEI Home and School Federation)

The main use of SAS at the primary/elementary school level is for the preparation of report cards by teachers. In addition, attendance collection is completed for the purpose of the data being reported in the report cards. Therefore, data entry and printing by teachers are its two main functions. The third use is to enable schools to send mass emails -- outbound only. This is done if the school is prepared to input all parents' email addresses into its system. As well, it is important to recognize that some families do not have computers or email access, and therefore each school determines if this is an effective use for communicating to its parents and guardians. Because of the age of the children in their schools, primary/elementary teachers and administrators engage in a more effective process than a one-way e-mail communication to parents to deal with student absence.

Yours Sincerely,



Fred C. Osborne
Board Chair

c Cynthia Fleet, Superintendent of Education
Shirley Jay, Executive Director, PEI Home and School Federation



PEI Home and School Federation Inc.
63rd Annual General Meeting & Convention
April 9, 2016 Evaluation Form

Please take a few minutes to respond to the following questions by circling one number only for each question. Your views are very important and will help us to improve future events.

Please circle one answer			
Overall, my satisfaction with the event was ...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
The opportunity for me to give input was ...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
Overall, the time given to all agenda items was ...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
Overall, was the buffet luncheon...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
Overall, was the nutrition break...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
The location of the event was ...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
The usefulness of the workshop was ...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
The usefulness of other information heard or received at this event was ...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
What was most helpful for you at this meeting?			
What was least helpful for you?			

What was the most surprising thing you learned at this meeting?"

What kind of workshops would you like to see at future meetings?

Do you have other suggestions or comments about this event?

Thank you!

PEI Home and School Federation