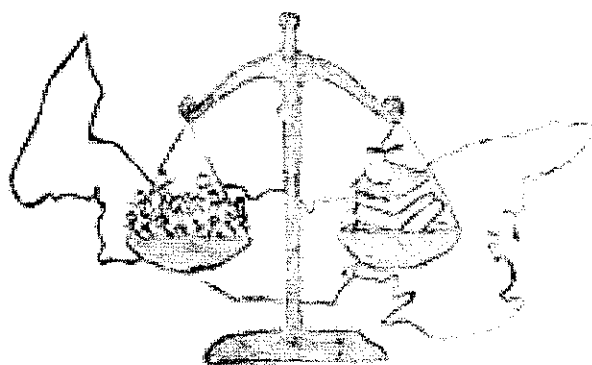




# **PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.**

***What is equity in education?***



*Drawing by Megan Moase*

**64th Annual Meeting & Convention  
Book of Reports  
Saturday, April 8, 2017  
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel  
75 Kent Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I.**

*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.

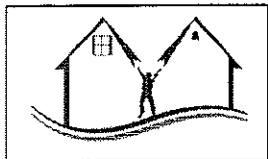
**That** Home and School may question the school policies, but shall not be used as a medium for criticizing or interfering with its authority.

**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 1953-2017

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
2016 -	Lisa MacDougall



**Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation**  
**64th Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday, April 8, 2017**  
**Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Kent Street, Charlottetown, PEI**

***What is equity in education?***

**Agenda**

**AM**

8:00 - 8:45

**Registration** – Victorian Room

**Visit Displays** – Provinces Room (downstairs)

8:45

**Welcome Delegates/Board** – Lisa MacDougall, President

Commemoration 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary The Battle of Vimy Ridge (16 second video)

Business Meeting - Parliamentarian: Marion Murphy

1. Adoption of Agenda 2017
2. Adoption of Minutes 2016
3. President's Report
4. Adoption of Finance Report (Shelley Muzika)
5. Other Reports (Accepted as circulated in Book of Reports)
6. Resolutions (Heather Mullen)

10:00

**Nutrition Break / View Displays** – Provinces Room (downstairs)

7. Nominations Report/Elections (Peter Rukavina)
8. New Business
9. Adjournment of Business Meeting

11:00

**Speakers on Equity in Education**

1. Bill Whelan
2. Rachel Schofield-Martin
3. Mitchell Murphy

**PM**

12 Noon

**Break for Luncheon** - Delegates / Guests to move downstairs to the Georgian Room by 12:15 p.m

12:15

**Luncheon:**

**Greetings:**

Patron: The Honourable H. Frank Lewis, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island  
Hon. Doug Currie, Minister Education, Early Learning, and Culture  
Parker Grimmer, Director Public Schools Branch  
Awards Presentations

1:00

**School Food Video**

1:15

**Closing Remarks** –

Request delegates to move upstairs to Victorian Room for Round Table.

1:30 – 2:30

**What is equity in education?** - Facilitated Roundtable Discussion

## 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.

### MEETING TIPS

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

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.  
2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS/COMMITTEES**

<b><u>Name</u></b>		<b><u>Term Ends</u></b>
President	Lisa MacDougall	(AGM 2018)
Past President	Peter Rukavina	(AGM 2018)
Vice President	Cory Thomas	(AGM 2018)
Treasurer	Shelley Muzika	(AGM 2017)
Secretary	Heather Mullen	(AGM 2017)
<b><u>REGIONAL DIRECTORS – Families of Schools:</u></b>		
Bluefield	Windsor Wight	(AGM 2017)
Charlottetown Rural	Tami Lewis	(AGM 2018)
Colonel Gray	Sandy Nicholson	(AGM 2018)
Kensington	Trevor Moase	(AGM 2017)
Kinkora	Donna MacLeod	(AGM 2018)
Montague	Leah Munro	(AGM 2018)
Morell	Nathan Jay	(AGM 2018)
Souris	Tara Hill Burke	(AGM 2017)
Three Oaks	Virginia Doyle	(AGM 2017)
Westisle	Kelly Herget	(AGM 2017)
Executive Director	Shirley Smedley Jay	
Administrative Assistant	Cherie LeMoine	

**2016-2017 DIRECTORY OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**

<b><u>SCHOOL</u></b>	<b><u>PRESIDENT/CO-CHAIR</u></b>
Alberton Elementary	Jennifer Rozell
Amherst Cove Consolidated	Sharon Kamperman
Athena Consolidated	Kim Studer
Belfast Consolidated	Marcella Ryan/Debbie Beck
Birchwood Intermediate	Erin Costello
Bloomfield Elementary	Katie MacLennan/Jaclyn Gallant
Bluefield High	Karen Clare
Cardigan Consolidated	Twila Palmer
Central Queens Elementary	Carrie Barlow
Charlottetown Rural High	Margaret Morse
Colonel Gray High	Denise Spenceley
Donagh Regional	Bobbi Ford/Tracey Magennis MacDonald
East Wiltshire Intermediate	Maxine Mallett
Eliot River Elementary	Laura Hagan Grant/Kara Smith
Ellerslie Elementary	Paula Walfield
Elm Street Elementary	Terri-Lynn Gallant

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

Rosie MacFarlane/Rachel Lowther-Doiron  
Mallory Peters  
Paula Pollard/Kathy Campbell  
Angela Carpenter/Karen Seigny  
Julie Walsh  
Kelly Shea Rayner  
Patricia Cole  
Janet Payne  
Cathy Hennessey/Tanya MacLean-Kelly  
Sonia Wallace/Shelley Williams  
Wendi Blacklock/Kellie Arsenault  
Sarah Somers-MacKay  
Kevin Stonefield  
Seana Evans-Renaud  
Shanell MacKinnon  
Linda Craig  
Jeannie Burden  
Jack Wheeler  
Joanna Stewart/Sara Courtney  
Ramona Doyle/Kristy Phillips  
Alexandra Keedwell  
Darby McCormick/Bev Campbell  
Janna-Lynne Durant  
Tish Shea  
Cindy Gallant  
Jennifer Duffy  
Krystal Jamieson  
Krystal MacKay  
Sheldon Opps  
Tracey Willoughby  
Nathalie Fraser/Danielle Boyce  
Andrea Pickett/Jennifer Caron  
Leigh Dymont  
Teena Callaghan  
Janessa Gormley/Margie Burns  
Mary Robinson/Sally Curtis-Murray  
Vanessa Ford/Lori Ferguson-Brown  
Kelly Herget  
Margo Thistle



**Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.**  
**Minutes (Draft) of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday, April 9, 2016**  
**Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI**

Call to Order

President Peter Rukavina called the meeting to order at 8:48 a.m.  
Marion Murphy acted as Parliamentarian. Lisa MacDougall 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 2016

**MOTION:** That the agenda be approved as presented.  
Moved by Shelley Muzika. Seconded by Heather Mullen. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.      Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes 2015

**MOTION:** That the minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.  
Moved by Heather Mullen. Seconded by Windsor Wight. **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 Cory Thomas. **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 approved as presented.  
Moved by Shelley Muzika. Seconded by Tara Burke. **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

Heather Mullen, PEIHSF Director, Morell Family of Schools, chaired the resolution portion of the meeting

## **PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION 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

<p><b>MOTION:</b> To approve Resolution 1-2016. Moved by Andrea Richards Seconded by Jennifer Rozelle. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
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### **RESOLUTION 2-2016      TEACHING PROFESSION ACT**

**Submitted by Alberton 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

**MOTION:** To move Resolution 2-2016 to the floor. Moved by Andrea Richards. Seconded by Jennifer Rozelle. **MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To table Resolution 2-2016 and establish a working group to explore the issue further. Moved by Kimberley Studer. Seconded by Nathan Jay. **MOTION CARRIED**

**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*<sup>1</sup> 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.”

**MOTION:** To approve Resolution 3-2016 with a friendly amendment to remove the second “Be it further resolved.” Moved by Courtney Woods. Seconded by Marla Gidney. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approved wording is as follows:

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.

**MOTION:** To approve Resolution 3-2016 as amended. Moved by Peter Rukavina. Seconded by Cory Thomas. **MOTION CARRIED**

### **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%<sup>1</sup>, and

WHEREAS PEI's population is projected to increase from 147,590 in 2016 to 161,792 by 2055<sup>2</sup>, 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 year<sup>1</sup>, 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](http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/pt_pop_proj.pdf))

**MOTION:** To amend Resolution 4-2016 to include teachers and educational assistants. Moved by Karen White. Seconded by Kim Porter. **MOTION CARRIED**

Approved wording is as follows:

1. Sufficient resources be allocated to support and augment the current recruitment program aimed at attracting and retaining high-quality French Immersion teachers and educational assistants to PEI;
2. Ensuring that there is a sufficient pool of qualified French Immersion substitute teachers

- and educational assistants 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 and educational assistants to maintain French proficiency

**MOTION:** To approve Resolution 4-2016 as amended. Moved by Sheldon Opps. Seconded by Tracy Ellsworth. **MOTION CARRIED**

**LATE 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 defibrillators<sup>i</sup>, and

WHEREAS when an automated external defibrillator and CPR are immediately available, the chance of survival from sudden cardiac arrest is substantially improved<sup>1</sup>, and when combined with CPR, the use of an automated external defibrillator may increase the likelihood of survival by 75% or more<sup>ii</sup>, 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%<sup>iii</sup>, 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<sup>iv</sup>), 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.iklQLcMWJtE/b.3799199/k.F45A/Position\\_Statements](http://www.heartandstroke.com/site/c.iklQLcMWJtE/b.3799199/k.F45A/Position_Statements)

Public\_access\_to\_Automated\_External\_Defibrillators\_AEDs\_Position\_Statement.htm

iv Health PEI, <http://www.healthpei.ca/ambulanceresponsetimes>

iv Health PEI, <http://www.healthpei.ca/ambulanceresponsetimes>

**MOTION:** To move Late Resolution 5-2016 to the floor for discussion. Moved by Darby McCormick. Seconded by Jackie Ellis. **MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** To amend Resolution 5-2016 to “reduce 50% of the staff at each school to 10% of the staff at each school. Moved by Tracy Ellsworth. Seconded by Margaret Morse. **MOTION DEFEATED.**

**MOTION:** To approve Resolution 5-2016 as written. Moved by Darby McCormick. Seconded by Jackie Ellis. **MOTION CARRIED**

7 Nominating Report/Elections:

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

**EXECUTIVE**

**Executive Positions:**

President

Vice President

**Nominees:**

Lisa MacDougall

Cory Thomas

**Two Year Term Expires:**

2018

2018

**REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

**Family of Schools:**

Charlottetown Rural

Colonel Gray

Kinkora

Montague

Morell

**Nominees:**

Tami Lewis

Sandy Nicholson

Donna MacLeod

Leah Munro

Nathan Jay

**Two Year Term Expires**

2018

2018

2018

2018

2018

**MOTION:** That the candidates presented to fill the vacant positions on the PEIHSF be confirmed as presented Moved by Shelly Muzika Seconded by Heather Mullen **MOTION CARRIED**

The 2016-2017 PEIHSF Board of Directors and Executive will consist of:

<b>EXECUTIVE</b>		<b>TERM EXPIRES</b>
President:	Lisa MacDougall	2018
Vice President:	Cory Thomas	2018
Past President:	Peter Rukavina	2018
Treasurer:	Shelley Muzika	2017
Secretary:	To be filled Post-AGM by the Federation Board	

**REGIONAL DIRECTORS (Family of Schools)**

Westisle	Kelley Herget	2017
Three Oaks	To be filled Post-AGM by the Federation Board	
Kensington	Trevor Moase	2017
Bluefield	Windsor Wright	2017
Souris	Tara Hill Burke	2017
Charlottetown Rural	Tami Lewis	2018
Colonel Gray	Sandy Nicholson	2018
Kinkora	Donna MacLeod	2018
Montague	Leah Munro	2018
Morell	Nathan Jay	2018

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 Shelley Muzika moved for adjournment at 11:00 a.m



**Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.**  
**Minutes (Draft) of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Semi-Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 25, 2016, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**  
**Gulf Shore Consolidated School, North Rustico, PEI**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President, Lisa MacDougall at 6:05 p.m. Lisa welcomed members and guests to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Semi-Annual Meeting of the PEI Home and School Federation.

2. Adoption of Agenda October 25, 2016

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as presented.

Moved by Marion Hendrickson. Seconded by Sara Courtney. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Approval of Minutes of October 20, 2015 Meeting

**MOTION:** To approve the October 20, 2015 minutes as circulated.

Moved by Windsor Wight. Seconded by Shannon Johnston. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Treasurer's Report

**MOTION:** To approve the financial update as presented by Shelley Muzika, Treasurer

Moved by Peter Rukavina. Seconded by Windsor Wight. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. President's Report

Lisa MacDougall's written report for October 25, 2016 was included in a hand out to meeting delegates. It contained the following highlights:

- The Federation is focusing on supporting local home and school associations through the changes in education governance and public consultations around restructuring
- Four home and school members were awarded the Dr. Helen MacDonald collaboration and Facilitation Scholarship to attend the Collaborative Leadership and Facilitation Course at UPEI
- The Federation is working on a strategy to bring a universal healthy school lunch program. Tracy Michael has been hired to assist with the development of a report on school food in Prince Edward Island to be received December 30, 2016.
- The screening of the film "Cafeteria Man" led to inviting Tony Geraci to be the key-note speaker for the Semi-Annual Meeting

6. New Business No new business.

7. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn by 6:20 p.m. by Shelley Muzika. Seconded by Carol Smith. Chef Sarah Bennetto O'Brien prepared a delicious, locally sourced meal for delegates. Following this everyone gathered to hear key-note speaker, Chef Tony Geraci, Chef and Food Service Consultant about transforming school food. This was followed by a series of break-out sessions with Chef Tony Geraci, Susan Roberts, Alberta Food Matters; Dr. Tammy Hubley-Little, Director, Leadership and Learning, Education, Early Learning and Culture.

Respectfully submitted, Heather Mullen, Recording Secretary

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION****Lisa MacDougall, President**

The primary goals of the Federation during my first year as President have been to support our local home and school associations through the changes in education governance and to advocate for a universal provincial school food program. Resting on the efforts of past presidents in building a spirit of collaboration among education partners, we have worked to ensure that the voices of all members of school communities, including parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff are included in the discussion around education. As always, we have held the well-being of all Island children at the centre of our work.

Over the past year, I watched with interest and pride as local home and school associations, united home and school associations and school communities voiced their thoughts, feelings and ideas during the school review process. I met with government and community organizations to discuss education governance and collaboration. And I watched with increasing excitement as interest and enthusiasm grew to what can only be called a movement around school food.

**School Review**

In June 2015, prior to my term as president, the PEI Home and School Federation submitted feedback on the Proposed Board Governance Policy - School Change, which was formally adopted by English Language School Board formally adopted the policy at its meeting on October 27, 2015.

At the request of the PEI Home and School Federation, a new clause, 1.2, was added: "The English Language School Board recognizes that schools are interconnected with the communities that surround them and close relationships between home, school and community positively affect public education."

**District Advisory Councils**

At the final ELSCB board meeting on June 14, I presented a brief history and purpose of school boards and school trustees in PEI and Canada, emphasizing the important role of citizen engagement in education. Since then, we have met several times with the Minister and Deputy Minister to discuss Department plans for addressing unequal distribution of resources among Island schools, the membership of the District Advisory Councils, and the public consultations around restructuring.

In the summer of 2016, we engaged our regional directors, who sit on the Advisory Councils, in an exercise to reflect on the progress of the Councils up to that point, with an eye to making recommendations on the way forward. Based on this exercise, and grounded in our 60 year experience in engaging home and school in conversation, we presented five recommendations to the Deputy Minister in August 2016: that the members of each District Advisory Council be involved in the decision making process about how the meetings are structured, including decisions about meeting facilitation, recording methods, and publication; that the members of each District Advisory Council have input into the creation of the agenda for each meeting; that the members of each District Advisory Council be given

the option of requesting that the meetings be chaired or co-chaired by the PEIHSF Regional Representative on that District Advisory Council; that any key messages and minutes must be agreed upon by members of each of the District Advisory Councils prior to their publication; that the representative to the District Advisory Council from each school be chosen by that school's Home & School Association or Parent Council, and that the eligibility for the representative continues to be the broad pool of parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff that make up each home and school association.

Our emphasis throughout this process has been on building on the spirit of collaboration that has been the heart of the PEI Home and School Federation for over sixty years. In support of these efforts, four home and school members were awarded the Dr. Helen MacDonald Collaboration and Facilitation Scholarship and have received their certifications in Collaborative Leadership and Facilitation from UPEI. They are now prepared to assist local home and schools define their education priorities, develop community networks around school food programs, and facilitate discussions about other projects.

### **Universal Provincial School Food Program**

The second focus of the Federation since the AGM, and for the past 2 years, has been to implement a strategy to bring a universal healthy school lunch program to Prince Edward Island children. We have been participating in ongoing discussions with the Public Schools Branch, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, local home and school associations and other stakeholders about the benefits and opportunities around a school lunch strategy for the province. An update on our progress can be found on the [peihsf.ca](http://peihsf.ca) website.

It is our expectation that pilot projects will be running in several schools by September 2017. In expectation of this, we have developed the Guiding Principles for School Food in PEI that will be voted on at the 2017 AGM. It is our hope that the Prince Edward Island provincial school lunch strategy will be a model for how all stakeholders in education can be brought together to promote their shared values for the benefit and wellbeing of all Island children. Let's do the right thing.

### **Our Excellent and Dedicated Staff**

Our work as a Federation could not happen without the work of our dedicated staff: Executive Director, Shirley Jay and administrative support person Cherie LeMoine. Over the past 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 must also go to the members of our provincial board: the executive, and our regional directors (one for each family of schools) who have worked together to ensure that the Federation continues to prosper. Please take a moment to thank them for volunteering their time and energy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa MacDougall

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David A. Wright Professional Corporation  
Chartered Professional Accountant

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Charlottetown, PE, C1A 8W5  
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Facsimile: (902) 566-5678  
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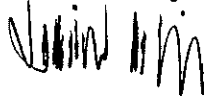
**REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

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, 2016 and the statement of operations, changes in net assets 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 Professional Corporation  
Chartered Professional Accountant

Charlottetown, PE

March 12, 2017


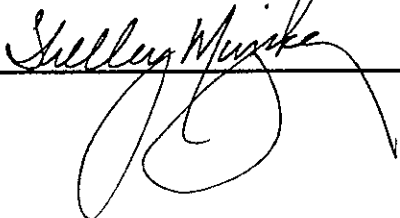
**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Statement 1

(UNAUDITED)

	2016	2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and deposits	\$ 68,027	\$ 118,624
Accounts receivable, trade	150	200
Harmonized sales tax receivable	1,569	1,574
	<u>\$ 69,746</u>	<u>\$ 120,398</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,312	\$ 1,622
Government remittances payable	276	626
Deferred revenue (Note 4)	19,637	22,437
	<u>21,225</u>	<u>24,685</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>48,521</u>	<u>95,713</u>
	<u>\$ 69,746</u>	<u>\$ 120,398</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

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**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND EXCESS**  
**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Statement 2

(UNAUDITED)

	2016	2015
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Grants	\$ 77,300	\$ 80,143
Membership dues	4,450	4,400
Donations and fund raising	103	975
Registration and display fees	4,180	4,265
Investment income	462	964
	<u>86,495</u>	<u>90,747</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising, donations and awards	1,403	1,907
Meetings	9,981	6,054
Parental Engagement	17,502	23,035
Postage	414	184
Professional fees	1,625	1,284
Rent	2,904	2,899
Supplies	3,193	5,876
Telephone	1,278	1,216
Training and education	8,994	
Travel and conference	7,411	6,244
Wages and benefits	75,722	51,482
Wellness sessions	3,260	
	<u>133,687</u>	<u>100,181</u>
<b>DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (47,192)</b>	<b>\$ (9,434)</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

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**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.**

Statement 3

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS****YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

(UNAUDITED)

		Invested in Capital Assets	Unrestricted	2016	2015
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$	\$	95,713	\$ 95,713	\$ 105,147
Deficiency of revenues over expenses			(47,192)	(47,192)	(9,434)
Purchase of tangible assets					
BALANCE, END OF YEAR	\$	\$	48,521	\$ 48,521	\$ 95,713

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

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**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Statement 4

(UNAUDITED)

	2016	2015
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Cash receipts	\$ 83,750	\$ 88,334
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(134,347)	(100,440)
<b>DECREASE IN CASH AND DEPOSITS</b>	<b>(50,597)</b>	<b>(12,106)</b>
<b>CASH AND DEPOSITS, beginning of year</b>	<b>118,624</b>	<b>130,730</b>
<b>CASH AND DEPOSITS, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 68,027</b>	<b>\$ 118,624</b>
<b>AS REPRESENTED BY:</b>		
TD Canada Trust investor account	\$ 1,021	\$ 1,001
TD Canada Trust operating account	31,787	17,329
TD Canada Trust term investment account	35,219	100,294
	<b>\$ 68,027</b>	<b>\$ 118,624</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



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**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2016**

(UNAUDITED)

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**1. MISSION**

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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.

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**2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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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.

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# PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2016

(UNAUDITED)

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### 3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

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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

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### 4. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2016	2015
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	\$ 18,625
Telus project	1,012	1,012
Wellness project		2,800
	\$ 19,637	\$ 22,437

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

History is not only for looking backward, but also for looking forward!

The following is an excerpt from a record of Home and Schools's first twenty years: *History 1953-1973 - The Prince Edward Island Federation of Home and School Associations*, compiled by the late Hesta MacDonald, President 1965-1967. This publication was made possible through a grant from the Prince Edward Island 1973 Centennial Commission.

*Education needs were very pressing in P.E.I. during those years when parents and teachers were forming a provincial federation in an effort to better the school system. Many changes and improvements have come about in the past two decades, but major changes do not occur overnight. (Pg 35)*

*On March 6, 1962, the President, Eric Kipping, and other members of provincial executive presented a brief to the members of the Legislature, pinpointing five areas of greatest need in education in the province \*Teacher Training \*Adult Education \*Public Health Services \*Libraries \*Vocational Guidance (Pg 36)*

The PEI Home and School Federation's mission is to exist to promote the total well-being of children and the highest standards of education for each child in the province. I am asked questions that are directly linked to the mission and how do "we" carry out this mission. The provincial office, in cooperation with board members, offers advice and services to local members in a variety of ways.

Communication - Post mail is circulated September 1<sup>st</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>; electronic mailings monthly with reminders issued on a needs basis. The September mailing contains information for the president (memo/calendar), treasurer (membership fee form) and secretary (contact info sheet). The PEIHSF website is kept up-to-date with resources, calendars and current Home and School news.

Leadership Training Workshop – Training sessions are held the end of September for new and old members. Register to learn more about how to effectively run your local Home and School.

Semi-Annual – A bi-annual meeting, held in October, will provide updates on current educational activities within the Federation and PEI's education system.

Resolutions – Consider issues for change in December. Educational matters requiring change are to be considered and submitted to the Federation by January 31<sup>st</sup>. We can help! Contact the office to find out how to write a resolution.

Awards – The Federation recognizes special people in our system in a number of ways. Our annual award program includes: Extra Mile Awards are presented to two teachers and/or staff; Volunteer Award recognizes one Home and School individual annually; Life Member is presented to an individual who has contributed locally and provincially to Home and School, when appropriate; School Bus Driver

Award presents two recognitions in June and a School Crossing Guard also in June.

Parent Leadership grants – Funding is offered to support educational sessions for parents where they can learn how to better support their child's learning. Submit applications November 30<sup>th</sup>. These will be reviewed by mid-December. There were thirteen projects reviewed and awarded funding for 2016-17. Projects covered topics: helping parents with cyber bullying and mental health issues, equipping parents with tools to help their children with numeracy, events where parents and students explore the world of art, and food—where it comes from, how to prepare it and education around healthy eating at home and in school.

Smoking Prevention – The total health and well being of children and youth is part of our mission. The PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance and Council For a Smoke Free PEI are refocusing on prevention efforts – aimed at youth! Cessation has been much of previous year's efforts. Prevention is key with more tobacco-like products on the market. Electronic cigarettes have 7000 flavours being offered to consumers which include youth. Legalization and regulation of cannabis is being discussed with a focus on protecting the young. See Canadian Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey report at: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hc-ps/drugs-drogués/stat/2012/summary-sommaire-eng.php>

Collaboration and Facilitation - Learning the skills for collaborating and facilitating more effectively has been the focus of the Dr. Helen MacDonald Scholarship recipients. These newly trained facilitators will be offering assistance to local associations. If you are looking for help with running meetings and how to tackle issues in a constructive manner in your Home and School, contact the Federation.

Today, the Home and School history is written by local Home and School presidents and co-chairs in the form of annual reports. These are inserted in the Federation's Annual Book of Reports. Together we are writing the history of Home and School in Prince Edward Island. Be sure to read these rich stories told by members from our school communities.

The goals of the PEI Home and School Federation work to support and encourage the whole school community's engagement in PEI's education system for the purpose of encouraging students to achieve their personal best. This year's school review process has shown that working together, as a team in our school communities, is best. Together we can learn how to interact within the education system to provide the best possible learning experience for children and youth in PEI.

Much gratitude goes to Lisa MacDougall, PEIHSF president and board members for their dedicated service to the school community – for children and youth in this province. Many hours of meetings take place where current educational affairs are discussed and carefully thought through with decisions made that always have all Island children's benefit in mind. I wish to thank our office support person, Cherie LeMoine, for her dedicated work over the past year on the many office tasks that are handled with care and respect.

*If you are asked to do a task, do not hesitate to begin the work of learning how to do the task and keep the child in the centre of every task done in Home and School!*

**ALBERTON HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Jennifer Rozell, President**

**Executive Members:**

Vice President- Ellen Rennie

Secretary: Andrea Richard

Treasurer: Melissa Williams

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 on the Face book page to communicate to both staff and parents.

Our fundraising efforts in the past year will be used to replace our school library with new books and furnishings.

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 and the Healthy Eating Alliance, 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 five days per week. Meals are provided by a local business and/or made right at our school. The menu changes monthly and includes such choices as: chicken soup, pasta, chicken dinner, pizza, etc.

For Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week the committee members, along with parents, provided the staff with beverages, treats, and three hot meals.

Our Home and School committee continues to work well together, keeping in mind the interests of our staff and students. As we move forward, we will be focusing on creating a welcoming library, conducive to reading, with new fiction and non-fiction literature. We look forward to completing this project by Fall 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Rozell

**AMHERST COVE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Sharon Kamperman, President**

Members: Krista Murphy – Treasurer & Parent District 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 every first Tuesday of the month to plan events and discuss multiple topics related to families and education in the community.

**Involvement 2015/2016:**

- Fall 2016 to present – School review: Our family of schools has been working hard and with our MLA, Town Councils, community members and local businesses to create a recommendation for the Public Schools Branch in keeping our schools open in a creative way. Amherst Cove Consolidated Home and School proposed an idea for all rural schools on PEI to become community/hub schools like those in British Columbia and Nova Scotia.
- May 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 –The Little Mermaid production at the Confederation Center Our Home and School committee would like to revive this tradition of a field trip in a cultural environment especially where this production is put on by high school students. This event is sponsored by Vector Aero Space (\$500) and our Home and School
- Breakfast Program – runs every Tuesday morning along with the healthy snack initiative! Students are treated every few weeks to healthy recess snacks from the local gem, Scapes Restaurant and Samuels Coffee house in Summerside.

This year ACCS Healthy Eating Programs has received a generous donation of \$2000 from Master Packaging Inc! Beyond grateful for this generous sponsorship that will ensure our Breakfast & Snack Programs run well into the 2017-2018 school year! Many thanks to all local organizations, businesses & individuals who support our healthy eating programming:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| - The Town of Borden-Carleton         | - Borden-Carleton TOPS Chapter                     |
| -The Province of Prince Edward Island | - Mrs. Dunster's Bakery                            |
| - Consolidated Credit Union           | - Spice up your Life - Epicure with Jacinta Keough |
| - Scapes Fresh, Local Takeout         | - Ceretti's Grocery & Hardware                     |
| - Mario Henry & Family                | - The Butcher's Block                              |
| - Mid Isle Farms                      |  |
| - Tryon U-Pick Blueberry Farm         |  |

- Staff Appreciation Month! – In previous years we noticed that staff member's bellies were a little overwhelmed so the parents and students brought snacks and treats to all staff members every Wednesday from February 8<sup>th</sup> to March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- April 2017 – Family SM-ART Night! We will be setting up various media stations for families at ACC to come and create fine art pieces in the gymnasium. This event will create a hands-on learning experience for the parent as well as the child. Our goal is to give our students and their families a much needed exposure to the arts. Creativity and imagination that is brought out through the arts help students with problem solving and other skills needed throughout their education. It will help parents/caregivers learn to be open to new ideas and approaches from their child and patience that will carry over into their homework time together. A relaxed and fun atmosphere will help parents feel more comfortable where they can be more open to connect and communicate with the school
- Spring 2017 - The ACCS Art Program is a fundraising project from the students of Amherst Cove. Our students will create a class project for auction at the spring concert in June 2017. This annual project is to raise funds for the Pure Art Foundation initiative of the *One School for All* program ([www.pureartfoundation.org](http://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 their music program. Art supplies donated by ACC Home & School (\$100) and the students of ACC (recycling deposits, \$250).

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**

President: Kimberley Studer  
School Administration: Jerry McAulay, Principal  
Treasurer: Jennifer Tang-Campbell  
Elementary Liaison: Lorelei MacArthur

Athena's Home and School meetings are held on the first Monday of each month from 6:30-8:00pm. To date, six meetings have been held, with three more planned for March, April and May. We have two committees that meet, our general home and school group and then a specific playground fundraising committee. 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.
- We also have a Home and School Facebook page, one for regular members working on fundraising efforts and one for all families

**Special Events & Fundraising:**

- Our committee planned and ran a fall and winter dance for the Elementary students.
- In November we ran a carnival night for students and families. We partnered with the junior high leadership kids in this event, and they designed and ran the stations.
- We ran a raffle for the playground fund in November and a second one in February.
- Many parents helped out in February, as they do every year, with Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week activities
- In March we will be hosting our third Annual Bingo for the school families and the community.
- We will also be partnering with Vesey Seeds to fundraise for the playground in April.
- In May we are partnering with Township dealership to run a Drive for Students event.

We plan on buying a piece of new playground equipment for the school this summer. We have not reached our goal but feel that many families have been hearing about the playground for years and deserve to see something added for the children.



**BELFAST CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Marcella Ryan, President**

**Executive:**

Debbie Beck, Vice President

Secretary, Leah Munro

Treasurer, Tammy Davies

Our Home and School association has had a very busy and stressful year with the recommendation to close our school. Most of our time has been focused on strategies to keep Belfast School the centre of our community

There was a "Belfast Community Action Committee" formed which includes many of our parents along with aunts, uncles, grandparents, business owners and concerned residents of Belfast. There has been, and continues to be, numerous meetings with regards to this recommendation. There was a largely attended community fundraiser held in February which showcased incredible talent within our school and community! We've participated in public consultations and rallies and continue to send a strong and positive message that Belfast School matters to our community!

On February 15, we invited Paul Bennett to our school to present on HUB schools which was largely attended.

Our students have been busy through the year with numerous field trips to Wood Islands Lighthouse, Morrison's Beach, Fire Hall, Davies Sheep Farm, Belfast Mini Mills, Confederation Centre and Brookvale Ski Park. We assist with transportation costs when needed for these field trips

Our sports teams include volleyball, cross country, golf, basketball, badminton, wrestling, and gymnastics. Our boys' volleyball team had a very successful season winning the silver medal at provincials. GoPEI also ran a free afterschool program for grades K - 3 in the fall with help from our grade 8 and 9 students.

The school choir continued this year and had the chance to sing the national anthem at the Storm game in February! There was a strings program introduced this year which was enjoyed by many students. The Duke of Edinburgh Awards program is offered again this year for our grade 9 students

Our only fundraising this year was the magazine/giftware campaign which proved to be successful again.

We continue to offer a daily hot lunch and healthy snack program which is coordinated by Tammy Davies. This is our second year having the breakfast program which continues to be sponsored by the Montague Rotary Club. The Point Prim/Mt. Buchanan Women's Institute held a free breakfast at the school in late fall for all students, staff and volunteers in the school

Our staff appreciation week was interrupted by multiple storms so we are looking at providing treats for them in the near future.

Our Home and School is looking forward to next year when we can focus our time and energy on our students! We are looking forward to attending the Annual General Meeting this spring

**BIRCHWOOD INTERMEDIATE PARENT COUNCIL****Erin Costello, Chair**

Birchwood Parent Council has had four productive meetings so far this year, one of which was held in the evening, and two of which involved a luncheon graciously hosted by the school. Although it has been a small group of parents, those that attend are enthusiastic and committed to helping support the Birchwood community. The meetings are also well-attended by several staff. Plans are for the next meeting to take place in the next couple of weeks in early March.

**Meeting Topics for Discussion:**

Discussion around healthy cell phone use and student mental health took place. Initiatives already organized with presenters were shared. Sharing of information about the PEI Home and School Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting, which focused on healthy eating, was also a topic. However, much of the focus this year has been linked to the Public School Branch's "Review of Schools". We felt that this review process was going to greatly impact the school culture and population at Birchwood and, as a result, wanted to prioritize our focus, time and energy in advocating for the students and staff at Birchwood Intermediate School.

**This Year's Focus:**

Based on our focus and possible upcoming changes to the school zoning which would greatly affect Birchwood, we approached the issues during meetings in the following way:

Firstly, we received feedback from our parent representative Angus Orford, who is Birchwood's representative on the District Advisory Council. He was able to share with us concerns that were raised at their meetings as well as a joined meeting of representatives from both the Charlottetown Rural Family of Schools and the Colonel Gray Family of Schools. Many discussions took place around concerns that Birchwood Home and School has communicated to government for the last several years.

Secondly, we felt it was imperative to respond to certain media clips which portrayed Birchwood in a negative slant. At the time, we believed the best way to do this was to present accurate and positive information about the student population at Birchwood, as well as many of the attributes of the school's location and facilities. We thought that a presentation at the first Colonel Gray Family of Schools meeting in the School Review Process was a great avenue to accomplish this goal. Many members of our Council contributed greatly to the assembly of material for the presentation.

We also submitted a formal letter to the Board outlining our perspectives on the need for rezoning in order to address the consistent and dramatic declining enrollment at Birchwood, as well as the overpopulation issues at Stonepark. Other issues that we addressed included making education opportunities more equitable for all students in PEI through equal access to resources. In the near future, a concern and focus we would like to address is making any new Birchwood students and their families feel welcome at Birchwood. Additionally, we would also like to help ease the transition for current students at Birchwood, as they will also likely be impacted by recommendations which will lead to a dramatic increase in the student population at Birchwood. One idea discussed was to organize a public open house at Birchwood. We are waiting on final decisions to be made by the School Review Board to make plans for further steps.

There have been many changes in our education system in the last couple of years. Our Parent Council is very proud of our school and of the efforts and achievements of our students and staff. This pride is the basis of our motivation to support Birchwood in whatever ways we can.

**BLUEFIELD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Karen Clare, President**

Our Home and School Association meets about five times during the school year. Our membership comprises 20 people, including our Principal, with five to ten members attending each meeting. Those who are not able to attend are kept up-to-date via e-mail.

During the school year, we encourage our members to take part in school-sponsored activities, PEIHSF-sponsored activities, etc. Our Home and School Association is not involved with fundraising for Bluefield High School. Over the school year various members have participated in the following activities:

- Bluefield Family of Schools District Advisory Council – two of our Home and School Association members (one represents Bluefield High School and one represents East Wiltshire Intermediate School) as well as two of our high school students have attended several meetings this year. On behalf of our Home and School Association, our representatives have the opportunity to share our priorities with other District Advisory Council members as well as the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture.
- PEI Home and School Semi-annual and Annual Meetings – our members are encouraged to attend both of these meetings. These meetings allow our members to network with their counterparts and participate in important discussions. Our Home and School Association appreciates the information shared by the attendees.
- Student and Parent Survey – our members reviewed and discussed survey results and contributed input as to where Bluefield may want to focus its efforts in addressing issues that were raised.
- School Goals Report 2016-19 – our members contributed to the creation of a SMART goal to improve communication with parents (via parent-teacher interviews) to increase parents' knowledge of what their children are learning and provide support for their children's academic success.
- Bluefield Web Site – our members provided ideas as to web site modifications that can be made to entice parents, students and the public to visit this web site more often. They also provided input as to innovative ways to incorporate extra-curricular and community news into this web site.
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon – with good planning and organization by our members, this event has again been successful. This luncheon is much appreciated by teachers and staff.

This has been a busy year and we appreciate our members' participation and contributions to our Home and School Association.

**CARDIGAN CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Twila Palmer / Trudy Greencorn, Co-Chairs**

**Executive:**

Treasurer: Darlene Gallant

Cardigan Consolidated school consists of 98 students Grades K-6. Our meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. We are a very small group with 3 -5 parents as well as our principal but we are a very dedicated group.

We began the year at Meet the Teacher night to highlight the role of the Home and School but to also explain the importance of it. We also used this opportunity to invite new people to join, ways to volunteer and the benefits of becoming involved. We also hosted a Family Fun Night which consisted of games and a bbg as a way for students, parents and teachers to interact with one another. We contribute monthly to the school's newsletters and when needed, send home additional information for upcoming events.

Our healthy snack program is provided 5 mornings a week for all students. This is made possible through parent volunteers going to the school each morning to prepare the snack and for parent volunteers picking up the healthy snack each week. We do have a lunch program available on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Teacher Appreciation Week is held during the March session of parent teacher interviews. There is always a great response from parents who provide a potluck supper on Thursday night of the interviews for all teachers and support staff to sit down together and enjoy.

Our parent engagement project for this year was "Making a Connection Through Art" workshop. We had a local artist come into the school on two different nights to provide an informal art workshop with the end goal of each participant painting a picture. This was a very successful project this year; we had a large turnout of students and parents.

We held two fundraising events during the year and the money raised went towards library books, a new smart board, 50 new chairs for the gym, a field trip for the whole school to the Cari pool and a pancake breakfast during winter carnival week.

Respectfully submitted,

Twila Palmer & Trudy Greencorn

**CENTRAL QUEENS ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Carrie Barlow, President****Executive:**

Rayanne Frizzell: Vice President

Cavelle Murphy-Sentner: Secretary

Kim MacLeod: Treasurer

Meetings are held the third Thursday of every other month in the school library at 7 PM. 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 November we had an elimination cash draw which was a great success! 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. The fundraisers we complete raise funds for such things as 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 will be hosting a Ford Drive 4UR School event this spring.

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 some 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 aid 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 again this year. We have played a supporting role in this change and have seen a very smooth transition.

Our average attendance at our Home and School meetings throughout the year is 10-15, 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**

**Margaret Morse, President**

**Executive:**

President-Margaret Morse

Treasurer-Tracy Willoughby

DAC Rep-Kate Lui

The Home and School works closely with school administration. There have been 4 meetings so far this year discussing such things as school curriculum, fundraising needs, school goals, website additions, etc.

This year, Charlottetown Rural had their first Raider Night--a school fundraiser that saw the Culinary 801 students (under Mrs. Dixon) paired with the Holland Collage/ Culinary Institute of Canada students. They provided a roving food experience at food stations throughout the school. As well, there were activities such as CRHS Band entertainment, silent auction, cake auction, Multicultural Expo, Voyageur Canoe viewing, robotics, Art Gallery (including students working on their art), Raider Science Lab and Island storm basketball fun in the gym. The students and staff worked tremendously hard on this event and it was a resounding success! The Home and School Rep on this was Sherri Hogan who proved to be an excellent liaison between the school and the Institute.

Staff appreciation was held on Tuesday (due to the many storm days that week). There was a great parent contribution of many sweets and muffins etc, as well as coffee and gift cards. We really appreciate our teachers and staff!

Home and School fundraising was held in September with a pass the hat donation from parents during the meet the teacher night. There will be the traditional \$500 donated to Grade 12 students at graduation:

This year Home and School started a blog that is included on the school website. This records the agendas and minutes of our meetings. There is also a Gmail address for parents to direct questions. Parents also continue to volunteer in sports and band activities, as well as support the Raider Night.

**COLONEL GRAY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Denise Spenceley / Patti Devine: Co-Chairs**

**Executive:** Secretary: Eileen Larkin

School District Advisory Council representative: Denise Spenceley

This is the first year for the Home and School Association at Colonel Gray since 1998-1999, and we are very pleased with the interest from the parent group as well as the cooperation from the school administration. The parent group met a couple of times last fall to confirm the structure and goals of the association and discuss emerging issues for the school population. It was decided that we would not be a fundraising organization but rather focus on the relationship with the school and parent organization as well as sharing of information, discussion on how it currently works, and ideas for improving the education and school experience for the students.

The school administration has worked closely with the new parent Home and School group and has been very supportive of the new association. One of the initial goals was to improve communication of school activities to the parent population. The principle now sends an update on a monthly basis through SAS of the current month's events and activities. As well, changes have been implemented to better educate parents and students on the POD system for the school population.

Colonel Gray students had the benefit of having Toni Geraci visit the school in November to talk to students about school lunch programs. Chef Toni Garcia visited Colonel at the end of October and met with the principal to discuss a new approach to food in the schools and to offer some suggestions on easy and healthy changes that could be implemented in the cafeteria. He also met with about 100 students including both culinary classes and sampled some of the food that they prepared. Students were happy to give their opinions and share their vision for the equity of food in society and how we can increase the quality of the food we eat.

As part of their well being goals, Colonel Gray was instrumental in having Dr Stan Kutcher come to PEI to speak to the Colonel Gray students about stress and strategies to handle it. He also tried to clarify some of the terminology as it relates to mental distress, anxiety, depression, mental illness, etc. Dr Kutcher also did 2 presentations to parents about the same topics. Improving student mental health and student well-being was also a goal of the parent group. Colonel Gray and the Police Association of PEI invited Dr. Stan Kutcher to present to parents and students in January providing an overview of mental health issues in young people (stress, anxiety, developing coping skills and strategies, etc.) and common language needed to effectively deal with mental health promotion, prevention and care.

Colonel Gray was the site chosen to pilot BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) in December. They gathered information and technical data and to work out the technical issues to make this possible on a go forward basis. Colonel Gray will be producing "The Little Mermaid" this year at the Confederation Centre, a major undertaking. The students and teachers involved have made a huge commitment which is much appreciated as the experience is wonderful for the students involved. Much of the work of this new organization in the initial stages has been providing feedback to the District Advisory representative for the school review process. With the Category II School Change recommendations committee and public presentations taking up a lot of time for parents, it has been more difficult to work on the specific issues at the Colonel Gray School. The amount of time parents have put into this process as well as the presentations at the public meetings has been much appreciated and truly showed the interest in improving the education system for our students.

**DONAGH REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Bobbi Ford, Chair**

**Executive:**

Tracey MacDonald - Co-Chair

Patti David- Secretary

Laura Lewis MacDonald- Treasurer

September started off with our annual Potluck/Meet the Teacher night that gives parents the opportunity to become familiar with the school and meet the staff.

Our lunch program provides healthy meals on Fridays prepared by volunteers.

The sale of community calendars provides us with our operating budget.

Home and School organized the Home Alone course to take place at Donagh for interested students and it was very well attended

One of our members attended the Semi-Annual Federation Meeting in the fall and is also a recipient of the Dr. Helen MacDonald Collaboration and Facilitation Scholarship. This has been very helpful as we have had extra meetings, specifically, about the school change review process being carried out by the Public Schools Branch. Our DAC representative, Lisa Baird, has been keeping us updated on their meetings and was pivotal in the submission of our report for Donagh.

We have been fortunate to continue our Annual Christmas Turkey Dinner for all students and staff by volunteers. Staff appreciation week parents generously sign up for food to be brought in that week. Home and School also helps out our families in need at Christmastime.

Home and School uses the school's monthly newsletter where we always add the board's contact information, and we have a Facebook page to reach parents. The PEI Home and School Federation's monthly newsletter also gets posted on the site.

We have submitted an application for the Parent Engagement Grant, the topic being on food--how it grows/sourced and nutrition.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Ford, Co-Chair

Donagh Home and School Association



**EAST WILTSHIRE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Maxine Mallett, President**

East Wiltshire Home and School Association meets 4-5 times during the school year. Our membership lists approx 40 members with 12-20 attending any given meeting. The meetings are always led by our principal, Mr. Wight, or a vice principal in his absence. Two or three teachers are in attendance. The main purpose of the meetings is for information sharing. The topics covered range from new programs, staffing changes and curriculum to cafeteria offerings, class trips, and student body concerns/ challenges. The format of our meetings is very informal, round table, and everyone has opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns, and express opinions. Parents can also stay informed on a daily basis using information posted on our school's website in the Daily Announcements, or via our Facebook page.

**Throughout the school year:**

- Our membership takes a keen interest in all things East Wiltshire. The very well attended meetings are evidence of this.
- Members volunteer to work the door at school dances. Dances are a very popular activity for our students and we appreciate the large number of EWS staff who attend each dance, providing a safe and enjoyable environment for students.
- We are proud to always have members represent EWS at both the Semi-Annual and Annual PEIHSF meetings and report back to the membership.
- A highlight of each school year is the Staff Appreciation Luncheon which takes place during Staff Appreciation Week in February. Parents sign up through an online form to donate food and a buffet style lunch is provided to staff. EWS staff always show great appreciation for this event.
- Natalie MacKinnon, one member of our school Resource Team, presented to our membership at a fall meeting. She covered topics of Programming, Interventions, Scheduling, Consultation/ Communication and Assessment as they pertain to Resource Programming at EWS. Those in attendance found the information interesting and appreciated the explanations of how Resource programs are delivered at EWS.
- Our final meeting each school year is a supper meeting at a local restaurant. It is a great time to reflect on our school year and socialize with members of our Home and School.

In closing I would like to thank Mr. Wight for his dedication to ensuring East Wiltshire Home and School is kept well informed throughout the year, the membership and staff reps for giving of their time and energy to attend meetings and help out when asked, and the student body and all EWS staff for making EWS such a great community of which to be a part. Together we are East Wiltshire School.

**ELIOT RIVER HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Kara Smith / Laura Hagan-Grant, Co-Chairs**

As a way to establish a mandate for our association, we distributed a five-question electronic survey to all parents and received over 120 responses. We used the responses to plan our activities for the year.

One concern raised in the survey was cyber safety and bullying. Therefore, in February, our Home and School hosted a parent information night with representatives from the RCMP presenting strategies to parents to keep their kids safe online.

Another topic that our families identified as important was how to teach your children about money. A representative from the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada spoke to parents on this topic in February.

Representatives from Eliot River attended an information night about the School Review process. Even though the Bluefield family of schools is not under review at this time, parents voiced concern over consistently large class sizes and difficulty with class composition. The Home and School will continue to stay up to date on any changes.

Ricardo Angel agreed to stay on for another two years as the Eliot River representative on the Family of Schools District Advisory Council for the Bluefield family of schools. Regular reports have been 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.

**Eliot River Home and School Executive**

Kara Smith, Co-Chair                      Jennifer Bowness, Treasurer  
Laura Hagen-Grant, Co-Chair

**Email and Blog:**

[eliotriverhsa@gmail.com](mailto:eliotriverhsa@gmail.com)

<http://eliotriverhsa.wikispaces.com>

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Kara Smith, Co-Chair                      Jennifer Bowness, Treasurer  
Laura Hagen-Grant, Co-Chair

**Email and Blog:**

[eliotriverhsa@gmail.com](mailto:eliotriverhsa@gmail.com)

<http://eliotriverhsa.wikispaces.com>

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

**Executive:**

Secretary: Charmaine Milligan

Treasurer: Cathy Lantz

**Communications:**

A key role of our Englewood Home and School Association is to serve as a point of communication between parents and teachers/staff, as well as among parents themselves. To that end, we maintain an active Home and School Association Facebook page. We find that this is an excellent tool to share information about school events, promote our Home and School Association, and provide a forum for parents and staff to communicate.

Following the province-wide threat to schools in September 2016, many parents had questions and concerns about emergency response procedures. Englewood Home and School Association hosted a well attended meeting to allow school administrators to brief parents on what took place and the changes that will be made to deal with future threats.

**Initiatives:**

Englewood Home and School Association continues to offer a hot lunch program, with lunches offered 3 days/week and milk offered 5 days/week. The Monday and Wednesday lunches are purchased from Bev Campbell and a Home and School Association volunteer picks up the food in Kensington. Parents and students appreciated having the option of a hot lunch and the online ordering system adopted in 2015 has been well received.

Other food initiatives from Englewood Home and School Association include the operation of a canteen at the school which is stocked with a small variety of healthy snacks. We are also pleased to offer a healthy snack to students once per week throughout the school year. Home and School volunteers prepare the snack at the school on Tuesday mornings and deliver it to each classroom. This program introduces children to foods that they may not be exposed to at home and the "peer pressure" of the new food being introduced in the classroom enhances the uptake. Many children have asked their parents for the new treat at home, so the recipes for the snacks have been posted on our Facebook page.

Our Home and School Association likes to limit fundraising, but we do try to ensure that there is some money each year allocated for special purchases at the school. The Association asks the teachers/administrators where money is most needed. In 2017, we are providing money to the school's band program. Instruments are expensive and there are always some needing repair and replacement.

### **Participation in Provincial Home and School Activities:**

We had three members of our executive attend the PEI Home and School Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting in Rustico and anticipate good participation in the provincial AGM to be held in Charlottetown in April. Englewood Home and School Association submitted a resolution to the provincial AGM. This resolution is in regards to perceived deficiencies in school counseling services on Prince Edward Island.

### **Fundraising:**

Our major fundraiser in 2015-16 was selling coupon books. This campaign is held in both spring and fall. This winter, we also partnered with Gulf Shore School in the sale of Storm basketball tickets. All proceeds have been dedicated to our healthy snack program.

### **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 in February. Volunteers were on hand to supervise lunch time activities, which allowed teachers and staff to have a sit down lunch together. During the week, parents were encouraged to show their appreciation by bringing in snacks and treats. This year, a Home and School Association volunteer solicited donations from Island businesses and a draw was held during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. All teachers and staff received a prize, including a one night stay at the Delta Hotel in Charlottetown. Englewood Home and School Association is greatly appreciative for the generosity of businesses which donated prizes.

Englewood Home and School Association was pleased to submit a nomination for the provincial Home and School Association Extra Mile Award. We were thrilled when we heard that our school's administrative assistant, Cathy Cairns, was one of two successful nominations. A surprise presentation was made to Cathy in a rally at the school on February 22, 2017. Minister Currie presented the award and representatives from PEI Home and School Association were in attendance.

### **Other:**

Our Home and School Association representative participated in the District Advisory Committee meetings. Two members of Englewood Home and School Association also attended the Kinkora meeting of the School Review Process.

In closing, Englewood Home and School Association looks forward to continuing its involvement in the Englewood school community. We thank all of those who contribute to our fundraisers, as well as parents, teachers and school administrators who attend and participate in our regular meetings. We are proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to continued success in the remainder of the school year.

**GEORGETOWN ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Mallory Peters, President**

**Executive:**

Vice President: Felicia McLeod

Secretary: Kerri O'Brien

Treasurer: Haley Zavo

**District Advisory Council Member:** Haley Zavo

**Lunch Coordinator:** Fern Gotell

**Topics discussed at local meetings:**

- School Review Process, Christmas Fair, Lunch Program, Winter Carnival, St. Patrick's Day Dance, Spring Concert

**Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week Activities:**

- This year, unfortunately, due to weather there was only one school day in which students and teachers were in attendance. A hot meal and dessert was provided on this day for all teachers/staff at GES. Due to the inability to complete teacher/staff appreciation week, our group will be providing supper to teachers/staff at the next set of parent teacher interviews in March.

**Benefits to Students from Efforts:**

- Our lunch program has grown from as few as 6 regular orders to 16 regular and, depending on the meal, as many as 28. Our menu rotates through 8 options which include spaghetti and garlic bread, grilled cheese, corn chowder, chili, chicken wraps, chicken burgers, perogies and sausages, baked potato and once a month homemade pizza. Prices range from \$2-\$3.50 to make sure everyone can participate.
- Students have had several free pancake breakfasts alongside our breakfast club program.
- Our Home and School Association worked alongside the teachers of our school to have our annual Christmas Fair. This night included many games, activities and prizes for not just our school community but it is also a staple night for the community of Georgetown. The night is a successful fundraiser for our school.
- Our students travelled to Great Northern Adventures in Mount Herbert for an outdoor day of sledding, sleigh rides and other winter activities.
- Go Play! PEI is a program that ran for 15 weeks after school two nights a week that provided physical exercise for our children. It was very successful and enjoyed by all students.
- The Bricks for Kids program will be starting the next couple of weeks for our children. It was a huge success last year and the children are extremely excited for it to begin again. With our

fundraised efforts the cost of this program will partially be covered by the Home and School Association.

- Georgetown Elementary has continued its connection with the Kings Playhouse this year with a number of vibrant outreach activities. For the second year in a row, students in grades 7 and 8 were invited to engage with Remembrance Week programming. Students served as ushers for the Main stage performance of 'Waiting for the Parade' (a play by Canadian playwright John Murrell) as well as singers, readers and flag bearers for the community Remembrance Day ceremony.
- In December, students took part in 'A Community Christmas Concert ' on the stage at the Playhouse. The performance invited students to sing solos, dance and perform as an ensemble.
- In March, the Home and School partnered once again with the Kings Playhouse to engage a workshop for the entire school with Bboyizm Dance Company (an Ottawa based professional dance company). The dancers facilitated workshops for the entire school.
- Plans are well underway for the Eastern Kings Drama Festival, a portion of which will be performed at the Kings Playhouse as well as the annual Variety Concert. Collaboration between the school and the Playhouse is a tremendously meaningful one, and access to diverse arts and culture within walking distance has made it possible for our children to access the arts in incredible ways.

#### **School Review Process:**

- The vast majority of our year has been spent putting countless amounts of hours putting together presentations, strategizing, fundraising and attending all meetings regarding the Category II School Review. Georgetown Elementary is again recommended for closure, and we as a Home and School Association have been trying everything we can to prevent a closure from happening.
- We have attended all five meetings in each family of schools involved in this review and also have spoken at a majority of them. We as a group feel as though our education systems need to be reviewed and that closures should not be step one of solving the problems.

**GLEN STEWART PRIMARY HOME AND SCHOOL****Paula Pollard / Kathy Campbell, Co-Chairs****Executive:**

Paula Pollard, Co-Chair / Kathy Campbell, Co-Chair

Alaina Roach O'Keefe, Secretary

Crystal Cobb, Treasurer

Jennifer Orlowski, Social Media Lead

Glen Stewart continues to have an active school community. We have a very busy breakfast program that has parents in every day to help out. Parent Volunteers also help with the two big book fairs we have during parent teacher interviews; with 33 classes, it can be very busy so the parent volunteers are a must to have them run smoothly.

Fundraisers this year consist of fall and summer coupon books, Christmas craft fair and spring fling. Christmas craft fair and spring fling are huge events that require a lot of planning; and to facilitate this, we have two separate committees to have them run smoothly. Many parent volunteers are required for these events. The funds raised from these events allowed the Home and School to purchase Buddy Benches for the playgrounds, needed technology for classrooms, and 20 additional Chromebooks.

February we celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week. We treated the teachers to Papa John's Pizza and Subway and then, once again, we did the potluck lunch. The potluck lunch is a favorite for the teachers as it consists of a variety of food items made by parents. The teachers get to eat together while parents volunteer to do duty on the playground as well as in the class while the students eat their lunch. Again this requires a lot of parent help and they never disappoint. Bus drivers were also shown their appreciation with Subway gift cards and a hand-written note thanking them for getting our children to and from school safely every day.

Once again, we have secured a week for an Indigo FUNdraiser event in May. For this two day event, people are encouraged to come and purchase books and a portion of the sales from the event are donated to the school in the form of an Indigo gift card. Students and volunteers from the school will be on hand to promote the event and enjoy this great opportunity to work as a community to supplement our valuable library resources.

Canadian Parents for French is active at Glen Stewart Primary and have several events throughout the year for an evening of French fun.

During this year of potential change for many Island schools, the main activity of Glen Stewart Home and School has been to raise awareness of the particular issues facing our school and students. While many schools are facing closure or rezoning due to small numbers, both Glen Stewart and Stratford Elementary have the opposite problem. Glen Stewart in particular is bursting at the seams and is severely overcrowded with no solution proposed by the recent "Better Learning for All" Report.

Our mandate is to raise awareness of this issue with parents in the Stratford area and lobby the Public Schools Branch and Government to not forget that our students and teachers have huge challenges trying to cope with a school that is much too small and in poor condition.

We await the final report, but plan to continue our efforts in conjunction with Stratford Elementary and the Town of Stratford to relieve the overcrowding situation in our schools.



**GREENFIELD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Angela Carpenter / Karen Sevigny, Co-Presidents**

The Greenfield Home and School Executive is comprised of Angela Carpenter (Co-President), Karen Sevigny (Co-President), Stacey Curry (Vice-President), Kimberley Gaudet (Secretary), Jackie Ellis (Treasurer) and Major Stewart (District Advisory Committee Representative).

The Greenfield Home and School Association has been meeting every second month. Attendance at the fall meetings was good; however, our last meeting was not well attended. We are hoping interest will pick up again in the spring.

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

Our Welcome Back Greenfield Picnic - Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate for our sixth annual picnic, but we still had quite a few families come by. Our parent volunteers helped out collecting tickets, serving food and cleaning up afterwards, although many families decided to take their meals home with them. The Credit Union donated hot dogs, buns, drinks and condiments, which was greatly appreciated. The Welcome Back Greenfield Picnic was started by Brenda Misener, and this was her last year as coordinator of the event. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Brenda for all of her hard work on this event over the past six years. It has become a tradition that many families look forward to each year!

QSP Fundraiser - After many years with Norcard, we decided to try a different company this year. The fall fundraiser was not as successful as other years, but we did a cookie dough fundraiser this winter that has made up the difference.

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.

Breakfast Program - Greenfield has a very successful breakfast program that operates five days a week for all students. This year we remain financially secure but 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!

Indigo Adopt a School - Greenfield supporters helped raise \$690 for our school library. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

Christmas Hampers - The Christmas Hamper Committee, in conjunction with the St. Eleanor's Lions Club, had another great year! Greenfield parents, students and staff help with this project which is a real community event for the school.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation - This year, Home and School hosted four coffee breaks 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 Playground Committee - Last spring, we were able to purchase and install a new piece of playground equipment to replace the piece that was removed in September of 2015. The playground committee has not been as active this year, but there are plans to revitalize the committee and, hopefully, have more pieces added to the playground in the future.

Due to problems with scheduling we were not able to hold our annual Literacy Fair or Literacy Run last spring. We hope these events will be back this spring.

**GULF SHORE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Julie Walsh, President****Executive:**

Vice-President: Lori Ann MacFarlane

Treasurer: Shannon Johnston

Secretary: Erin MacRae-Forrest

Our year started with Meet the Staff Night, where we set up a Home and School table. We introduced ourselves, invited new and returning parents/guardians to attend our monthly meetings, and answered any questions. It also gave us the opportunity to engage and recruit new volunteers to help throughout the year.

We are very fortunate at Gulf Shore to have the support from our school principal and vice principal who regularly attend our monthly meetings which take place the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in our school's science lab. We continue to post our Home and School meeting agendas and meeting minutes on the Gulf Shore School's Website as well on our Facebook Page which has been a great way to share information and reminders with all parents, guardians and teachers.

**Initiatives:**

In 2016, our Home and School implemented an online lunch program ([hotlunches.net](http://hotlunches.net)) where parents can now order milk and healthy lunch options for their children. It has been a great success as we continue to see the benefits of this new system and the healthy food options provided by the Yellow House.

In September, we were successful in receiving some recess equipment from a School Health Grant. Part of our application was to showcase this equipment which we did by organizing a Fall Fair in partnership with the Town of Rustico. This was a fun evening for all children, parents and community members! All proceeds made were shared between the Terry Fox foundation and Gulf Shore School Home and School.

Our Home and School continues to help run the Milk program, Lunch program, Food for Thought Cupboard, Terry Fox BBQ, Student Head Checks for Lice, and organizes the Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. We truly appreciate the support that we have in our school community which has supported our initiatives in various ways, whether through food donation, appliances to safely house food items for our students, and the list goes on.

**Fundraising:**

To help support activities and equipment that are not normally included in school budgets, we do fundraise throughout the year. Much of the money Gulf Shore Home and School raised will go towards helping with Library renovations/improvements. As well, this money enables us to continue to offer the Food for Thought Cupboard to our students who use it on a daily basis. Our two major fundraisers for

this year were:

- Christmas Tree Fundraiser – We sold tickets for Christmas trees at Smith's Christmas Tree Farm, which is a local business run by a family in our school. Each tree was \$35 with \$10 going to Home and School.
- Island Storm School Fundraiser – This year we partnered with Englewood Elementary School Home and School and sold discounted game tickets to an Island Storm Basketball game (March 3<sup>rd</sup>).

### **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:**

Home and School recognizes the great teachers and staff at Gulf Shore and appreciates their kindness and dedication to our children's education. This year we set up an online signup sheet (signupgenius.com) where parents/guardians could access and signup to provide a sweet treat, healthy snack, or whatever they so choose during this particular week.

### **Other:**

**Provincial Meetings:** Gulf Shore Home and School sent representatives to October's Semi-Annual Meeting of PEI Home and School Federation which was held at our school. As well, we will be sending representatives to the upcoming Annual meeting scheduled for April.

**Presentations:** In December there was "The Truth About Drugs" presentation offered to teens 13 and up and all parents by Andy Cook – RCMP Drugs and Organized Crime Awareness Service.

In closing we would like to thank all our volunteers, teachers, staff, students and the school community for their continued support to helping improve the school life for our students.

As the saying goes "It takes a village to raise a child!"

## **Hernewood Special meeting Regarding Westisle Family of Schools Review**

There were 14 present including parents, teachers and staff. A brief summary of the meeting follows:

- The changes for education in general are happening too fast: Going from English Language School board to Public Schools Branch--having elected board members then going to an appointed 3 person board as the new Public School Board. Then we move immediately into a school review without even figuring out who does what
- Those present felt it was important to maintain grades 7 - 9 at Hernewood Intermediate
- Special programs offered such as industrial arts classes, science labs and home economics, green space and a huge library are a few of the many positive things at Hernewood Intermediate
- There are 3 languages offered at Hernewood—English, French, and Mi'kmaq
- The school helps to promote cultural diversity in rural PEI
- Location of Hernewood is central to Alberton, O'Leary, Bloomfield and Elmsdale
- Great resource located next door that the school will use often for physical education at the Rodd Mill River Resort and Aqua Plex, Golf course and Ski Shop. Students can easily participate in after school activities that are offered through West Prince Sports Council such as swimming, skiing, golf, tennis, beach volleyball and canoeing/kayaking.
- The cross country zones and provincials are hosted at the Mill River Provincial Park Campground and the Hernewood leadership students help to facilitate the event.
- Hernewood school is used for many things and by many organizations such as: West Prince Sports Council; Go PEI events such as Try Archery, Try Pickle Ball to name a few; East Prince Basketball; West Prince Basketball; West Prince Soccer; Men's Adult Soccer; Hockey teams for off-ice training camps; political conventions; and community cooking classes to name a few.
- Hernewood hosts many elementary school tournaments as the elementary school gymnasiums are not big enough to host these events. There are badminton and basketball tourneys to name a few and Special Olympics are held at Hernewood.

## **General Comments/Points**

- Most expressed concern at the time frame given for feedback--a very short period for something as important as the future of our schools in West Prince.
- Hernewood described as the "UGLY MIDDLE CHILD SYNDROME" where the junior highs, both Hernewood and Callaghan, are not located within an amalgamated area.
- Rural PEI has limited employment opportunities as it is; the decision to close a school will definitely come with job losses.
- Comments from parents regarding possibility of Grade 9 going to Westisle:
  1. Too young; exposed to too much too early.
  2. Down-right dangerous; social impact; prey on the young.
  3. Impact on sports teams
- Population increases in West Prince--increase from Albertans returning home to PEI; immigrants and temporary foreign workers marrying and having children in Western PEI.
- Concern about combined classes was brought up if there was a K - 8 model introduced
  1. What would the numbers be?

2. Would we see more combined classes if we closed Junior High and went to elementary schools with K to 8.
- It was noted that Hernewood could accommodate elementary students and, if needed, there could be some type of barricade put up to separate 2 wings for elementary and junior high students.
  - The question of viable options? What in Rural PEI would take over a facility of this size after a new manor in Alberton being built and the hospitals renovated. Hernewood is a fantastic facility with lots to offer. A viable option for this school if it closes would be tough.
  - The Mik'maq students are funded with federal dollars so there is a partnership that exists already.
  - There was much discussion on forming a united front asking for at least a one- year moratorium on closing any schools. There seems to be a real rush being put on the process and a suggestion could be to slow down. Local Home and Schools are starting to form a group called "West Prince United Home and School".
  - A statement was made that there is definitely an immediate need to fix the overcrowding problem in Charlottetown schools; however, there is no immediate do or die fix required for the Westisle Family of Schools.
  - A point was raised as to whether there is any way that one man "Bob Andrews" could consult with and weigh all the possibilities being presented and seek input from other government departments that may have an impact on the numbers in his report or the direction the government is going. Development boards and community councils, etc ; their input is required. Whose job is it to get their input if those development boards aren't getting involved in this process?
  - There was much conversation early on about perhaps a way to disrupt the STATUS QUO because that seems to be the catch phrase that the "STATUS QUO IS NOT AN OPTION." Maybe Westisle family of schools status quo change could be the introduction of other services in our schools. There was a report in 2012 with specific recommendations for child and youth services in PEI. Recommendation #6 describes developing a pilot in rural PEI schools. If we offer more family services and health services in our schools, there could be a reallocation of resources that would follow the services that would benefit our children and their families in our local schools.

#### **References:**

[http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/fema\\_cayreport.pdf](http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/fema_cayreport.pdf)

Another article about rural schools:

<https://educhatter.wordpress.com/2012/05/17/revitalizing-rural-education-can-moving-schools-to-the-centre-arrest-the-decline/>

There are other articles of interest:

From BC -

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/bc-education-funding-rural-schools-1.3637813>

Study on the value of rural schools:

<http://www.ofa.on.ca/issues/additional-information/Lauzon-should-we-keep-rural-schools-open>

**KENSINGTON INTERMEDIATE SENIOR HIGH PARENT COUNCIL**

**Patricia Cole, President**

The Kensington Intermediate Senior High Parent Council meets bi-monthly to discuss various topics relating to our school. All grades are represented, and it is a great opportunity for parents and guardians to give and receive information and feedback.

Some of the issues discussed are as follows:

- School Goals
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Budget
- French Immersion Program
- Google Classroom
- School Security
- School Fundraisers
- Breakfast Program
- Mental Health
- Cafeteria providers – Chartwells
- Course Selection
- School Dances
- Staffing Changes

KISH continues to offer a daily Breakfast Program available to all students.

Parents support students during exams by donating snacks and drinks which are available before and after exams are written.

A potluck luncheon was provided to the teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week.

KISH is a wonderful school supported by a wonderful community and together we can do great things for our children.

Respectfully submitted by,

Patricia Cole  
Kensington Intermediate Senior High  
Parent Council

**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.

**Bi-Monthly Meetings:**

Kevin Stewart (Teacher Rep) and Brittany Peters (Student Council Rep) share reports at each bi-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.
2. **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 a whole is invested in the success of our young people.
3. **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. This year's plans were interrupted due to a week of very bad weather, but some parents overcame this challenge by sending in treats the following week.
4. **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.



5. **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. While we do not manage a KRHS Parent Council FB page, we use facebook groups throughout the year as a way to keep parents informed. Finally, SAS is also used when the Parent Council needs to share information with the entire school community
6. **District Advisory Council Representation** - As the parent rep from the KRHS Parent Council I sit on our local DAC. However, I have been very disappointed that the guidelines established within this council's mandate have not been followed to date (i.e., setting agenda items, selecting a chair, collaborating with the two other Councils...). In my opinion, Island parents deserve to have an ELECTED Board of Trustees and the DAC's are simply an advisory committee with a very limited role and should not be taking the place of an elected Board. It is unacceptable that we are the only province in Canada that has no elected Board.
7. **School Review Process** – The most significant role of our Parent Council has been in regard to the work that has been done within the school review process. Parents and community members have spent countless hours attending meetings, researching policy, collaborating with community members across the Island, and lobbying government to protect our small schools. All other activities pale in comparison to the significance of the parental outcry at what has been going on within this school review process.

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Janet Payne

*"We need to end the government monopoly in education by transferring power from bureaucracies and unions to families. The era of defining public education as allegiance to centralized school districts must end."* Jeb Bush

**L. M. MONTGOMERY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Tanya Maclean-Kelly / Cathy Hennessey, Co-Chairs****Executive Members:**

Claudette Callaghan, Treasurer

Kathryn Rajamanie, Secretary

It has been a great year for the L. M. Montgomery Home and School. We started our year with an Ice Cream Social/Meet the Staff Night. Like last year, 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 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 2<sup>nd</sup>. This was our only fundraiser for the year, and it is always well supported by the parents, staff, and community. As always, thanks to the Ways & Means committee for their hard work and dedication to make this event a successful one. The evening consists of games and activities for the children and also a silent auction, theme basket sale, and a 50/50 draw. There was also a bake sale, popcorn, and a snow cone station. This fundraising event continues to be a success for our school.

**Lunch Program:**

Our online lunch orders system continues to be a success. We have two new volunteers that are running the program this year. The online program gives parents the opportunity to order chicken strips, pizza, subs, and a variety of other hot items throughout the month.

**School Review Process:**

Home and School has held several meetings to discuss the proposed changes to our school zone with our parent community. L. M. Montgomery is currently under review because of our large school population. We will continue to gather and present information to our parent population as the review continues.

**Parent/Child Art Night:**

One of our goals this year was to strengthen our community. This spring, we plan to host several Parent/Child Art Nights. The evenings will be free for our families and will provide a great opportunity to spend a fun evening together at school. We look forward to these events.

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**  
**Sonia Wallace / Shelley Williams, Co-Chairs**

**Executive:**

Secretary/Treasurer: Cyndi Rix

We had our first meeting at M. E. Callaghan School following "Meet the Teacher" on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Attendance was terrific. There was discussion at this meeting with regard to the School Review Process being proposed by the Government of PEI. We suggested touching base with other Home and Schools in the Westisle Family of schools and discussing issues regarding this process. A social media page was created to touch base with other school Presidents in the Westisle family of schools; and from this communication, the West Prince Home and School United Group was formed to work collaboratively.

Numerous meetings and rallies have been attended as a group with regard to this issue. We continue to work united with our fellow school partners, neighbors and community members on a very productive and strong willed committee putting the wellbeing of the children of West Prince in the forefront. Needless to say, some of our regular Home and School duties have suffered due to our dedication to this process. We continue to have great parental and staff support with regards to our work.

We have one fundraiser a year which is sponsored by the Tignish Credit Union. We continue to thank them for their support. Money raised is used for day-to-day operations of our association.

We have been providing a Summer Tutoring Program which takes place for 10 weeks during the summer at the school and provides tutoring to students in any subject deemed necessary by parents and teachers with the primary focus on literacy and numeracy. This helps students maintain/improve abilities to help prepare for the upcoming school year. This program is provided with the assistance of funding.

Staff Appreciation Week continues to be celebrated yearly at M.E. Callaghan. This event is well supported and gets tremendous support by numerous parents and is a true complement to the staff. There are several days of treats, snacks and lunches are provided.

The principal always provides us with a very informative report at every Home and School meeting. This provides us an inside look into the school our children attend and the issues/initiatives happening within.

We continue to have an M. E. Callaghan Home and School page where we communicate with and update parents continually. This continues to be an excellent tool for communication.

It is an absolute pleasure to be part of the Home and School of M.E. Callaghan, and we are continuously shown support and appreciation by the staff and students of this amazing school.

**MISCOUCHE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Wendi Blacklock, President**

**Executive:**

President: Wendi Blacklock

Vice-President: Kellie Arsenault

Treasurer: Allison Arsenault

Secretary: Tracy Jones

District Advisory Council Representative: Jacqueline Lecky

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 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 listed on the school website and Facebook page.

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 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 started a Fundraising Committee. They had their first big fundraiser this fall--Bonte Cookie dough. It was a huge success! We had a pizza party for the top-selling class. Gift cards were presented for the top 3 individual sellers.

Our breakfast program is back up and running 3 days a week this year. We received grants--\$4,000 from Breakfast for Learning and \$3,700 from Federal Government. We are still looking for more volunteers to help.

The school has purchased a new Literacy Program. We were asked to help purchase the new program by the school. We feel this is an excellent program to help children struggling with literacy.

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

For the 2016-17 school year, we set out with a goal to have something at the school each month to engage parents and families and have them out to the school more often.

We have hosted 2 sessions of the Triple P Parenting program, with a third installment to come in April. These sessions have been well attended, and we have received some fantastic feedback by attendees.

In the fall we hosted a fun family night, Fall Frolic. It was near Halloween, so gave children a chance to come in their costumes. We had a huge turnout with a lot attending from other schools and communities to join in the fun.

For the spring, we plan to have our spring fair, as we have in the past, and the end of the year bbq where we provide hot dogs and juice for lunch for every child in the school.

We have also discussed a family math game night to host with the school in the near future.

The last book fair held at the school, we gave each teacher \$20 to spend on books or supplies for their classroom. We had a huge discount table where a lot of books were marked down to \$2.50 so some teachers really got quite a bit for the class!

Our breakfast program is thriving with monthly donations from the Rotary Club of Montague. We are serving approx 75-100 children per day. The menu varies from cereal, to toast, muffins, fruit, smoothies and juice.

Our lunch program is also doing well, and we are continuing to use the Hot Lunch program.

Due to weather, our teacher appreciation pot luck has been moved to February 28th. We also treated all staff to a \$5 Tim's card each, and coffee and baked goods.

We are currently working with the school on achieving their yearly goals on mindset and virtues.

This year our meeting discussions have been dominated by the current school reviews. While we are not directly affected by any of the proposed changes, we do not support any rural schools closing, East or West, and we have had conversations with the Georgetown Home and School president, Mallory Peters.

Susie is our DAC rep and keeps us well informed after their meetings as well.

## MCS Proposal for Change

### Educational Factors:

- MCS has a student population of roughly 420 students
- Studies show that an optimal size for elementary school is 300-350 students. This allows for better utilization of resources within the school, including manageable class sizes for homerooms and specialized classes such as physical education and music
- By being the zone for Early Immersion for the Montague family of schools, our school has a unique school community drawing students from Little Pond, Flat River and all points in between

### Demographic Factors:

- In the past five years, MCS has seen a significant shift in enrollment in the early French immersion program.
- In 2011, our school population was 60% English and 40% immersion
- In 2016, that has shifted to be 35% English and 65% immersion
- While the reason for this shift is unknown, we do believe that parents value a second language for their children's future
- Because the Montague family of schools does not offer late immersion, parents feel that it is NOW or NEVER
- Over 40% of the French Immersion population is being drawn from outside the Montague Consolidated school zone

### Transportation Factors:

- MCS shares the school busses with MIS and MRHS. Because of the number of children coming in from outside the zone, we rely on the high school busses to deliver students to and from school every day.
- While the bus system, like any, could likely use room for improvement, it is a system that is already in place because of our centralized location.

### Proposed Options for Change:

1. Reconfigure the grades within MCS, MIS and MRHS allowing best utilization of space in these 3 facilities – using an optimal service model of 350 students for K-8.
2. Offer late immersion as an option in Grade 7, giving parents and students an equal opportunity for a second language
3. Dedicate additional resources to deal with Mental Health & Wellness in elementary schools, focusing on early intervention for students at risk in primary, continued support of the A+ Program for grades 4-6, and work with other government departments to decrease wait times for assessments and testing tools as required.

### Implications of Proposed Change:

- Reconfiguring the grades between MCS, MIS and MRHS will allow for a better service model for program delivery in all schools. Then impact on the students and parents is minimal as all students will continue to receive their education in Montague.
- Offering Late Immersion allows parents to choose to keep their children in their community schools from K-6. This will continue to grow the population of the remaining schools in our family of schools and allows an equal opportunity for education for all. The impact on MCS may see a shift back towards more English students and less French immersion students, which will allow administration to properly allocate resources
- Additional resources for mental health issues are a must. We are living in a society where mental health issues are being developed at a very early age. Focusing on resources and intervention at an early age should be less taxing on the system as a whole in later years. The implications of more mental health resources are only positive. As government makes its final decisions on the Montague Family of Schools, please realize that moving children with anxiety and other issues out of smaller schools and into bigger schools will only develop more mental health issues. If changes are made, resources MUST follow the changes

**MONTAGUE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Principal: Kevin Stonefield**

Vice-Principal: Luanne Inman

Counselor: Linda Thistle-McKenna

Montague Intermediate Hosts World Renowned Chef, Tony Geraci

In mid-October, Montague Intermediate was lucky enough to be afforded the privilege of hosting world renowned American chef, Tony Geraci. As part of Montague Intermediate's "Healthy Snack" program, Tony participated in a round table discussion with students responsible for the program delivery.

Each week students and the Home Economics teacher, Sarah Macintosh, discuss what healthy snacks students would enjoy, what is available, and the economics of providing choices. In recent years we have received wonderful support from the Horticultural Society of Prince Edward Island, The Healthy Eating Alliance, and from the Montague Branch of Rotary. Regularly on our menu are root vegetables such as carrots, turnip, and Kohlrabi, along with cauliflower and broccoli. Depending on what is for sale we also have red and green bell peppers, tomatoes, strawberries, grapes, pineapple, apples, pears and plums.

Students shop at the local grocer for those items on sale and which are not delivered weekly. They are responsible for the preparation, presentation, and clean-up each week. The cost is one dollar for a good sized portion. Students are given a zip-lock bag and can mix and match food stuffs as they prefer.

What is intriguing about this healthy snack program is that it is right in line with what Chef Tony Geraci has become so famous for which is self-sustaining healthy food stuffs for children in school. In his discussion with students he talked about growing their own food, preparation, and financial responsibility in keeping the program alive. In his experience in the United States he shared how giant conglomerates produced cheap quality food and widened profit margins at the expense of healthy children. He was very pleased with the Montague "Healthy Snack" program and commended students on their efforts to promote such a program.

Chef Tony spent an hour discussing alternative means to providing healthy lunch choices and hoped that we as leaders in this area would support the provincial government in taking action to become self-sustaining. He demonstrated how Prince Edward Island had the right people, the small close knit communities, and the opportunities to involve local farmers, food producers, the fishery and local grocers. His conversations lead students to open up their minds to endless healthy eating possibilities at a reasonable cost.

After our students spoke, Chef Tony and the Principal, Kevin Stonefield, continued on with an earlier conversation and discussed barriers, road blocks, and limitations that have to be challenged. Both



agreed there was an appetite for healthier eating and that the Montague "Healthy Snack" program was a living and breathing example of a success story from which the rest of the province could learn.

Both agreed that the provincial government and the Public Schools Branch need to take a hard look at the current model that services our students and really question who it serves. Government has to be prepared to take a little financial loss to support a better healthy eating strategy that subsidizes better food in our schools. The payoff is a healthier Island with less need for medical care. Short term financial expense for long term health gain.

Chef Tony Geraci left with an open invitation to come back and participate in the school's healthy choices

Sincerely yours,

Kevin Stonefield B.Sc., M.Ed., M.Ed., M.A., D.Ed. ©  
Principal, Montague Intermediate School  
221 Kennedy Street, Montague  
PE, Canada, C0A 1R0

**MONTAGUE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL**

**Principal: Seana Evans-Renaud**  
**(In the Absence of a Chairperson)**

**Executive members:**

Leah Munro  
Sherry Blue  
Julie Vendenbroek  
Jayne MacPhee  
Treena Steele  
Kim Arsenault  
Janice Vandaele

Ex-officio: Seana Evans-Renaud, Robyn MacDonald, Sharon Anderson

**Topics discussed at monthly meetings:**

1. Maintenance of Facebook accounts
2. District Advisory Committee feedback
3. A few members attended the Semi-Annual Meeting; hope to have more attend the Annual meeting
4. Responsibilities of Chairperson for Parent Council – no interest in assuming role so Principal will continue to build monthly agenda with input from members
5. School Review
  - a. Literacy, Numeracy, Wellness (Student Interest Survey), Parent Engagement
6. Principal's reports on school events
7. Corp. Andy Cooke – Drug Presentation - October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016
8. Graduation requirements
9. Parent, staff and student survey results from June, 2016
10. Plan for Teacher Appreciation Week
11. Attendance Policy
12. Parent Communication
13. Memorial Tree plaque
14. Discussion of implementing healthy eating strategy from "Cafeteria Guy"
15. Possibility of starting a Culinary Academy at MRHS
16. Start time of meetings will now be 5:30, the third Monday of every month

**MORELL CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Shannell, MacKinnon, President**

Executive: Misty Rossiter - Vice-President  
Jonathan Hill - Treasurer  
Sonya Cobb - Secretary

The Morell Consolidated School Home and School Association (MCSHSA) was re-established in June 2016 after a number of years of inactivity. The majority of the work of MCSHSA during the 2016/17 school year has focused on supporting parents and staff to re-engage in home and school activities and providing feedback to the Public Schools Branch school review process. Since September 2016 the MCSHSA has met six times with its parents, staff and members as well as having a number executive planning meetings and specific meetings related to the school review process. The following initiatives have also been worked on.

- ***Epicure Fundraiser*** – with the support of staff, parents and students a successful Epicure fundraiser was completed in fall 2016.
- ***School Breakfast Program Funding*** – the association applied for, and was successful in receiving, a grant to support a school breakfast program; work is beginning to plan and implement the program.
- ***Spring Fundraising*** – two fundraising activities are in the final stages of planning for spring 2017. It is the association's goal to establish savings to support school initiatives; next steps will be to obtain input from parents and staff to develop a prioritized list of school needs.
- ***School Movie Trip*** – in December 2016 the association provided funding to support a school movie trip.
- ***Winter Carnival*** – in February 2017 funding was provided to support winter carnival events for students including a movie, skiing, and bowling activities.
- ***Teacher Appreciation Week*** – on February 2017 parents and students provided snacks and treats for all staff members – a small token of appreciation to recognize all the big things our school staff does for our students every day.
- ***School Review Process (SRP)*** – facilitated the process for parents and staff to obtain information about the SRP, gather information about our family of schools, and provide feedback to the Public Schools Branch through written and public presentations. The association also worked closely with the other home and school association and parent advisory group in our family of schools to gather ensure issues across the school family were identified, understood and brought forward.

It has been an extremely busy year for our newly established association. Our goal has been to provide a strong base on which the association can thrive and grow to best support our students, staff and parents regardless of what our family of schools looks like in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shannell MacKinnon, President

**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, hot lunch program, breakfast program and the school change report. We have seen a great increase in volunteers coming into the school to help out with various activities including our breakfast program, lunch program, sports, cribbage, and singing as well as helping teachers in the classroom.

We received funding for a parent engagement night for Family Math Night, "Discover the Wonders of Math Together." We had a math coach in and the children taught their parents a game and got to take a math game home. 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 again this year. To start this campaign off we held a pancake supper and introduced the program at our family math night. 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.

Fundraisers include our Birthday Calendars which are in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year. These seem to sell very well, and we have some great volunteers who have been doing it for the past number of years. One of our great volunteers who has been the chair of this committee for the past 8 years is moving on this year. We can't thank Scott Hughes enough for all his hard work. We are also planning on selling the Spring Saver coupon book. We also had a Spring Family Fun Night last year which we plan on doing again this year with bouncy castles, bobble soccer, face painting, bricks for kids, bingo, fire truck rides and lots more for the whole family to enjoy.

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 couple of months throughout the school year to discuss a variety of topics and receive information from the school. We keep the rest of the school body of parents up to date on our face book page

We spoke at the back to school BBQ to explain our role and invite more parents to join us. The BBQ was a welcome back for the students, parents and teachers.

We are very happy to provide again this year a hot breakfast for the students every Thursday morning. A healthy snack is also provided by Home and School two mornings a week. This program is able to take place because a dedicated group of parents and volunteers assist in preparing the food and serving the students.

This year we have been very busy supporting our local Westisle family of schools with the school review process. We are concerned about the future of education in our province.

In December we raised some funds for the Breakfast Program by having a bake sale during the Christmas concert.

February brought teacher appreciation week and Home and School planned and hosted a meal and dessert for all the staff

As parents we are happy to work with the school to provide the very best for our children on a daily basis.

**PARKDALE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Jack Wheeler, President****Executive:**

President: Jack Wheeler

Vice-President: Vacant

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. We encourage parents to bring their children with them as we provide supervised activities in the gym and computer room. Meetings last an hour to an hour and a half. Attendance is up this year by about 50 percent over previous years. We attribute that to a time change, meetings are now held at 6:30, and allowing parents to bring their children.

The administration, with Principal, Lynn Hufnagel, and Secretary, Jackie Lund, has remained in place this year with the addition of new Vice-Principal, Faber MacDonald. Under the leadership of Mrs. Hufnagel the transition has been an easy one for staff as well as students.

The Christmas concerts were held in early December. Grades K to 2/3 had their concert on Tuesday, December 6, with the grades 3 to 6 holding their concert on December 7. 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 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. We now have a design plan and hope to begin implementation this spring.

**PARKSIDE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Sara Courtney / Joanna Stewart, Co-Chairs****Executive:**

Co-chairs: Sara Courtney / Joanna Stewart

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Lisa Schurman-Smith

Secretary: Marilyn Cousins MacMurdo

Principal: Janet Cameron

Teacher Reps: Sarah Grace Schurman, Danielle Keough-Delgado

**Events/activities in 2016:**

- Parkside Home and School Association continues to meet every 6-8 weeks 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:
- We held a QSP Magazine fundraiser in September/October
- We researched the criminal record check policy in the Public Schools Branch to see if we wanted to put forward a resolution addressing it. We learned some changes are underway and have decided that we will wait to see changes in progress completed before considering a resolution.
- A Healthy Snack is prepared and delivered by volunteers to all students about once a month to expose them to different varieties of fruits, veggies and whole grain items.
- Christmas Concert Bake Sale - Proceeds go to the school music or gym program
- New this year, we had a bake sale during parent/teacher interviews in November; proceeds went towards our Christmas Families initiative.
- We provided some funding to the school breakfast program.
- One Round of Teacher Requests was made in September where money raised from the magazine fundraiser was given to the school in many different areas including the music department, library, reading software and extra books for the classrooms. We voted in January 2017 to do a second round of teacher requests as our main fundraiser was very successful.
- The parents worked very hard during February 2016 for TSAW to provide snacks, a potluck and wonderful, heartfelt decorations for the teacher's classroom doors, staff room etc.
- This spring 2017 we will also be holding elections for some positions on our executive
- We are looking into having a speaker in March or April to inform parents about how math is taught in school now. We plan to have a presentation, snacks, games and door prizes.

**Other Items discussed at meetings include:**

- Healthier lunch options--trying to get the nutritional information on the lunch options
- Mental health
- How to get more parents/caregivers involved in Home and School.
- Criminal record check policy

**PRINCE STREET HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Ramona Doyle / Kristy Phillips, Co-Chairs**

Past President- Catherine Nicholson

Treasurer- Heather MacEwen

Secretary- Jane Ledwell

Since the beginning of the current school year, our Home and School has met four times - September, October, November and January. February's meeting has been postponed due to poor weather conditions

In our meetings, we are very lucky to always have such great engagement from the school staff and administration. Our Principal Erin Johnston and Vice Principal Kelly Gillis present a very detailed report to all in attendance at every meeting. We have had extensive discussions around school assessments and the data collected from them and the various school goals that have come from this information. We also have learned that our school is very fortunate to be chosen to be a "wrap around school" and the tremendous supports that this will give our school. We actively discuss different fundraising ideas and ways we can continue to support our school. We are discussing and exploring programs we can implement to help in the areas of physical and mental health and nutrition. These areas have been identified as needing support.

We are incredibly blessed to have such a diverse community within our school. This diversity is invaluable to everyone within Prince Street; it teaches us so much. To make it possible for as many people to attend our meetings, we offer translation in whatever language is required. We also provide babysitting which allows many parents who otherwise would not be able to attend to join us. We continue to average about 20 people per meeting.

We have a fantastic representative with the District Advisory Committee; Jane Ledwell has graciously accepted this role and has done a tremendous job representing the parents, staff and children of Prince Street School. To ensure that as many voices are, and continue to be, heard we have used a variety of different methods, including: a survey posted on Survey Monkey, requests for emails to our Home and School email account, posts on the school Facebook page and hand outs.

Through our fundraising efforts over this past year we have been able to provide \$800 toward the purchase of books for Readers Workshops.

Highlights from this year include:

- Our major fundraiser is a community event called "Spring Fling"; this is a wonderful evening with many low cost games, snacks and activities. This continues to be successful due to the great efforts from staff, parents, volunteers and various community members. This event is very well attended and an evening that is eagerly looked forward to by many. The date for this year's Spring Fling will be set in March.



- Family Fun night was held in October. This is an evening where the gym is opened up and various board games are set out, a Pokémon tournament took place, an art station for the creative souls, and a bake sale in casean appetite got worked up in the Just Dance room. It is just a fun evening for all, students, parents, staff and their families. Due to popular demand another one is scheduled for April!
- The whole school went to see Robin Hood at the Confederation Center of the Arts in December.
- Our school Christmas concert was held at the beautiful First Baptist Church; this was the first year using this location and having all grades participate in one concert. This was a huge success. The church was very spacious, everyone was able to see their child perform, plenty of parking and you couldn't have asked for friendlier hosts for the event. A bake sale and raffle was held at the concert by the Home and School.
- Staff Appreciation week was held the week of February 13-17<sup>th</sup>. Teachers were treated to a few extra days off due to poor weather. Treats arranged to arrive daily, a yogurt parfait bar was provided and a "Walk of Fame" designed and displayed for all staff.

Prince Street Home and School's biggest challenge continues to be to encouraging parent involvement. We continue to make every effort to get more people involved in the school. Once they become engaged, they fall in love!

The volunteer efforts at Prince Street School continue to be phenomenal. Teachers and staff, parents, and neighbors make our breakfast program and much more a success. The school has a wonderful neighbor in Trinity Clifton United Church, whose members help ensure bellies are full and holiday stockings are stuffed and they 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 who posts updates from Home and School. In addition, our twitter account is @princestschool.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kristy Phillips and Ramona Doyle, Co-Chairs

**QUEEN CHARLOTTE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Allie Keedwell, Chair**

The Queen Charlotte Intermediate School Home and School Association strives to create a positive 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, concerns, and to share their experiences in supporting their children in school.

Some of the issues discussed have been:

- Breakfast program
- School Success Plan
- Flex program
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- Grade Nine Trip
- Grade Nine Graduation
- Band Concerts
- Technology and Wifi in the school
- District Advisory Council News
- The many issues around the proposed school closure plan submitted by the Public Schools Branch
- EAL Learners and the Growing EAL Population: how to offer support
- Issues around libraries in the schools – lack of funding and support for teacher librarians
- Loss of Art Program at QCIS

A few parents attended the **PEIHSF Semi-Annual Meeting** in October. The session on healthy eating in our schools was very informative.

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

Our **Parent Leadership Project** consisted of a parent/student/staff engagement workshop on *Helping our Teens Become their Best Selves*. Round table discussions were facilitated by parents and students. The topics were nutrition, exercise, holistic health and leadership. The night was well attended and a big success.

A staff luncheon was provided during **Teacher and Staff Appreciation** week. There were many food donations and staff was very appreciative.

As always, staff and students at QCIS are busy with extra-curricular activities that foster personal and learning growth beyond the classroom: Duke of Edinburgh Program (first graduates of Bronze level in May, 2016), band concerts, sporting activities, school and band trips, guest speakers, and peer mentoring opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Allie Keedwell

**QUEEN ELIZABETH ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Darby McCormick, President**

**Executive:**

Bev Campbell, Vice President

Catherine Gallant, Treasurer

Cavelle Andrews-Dewitt, Secretary

Queen Elizabeth Elementary Home and School Association (QEES) is very proud to be able to share with you how we have been working in our school and community.

We started our year on August 31, 2016, prior to the first day of school. In mid August we became aware that our school, along with East Wiltshire, would not have the asbestos ceiling tiles removed before the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year and quickly requested a meeting with government and education representatives. Our association and parents wanted to know why our school was not being remediated with the others and, most importantly, wanted to ensure that QEES provides a safe, healthy learning environment for our student and staff.

We met with Parker Grimmer and Dave Gillis in a meeting open to all parents on August 31, 2016, in advance of our general meeting. This meeting revealed that due to the high prevalence of asbestos tiles, the remediation would take an estimated 8 weeks. An underestimation of the scope of the project resulted in there not being enough time to complete the job before school started.

Mr. Grimmer and Mr. Gillis assured us that our school was indeed safe for our staff and students and that planning would be in place to have the asbestos tiles removed as soon as the 2016-17 school year ended. They also agreed to complete air quality testing on a couple of occasions throughout the school year to monitor the safety of our school. These tests have been completed and have come back with good results. Our Breakfast Program has continued for a successful third year. Every school day, volunteers, led and organized by Bev Campbell, provide a healthy breakfast for every student who wants to attend. Thanks to grants and donations, the Breakfast Program is currently providing fresh fruit, toast, cheese, and twice a week, eggs.

In addition to providing healthy breakfasts for our students, QEES is very proud to have been able to continue a hot lunch program as well. Healthy, home-made lunches are prepared four days a week by Chef and Home and School Vice President Bev Campbell. Parents and caregivers order their children's meals on a monthly basis using our online ordering system. Lunch options range from soup, to 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.

In order to try to be environmentally responsible the Home and School purchased a set of reusable dishes for the hot lunch program. These dishes are being rolled out gradually but will allow us to dramatically decrease our disposable product use by the end of the school year.

Another initiative our Home and School has been able to continue this year is a program that we call *It Takes a Town* (ITAT). This year we have 6 families, containing 27 people, enrolled in the program. 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. Recently, a partnership has been formed with the Kensington Lions Club to be able to continue to provide this support to our families.

There have been a few successful fundraisers organized by the Home and School this year. 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 \$400. We held a successful cookie dough fundraiser and had a food drive specifically to support our ITAT program. We hosted a Love Our Island poster contest, replaced the defibrillator pads in our AED and hold two free pancake breakfasts for all students.

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 with great success. This school year saw two book fairs, one in the fall and a second in March.

Rather than show our appreciation to the teachers and staff at QEES just during Teacher Appreciation Week, we have been doing smaller treats on a monthly basis throughout the school year. These small gestures were topped off after Christmas break when the staff came back to a freshly renovated staff lounge. Home and School volunteers donated about 120 hours to repaint walls and cabinets, paint a mural on one wall and create a more relaxing space for the staff.

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.

**ST. JEAN ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Janna-Lynne Durant, President**

**Executive Members:**

Laura MacArthur  
Erin Stewart  
Monica Cannon  
Courtney Magennis

**Yard Sale:**

We kicked off our school year fundraising with a Donation Drive at Value Village; we sold baked goods and had a BBQ. The event was very successful and a great start to the year.

**Back to school BBQ:**

The 7th 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 third annual Spooktacular was so much fun for everyone. This year we decided to open it to the public and allow other schools to join in on the fun. We had a haunted cave, inflatable, pumpkin painting and much more. It was a lot of 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. We are also in the process of planning a spring fling for the children.

**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.

**ST. LOUIS ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Tishie Shea, President**

Vice President: Tasha Ashley

Secretaries: Crystal Butler/ Rebecca Ellsworth

It's been a very busy year at St. Louis this year. We've discussed many different topics at our meetings such as the following:

- Fund raising ideas
- Ways to get more parents involved in our meets
- Breakfast program ideas
- Teacher appreciation week
- Lunch program put on by parents

Our Home and School meets regularly. Our attendance is low, so it's always a challenge to get new members and faces around our table unless we have a hot topic. We always have great ideas from our group for new things we'd like to try or goals for new things we'd like to see at St. Louis.

The breakfast program is a great program we've offered to our students for the past 10 years. We have a lot of kids who use the program and look forward to seeing our faces. Every Friday morning you can hear the kids get off the bus saying, "It's breakfast day..." It's always nice hearing and seeing the kids happy to see us. Also, another program happening for the past 2 years is the lunch program, which takes place every week, where a few parents go in and make many different menu options. Lots of kids are enjoying this as well every week.

St. Louis Home and School purchased a Humble and Kind Bench in memory of Conor Shea who was a student at St. Louis and graduated. Conor's family had purchased one, and the kids really enjoyed them so much that we, the Home and School, decided to order another. The kids helped paint these benches with all different colors. These benches are for all the kids to use; and, hopefully, when students see a kid sitting on the bench when everyone is playing a game, the students will go up and ask the kid to go play with them. These benches are to teach the kids of a very kind boy who always cared for all kids and was always willing to help others--whether it was tying their shoe or finishing a race with them or helping the child to the right bus.

Our finances are in good shape. We do a bake sale and our lunch program is our main fundraiser. The school does a Runathon to purchase our outdoor stuff and some new gym supplies.

Goals for next year are to, hopefully, have someone take my president seat over since the last of my 4 kids will graduate from St. Louis. I've been an active member of the Home and School for 15 years since Bradley started. It's been a great experience being part of such a great school and, most of all, being the president for, I believe, 10 years. I'm sure I will still help out with the breakfast program. It's been my Friday routine for many years.

**SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Cindy Gallant, Chair**

Parent Council Members:

Co-Chair – Amanda Dunn

Past-Chair – Shelley Morrison

Secretary – Jennifer Doucette

Treasurer – Shannon Burke

Members at Large – Niki Swansburg, Colleen Gains, Justin Muttart, Amy Bysterveldt

Sherwood Elementary is comprised of students in both English and French Immersion curriculum programs. It currently has a school population of approximately 555 students enrolled in grades K-6.

The Sherwood Home and School “Parents Council” is a dedicated group of parents holding positions of chair, past-chair, secretary, treasurer and 4 members at large. The Parents Council of the Sherwood Elementary Home and School Association holds a regular public meeting on the first Wednesday of every month during the school year. Our public Home and School meetings are strongly attended by our Parents Council, staff members, principal, vice principals and many parents of Sherwood Elementary. Home and School meetings comprise a variety of topics with discussions including but not limited to; health and safety, school development, diversity, extracurricular programs, school space concerns, playground issues, school concerts, staff wish lists and school beautification.

Sherwood Elementary Home and School Parents Council have been focusing on parent involvement. We began our endeavor to increase the number of parents involved two years ago. We are proud to have witnessed a significant increase in parents attending meetings and volunteering at school events. We will continue this endeavor by promoting parent involvement at upcoming school events, through our school newsletters and informative emails.

September was a busy month getting the year off and running with the upcoming changes in the Better Learning for All School changes. Our Home and School came up with a presentation to present to Mr Bob Andrews about our concerns and what we wanted to see happen with Sherwood Elementary.

We are just in the primary stages of planning our annual ‘Carnival’ for June at Sherwood school. This is always a major fundraiser for us with the proceeds going towards items such as playground maintenance and/or IT equipment for our classrooms.

Home and School provides a ‘Breakfast Program’ 5 days per week at Sherwood Elementary with approx 200 students utilizing this program each day. Our Breakfast Program is run by Bethany Broderick and Reg Adams who are parents of children at the school, parent volunteers and community members.

Recently, the Sherwood Home and School organized another successful 'Staff Appreciation Week'. An overwhelming number of generous parents and families graciously contributed and donated in many ways through food contributions, volunteering for yard duty, gifts for staff members, letters of appreciation and decorating the school just to name a few. With this generous support the 'Staff Appreciation Week' was a success that was appreciated by all staff members.

Sherwood Home and School was able to be part of one of The Island Storm's fundraiser nights. We sold tickets in advance for one of the Storm home games and sold 50/50 at the game. It was a great fundraiser and an awesome Sherwood Elementary night at the Storm Game.

The end of the last school year saw a continuation of a social gathering immediately following our Grade 6 Closing Ceremonies. Parents of Grade 5 students graciously contributed their time as well as delicious treats for this event. This social gathering allowed parents and students to mingle, take photos and reflect upon their school days at Sherwood Elementary. We hope that this new tradition continues in the years to come.

In closing, we look forward to increasing parent involvement in our school and to build upon the base we have already established. Sherwood Elementary Home and School will be active as we carry out the remainder of events we have planned for this school year. The Parents Council is enthusiastic with the progress we have made thus far with hopes of continuance for the remainder of the school year and future years to come. Upon this positive growth, the initiatives we set forth as Parents Council within our school will inevitably increase as well.



**SOMERSET ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Jenn Duffy, President****Executive Members:**

Danielle Cumbo – Vice-President

Tara Hughes – Treasurer

Carrie Rogers – Secretary

For the 2016-2017 school year, our executive has changed from the previous year. We held elections in June of 2016. Our Home and School committee generally meets every 6 weeks, and we try to keep our meetings from an hour to an hour and a half. Some topics that have been discussed at our meetings include: school goals, provincial testing, staff changes, updates from provincial and DAC members, school change policy, school transfers, zoning, technology, and fundraising.

Our year at present has been filled with a lot of emotion and hard work. Early into the school year, the Public Schools Branch announced that our Family of Schools (Somerset, Kinkora Regional, and Amherst Cove) would be under a Category II review. Immediately after the announcement, we hit the floor running, working very closely with KRHS Parent Council, Amherst Cove Parent Council, parents, community members and municipalities to keep all our schools open. As of February, 2017 we are still currently working very hard and are standing unified!!!!!!

Tickets were sold on a lobster dinner for 8 as our major fundraiser for the 2016-2017 school year. We were able to raise over \$8000, and one hundred percent of the proceeds went into a technology fund for our school. All items for the meal were donated by parents and grandparents. We also sold cookies and Gojis throughout the school year to raise funds. We are currently preparing for the Ford Drive Event in June, 2017. We will be working alongside school staff, students, parents, community members, etc. to make this year end fundraiser a huge success and be able to show what school spirit Somerset Elementary has!!!!

Somerset Home and School held our third annual Christmas Bazaar, and once again it was a great success. We hosted a pancake breakfast for students and staff before Christmas and, as well, during Winter Carnival Week. We will be making a donation to our school band to help with the cost of their trip to Halifax in May. Our Home and School will be donating three prizes to the grade eight Graduation in June.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation week went over very well. We had to do some reorganizing because of stormy weather, but we were able to treat our teachers/staff with 4 days of goodies. We are so appreciative of all that our staff does for our children at Somerset!!!

The Somerset Home and School is so thankful to have such a wonderful group of parents, volunteers, educators, admin assistant, custodians, and bus drivers that work so very hard every day to make our school such a positive environment for our children!!!!

**SOURIS REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Krystal Jamieson, Chair**

Secretary: Heather Ching  
Treasurer: Liz Chaisson

**Members at Large:**

Kelly Harris, Lisa O'Keefe –MacAulay, Tara Hill-Burke, Kirsten Mallard, Shelly Keenan, Carol Ann MacPhee, Kelly MacLean

Souris Regional School completed all interior renovations as of the Summer of 2015. There is still some work to be completed in regards to the exterior grounds, including the Grades 4-6 playground. During the last school year, we focused on fundraising for this area and are happy to announce that the Grades 4-6 playground will be receiving a new piece of equipment which will be installed at the conclusion of the current school year. This equipment will be in place and able to be enjoyed by September 2017.

We started the 2016/2017 school year with our committee electing Krystal Jamieson as Chair and Liz Chaisson as Treasurer. As with every year, our meetings have 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/topics. Some of these include Nit team, playground development, fund raising opportunities, grant applications, allocation of funds, district advisory councils, school/education enrichment, and the school review process.

This year we were able to help fund a number of teacher "wish list" items. Some of these items included white boards, books for classroom libraries, math program subscriptions, resource materials, etc. Our goal is to continue to fundraise in the coming months and years so that we can continue to offer this support. Every second year we hold a Spring Carnival as a fundraiser. This year we hope to use the proceeds of the Spring Carnival, which will be held in April, to support the music programs within our school, as well as additional items/activities that will help our staff in their quest to educate our children.

Shelly Keenan and Tara Hill-Burke continue to represent our committee/area with their involvement in the District Advisory Councils. Shelly and Tara have been consistently providing our committee with updates on the topics discussed at the DAC meetings. In addition, they bring our concerns and feedback to the meetings to ensure that they are heard and considered. Meetings this year have focused on a number of topics mainly the school review process, school review recommendations, staffing models, assessments, etc.

During the week of February 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> daily activities were planned to celebrate Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. Unfortunately, winter storms resulted in a number of storm days during that week. We continued with as many activities as we could that week and held the remainder shortly after. The support of parents and local businesses who donated their time, food, supplies and door prizes was

overwhelming! We truly enjoy this week every year and take full advantage of the opportunity to show our teachers, support staff and bus drivers how much we really do appreciate all that they do for our children. Last year we created the "Souris Regional Excellence Award" that would be presented each year during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week to a staff member who goes above and beyond for their students and their school. This year however, two teachers were nominated by their peers for this award.

As both were extremely deserving, we chose to present this award to both of them. We were very excited to be able to present this award to Chris MacAulay and Dawn Ching. The outpouring of letters and support of Chris and Dawn from their coworkers, parents, and past and present students was amazing. Congratulations Chris and Dawn!!!!

Due to last year's being a huge success, we plan to host another Numeracy Night in the coming months. This night will engage parents and children in math activities. It will be focused on children from grades K-6 who will be participating along with their parents in different activities to help understand new curriculum. In addition, the evening will include a presentation by Ted Johnston. We look forward to this event as it helps to bridge the connection between Home and School.

The Souris Regional Home and School Council has a wonderful group of parents and educators on our committee. This group continues to work hard so that our children and teachers have a positive environment for learning. This group of individuals have allowed us to form a strong Home and School connection. We've had a successful year so far and we look forward to what's in store for us in 2017/18.

**SOUTHERN KINGS CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Krystal MacKay, President**

**Executive:**

Vice President: Ashley Higginbotham

Treasurers: Kristen White

Secretary: Virginia Higginbotham

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. In September we provide the staff of the school an event with snacks, treats and meals every day for a week.
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. 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 throughout the year.

## SPRING PARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Sheldon Opps, President

**Executive:**

Sheldon Opps, President  
Alex Yin, Vice-President  
Jennifer MacLeod, Past-President  
Leslie Cudmore, Secretary  
Rebecca McQuaid, Treasurer  
Laura Bevan, Member-at-large  
Tracey Willoughby, Member-at-large

**Health and Nutrition Committee Chairs:**

Megan Miller and Kali Simmonds

**Canadian Parents for French Committee Chair:**

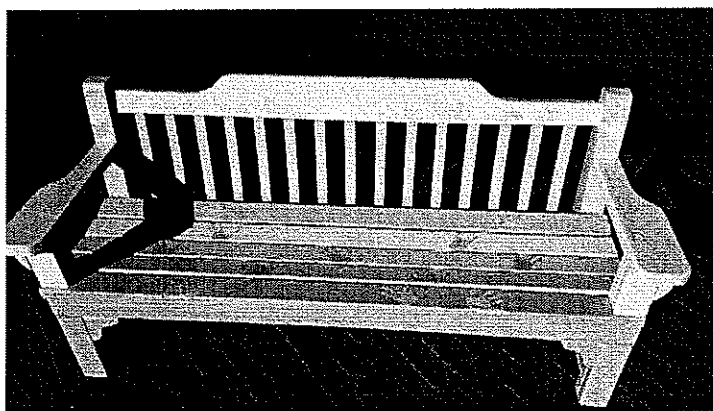
Marina Silva-Opps

**Capacity (Fundraising) Committee Chairs:**

Angela Lawlor

**1. Summary of 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, last year we carried out a strategic planning exercise to identify the key issues and priorities that resonate with our community. In point/topic form, the issues 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) Need more resources and staff to address curriculum issues/outcomes for both the English and French immersion programs.

**2. Buddy Bench:** A Buddy Bench was installed at Spring Park School, thanks to the great efforts of Laura Sinclair Bevan who was in charge of this project. The Buddy Bench was introduced to children at our Terry Fox Assembly. What is a Buddy Bench? Physically, it is just a nicely designed and well-decorated playground bench - but it represents much more than that. The idea of the Buddy Bench is to eliminate loneliness and foster friendship on the playground. So, let's spread the message of inclusion and kindness! <http://buddybench.org/>



**3. Committee Work and Community Engagement:** In an effort to address some of the priorities identified above, our committees have carried out the following activities this year:

**(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. To this end, a number of **new healthy-eating lunch options** were introduced this year, often replacing empty calories with nutritious options (such as fruits and vegetables). The greatest accomplishment that we had this year, however, was the **introduction of a smoothie-based breakfast program** offered once a week on Fridays at our school. This has been a huge success, where we are providing approximately 150 nutritious smoothies each Friday (due to the size of our school population, at ~540 kids, we offer smoothies to the grades K-2 and grades 3-6 on an alternating week basis); as well, we are providing some fun sports in the gym for the children of the breakfast-program volunteers. We will be taking advantage of the Wyman's donation of blueberries as we move forward on this breakfast program. We are also planning on serving grades K-6 for each Friday, if we can find suitable space in the school to do this.

**(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 last year. This committee has been very active, recruiting many parents from our school to CPF and engaging our community. Following up on the success of last year, this committee has provided more exciting extra-curricular activities for our children, including a **fun movie night** (with popcorn and drinks), so that learning French can be extended out of the classroom and become part of their broader experience. We also had a **Valentine's Day Door Decorating Contest** where classes decorated their classroom doors with wonderful French-based decorations and language, where a total of 17 classes participated in the contest. Our two judges were Denis Duchesne (Radio Canada) and Deb O'Hanley (Carrefour de L'Île St-Jean) - they evaluated each one of the decorated doors. Six classes won pizza parties or money prizes. There will be some more activities happening shortly.



**4. Diversity Awareness Week:** In an effort to **engage our parents**, we followed up on last year's successful weeklong 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) information provided by children was used to update a magnificent map of the globe showing the birthplace or cultural/heritage locations where all of the children originate from; (f) Information fact sheets were constructed on China, France, Syria and Canada and were given to the Principal for the distribution to the teachers; and (g) We had special presentations: Bing, from China and has been living in Charlottetown for 10 years. She is part of an Asian Cultural Artist Group on PEI and is also a dance instructor and choreographer. She performed two traditional dances for us, a vivid and lively Mongolian Dance performed for shepherds who tended the animals in the fields. Ali moved to PEI from Iran with his family in the summer of 2014. He runs a restaurant in town called Taste of Persia and he loves to share traditional Iranian music and his unique instruments with those around him. Ali plays the Taar and Setar.

**5. Fundraising Activities:** Many of the initiatives that have come out of our strategic planning exercise depend on fundraising activities in order to generate extra revenue. To this end, we have been developing the following fundraising activities:

1. **Spooktacular Silent Auction and bake sale:** For the first time, we ran a **silent auction** at our school's annual Halloween event, Spooktacular. This was a very successful event that benefited from starting as an online auction (and then being carried over as a live event). In this way, we were able to accelerate the bidding so as to fit within the timeframe of Spooktacular. As well, our H&S hosted our traditional 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 H&S 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 help our new breakfast program and support our local CBC Turkey Drive.
4. **Canadian Parents for French:** In order to pursue a number of key French initiatives and activities as part of our Canadian Parents for French Committee/Chapter, the CPF have conducted the following activities in order to be "self-sustaining": 1. Sold popcorn and drinks at our French movie night; and (2) sold memberships for CPF (where a portion of the membership fees returns to our school's CPF Committee/Chapter).

**6. Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:** To show our gratitude for all that our teachers and staff do at Spring Park school, this year we again honored our teachers, staff, and bus drivers over a two-week period (due to snowstorm school cancellations) 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 to our teachers and staff; (c) bringing flower bouquets to the front office and

staff room; (d) providing gift bags for our bus drivers; and (e) capping off the week with a special lunch for the teachers and staff.

**7. Proposed Policy Resolutions:** We recently submitted a school policy resolution to address the current status of the allotted times for **lunch and snack** in the Province. The major concerns that were addressed in these resolutions were: i.e., Is the minimal 20 minutes lunch time being adhered to, or are children being rushed to eat their lunches – our resolution requests that this time frame be *strictly enforced*. ii. That children should be going outside for recess *first*, before eating their lunch. iii. That a minimal time of 10 minutes be allotted for children to eat their snacks, where, currently, this time frame is much shorter. It is essential that children have sufficient time to eat their lunches and snacks in order that they perform well in school - in the classroom, in the gym, and outdoors.

**8. Public School Branch Proposed Changes:** At the Spring Park Home and School meeting on Jan 17, 2017, we discussed our school's concerns with the proposed changes provided in the Category II Change Study Report for Charlottetown. In an effort to provide a unified voice from our school, an ad-hoc committee was created to address these proposed changes. The main task of this committee was to consolidate our concerns and provide critical feedback on the report, including amendments and clarifications. A response document was crafted:

<https://drive.google.com/.../0B4kvav8ls67vVE05bnk2MGpSd.../view...>

where the contents of this document were presented at the Public Schools Branch Public Meeting for the Colonel Gray Family of Schools on Wednesday, February 1 at 7:00pm in the Colonel Gray gymnasium. This document was also shared with the PEI Home and School Federation and MLA Jordon Brown.



STONEPARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Tracey Willoughby, Co-Chair

**Executive:**

Co Chair – Tracey Willoughby

Co- Chair - Mike Stanley

DAC rep. - Mike Stanley

Treasurer - Tracy Ellsworth

Our Home and School communicates through our blog located on the school website which has links to the PEIHSF website. We post minutes, meeting dates, volunteer requests and updates from the PEI Home and School Federation.

We have been to the meetings and had several meetings concerning the school review/report of recommendations. There have been many passionate discussions had at our meetings and even more concerns about the recommendations. This has been the main focus of our meetings this school year.

We use Google docs for Teacher/Staff Appreciation week events and end of year closing. It is very easy for all to use.

TSAW - It was hard to do this year with all of the snow days happening during this week. We carried it over into the next week. We had a hot luncheon which some of the staff look forward to all year. We also had draws and treats throughout the week.

Fundraising: The only fundraising we do is "Passing the Hat at the first Meet the Teacher night in September. This usually is enough for us to have our Ice Cream Social/ Meet the teacher night, TSAW, and end of year closing event which benefits every student and their family when they reach grade 9.

We have participated in nominating individuals for the Federation's awards.

We have been to the Semi-Annual meeting which was very informative and interesting and are hoping to attend the AGM in April - I learn something new every time I go.

**STRATFORD ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Danielle Boyce, Chair**

**Executive:**

Vice-Chair: Natalie Fraser

Secretary: Lindy McQuillan

Treasurer: Sherri Davis

It's been a busy year so far at SES! Some of the 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 Assessment
- School Review

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 contributions to the students so far this year have been over \$5,000 toward leveled reading books for the classrooms, just over \$1000 went towards writing kits and wiggle chairs for the classrooms, as well as \$5,000 towards 15 new chrome books. We also contributed to a Christmas Family.

We had a school review gathering that brought out a few parents to participate in a discussion of the factors we were asked to consider. We also put together a presentation that was given to the school review board. 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; and attendance at Home and School meetings has been up due to the school review process.

**SUMMERSIDE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Andrea Pickett, President**

1. Continued success with a parent-led breakfast program which runs 5 days a week and feeds over 125 kids per day. The program has been running for over 15 years
2. With the new Public Schools Branch...SIS is working on Literacy Goals, Numeracy Goals a Well-Being Goal and a Community Involvement Goal. Progress has been going extremely well with teachers using high yield teaching strategies to relate curriculum to the goals and improve student achievement.
3. Student involvement is at an all time high...Band and different music clubs, Art Club, Library Club, Book Club, Science Club Leadership, wrestling club, a strong intramural and sports programs...just to name a few! More than 75% of our student population is involved at some point throughout the year!
4. We had a team of students do very well in The Future Cities Engineering Competition put on by the engineering department of UPEI. This group worked independently under the guidance of a teacher and won The Most Sustainable Design Award at the competition. We at SIS are very proud.
5. Just finished our Junior Mayor and Council elections...a group of 7 students get elected in a democratic process each year and learn the facts about elections and politics. The group is then sworn in by the City of Summerside to run the City for a day! This is an amazing experience and educational opportunity. This program has been in existence with our school since 1969! This program relates perfectly to our Social Studies curriculum.
6. Reading initiative...Our teachers are promoting reading and literacy. Each teacher has a list outside their classroom of the books that they have read throughout the year thus far and adding to it as great role models...students are also expected to keep a reading rate and are encouraged to read as many books of different genre's as possible.  
Our librarian will do a book talk with our students thus introducing new books to our students!
7. We at SIS are continuing to benefit from The Indigo Reading Grant of \$55,000 that we received from Indigo last year. This money is supporting our reading programs in a fantastic way!

As you can see, we have many positive happenings at SIS!

**THREE OAKS SENIOR HIGH HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Leigh Dymont, Chair**

**Executive:**

Leigh Dymont, Chair  
Cathy Richard, Secretary  
Jeff Clow, Principal

TOSH Home and School holds 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. \$327 was raised and donated to the TOSH Breakfast Program

The Presbyterian Church next to Three Oaks provides Kraft Dinner for TOSH Students on Thursdays. An estimated number of 120 students attend lunch. A Kraft Dinner 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 a little over \$9000 last year for breakfast and lunch programs. Three Oaks received approximately \$4000 in funding this year to help offset costs. This fall at the TOSH Craft Fair \$5000 was raised by Scotiabank's matching program! This will be used to help fund the Breakfast Program for the next couple of years.

Three Oaks is undergoing a large renovation over the next two years. Final approval for the renovation plans has been received and work is scheduled to start before March Break. Principal Jeff Clow shared details of the renovations with TOSH Parent Council.

A lunch was held on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> 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 TOSH Parent Council for volunteering to help out with setting up and cleaning up for the lunch.

TOSH Parent Council continues to have representation on the District Advisory Council, giving input to the Department of Education from both a student and parent perspective.

There will be a Parent Information session in April. The date of the session will be April 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the TOSH cafeteria. The presentation will include

- Drug Awareness and Substance Abuse (Summerside Police Services)
- Physical and Sexual health (Harbourside Medical Center)
- Mental Health (professional TBD)

The session will be open to all parents/students in the Three Oaks family of schools. It will involve:

- A short presentation by each panelist (15-20 minutes each for a total of 45-60 minutes)
- Q&A time in the format of a panel with all participants to answer questions not covered in the presentations (30-45 minutes)

Questions will come from the following sources:

- The floor will be open for questions
- Advance collection of questions via a confidential survey to TOSH parents/teens
- Advance collection of questions via parent councils of feeder schools
- Refreshments prepared by Three Oaks Culinary students
- Presentation material, Q&A and all resources will be made available online after the session
- Written material will be made available after the session and will include
  - Presentation material for those requesting a physical copy
  - Panelist answers to questions asked at the session for those requesting a physical copy
  - Written material listing self help resources and professional resources will be made available in hard copy in the office at TOSH and all feeder schools
- TOSH Parent Council has secured a grant of \$550 from the PEI Home and School Federation for the session.

TOSH Parent Council will be holding a “Drive Away Hunger” event in May. In cooperation with Summerside Chrysler Dodge cars will be made available for the public to test drive. Summerside Chrysler Dodge will make a donation for every driver who participates in the event. Proceeds from this event will go toward the TOSH Breakfast and Lunch Program for the 2017/2018 school year.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Dymment

**VERNON RIVER HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Janessa McCabe / Margie Burns, Co-Presidents**

**Executive:**

Co- Secretaries: Lisa MacLean / Krista MacKinnon

Co-Treasurers: Christina Compton / Tara Watts

**District Advisory Council Member:** Deb Sieon

**Lunch Coordinator:** Cheryl Drake

**Topics discussed at local meetings:**

- Fundraising ideas for Playground Equipment and an AED; Lunch program, Fall Family Fun Run, Big Comfy Couch at Christmas and Spring Concerts, Quilt sale at spring concerts, Fudge Sale at Christmas and Spring Concerts, and Ford's Drive 4 UR School.
- Reports from: President, Treasurer, Grade 9 students, Principal, Lunch Program and Occupational Health and Safety
- School Review: Topic was discussed at all meetings. Home and School hosted an evening for parents, teachers, community members to come together to discuss viable options and suggestions for proposal. Vernon River Home and School executive presented their proposal in November to Bob Andrews and Parker Grimmer at the Montague Family public meeting. Vernon River Home and School executive also submitted an online proposal during the public consultation period in February. Vernon River Principal and Home and School President met with Belfast VP and Home and School to discuss the possible changes to both schools if Belfast Consolidated is closed.
- Triple P Parenting night: the second session follow up from the first Triple P parenting night that was offered to parents last spring will be held in March, with the third and final evening to be presented in the spring.
- Janessa McCabe and Margie Burns plan on instructing teachers, students, and parents CPR as part of an initiative to increase fundraising while creating a safe environment for all that utilize our school.

**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:**

- Snacks and treats were brought to the school each day of the week for teachers to enjoy.
- Bristle board was hung outside each classroom and students were encouraged to write a kind word of appreciation for their teachers

**Benefits to Students from Efforts:**

- Hosted our 6th annual Fall Family Fun Run on Halloween and raised \$180.00
- Home and School was able to secure the remainder of the funds necessary to purchase new playground equipment. The new playground will arrive in the spring and volunteers will help with assembly and setup.
- Due to poor acoustics in our gymnasium during concerts, last year Home and School hired a professional sound person for our concerts. The sound quality was 100% improved and feedback from families was positive. We continue to use the professional sound person for concerts, and feedback has continued to be extremely positive.
- Big comfy couch draw at concerts as well as fudge and water sales
- Our lunch program is on its 7th 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.
- 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 our meeting dates/times, as well as post our minutes from the meeting. We also use this page to communicate our fundraising events

**WEST KENT HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Mary Robinson / Sally Murray Co-Chairs**

**Executive:**

Rhonda Nicholson, Treasurer

Bev Gerg, Secretary

**Fundraising**

- Held West Kent's 12th Fall Fair, October 29, 2016 (Co-Chair: Karla Jenkins, Perri Craig, Menna Dickie and Peggy Roach). 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.
- Participated in the Indigo "Adopt a School" program as a library fund-raiser in early October. This resulted in the purchase of 63 new books for our library.
- Participated in an Indigo Fundraiser September 22 and 23. Children and teachers volunteered at Indigo. Indigo donated a percentage of sales to our school in Indigo gift cards.

**Activities**

- Started the school year with our annual "Welcome Back to School" ice cream social.
- A group of families volunteered over summer as "Garden Caretakers" of our school vegetable garden, resulting in the grade 3 class having opportunity to harvest vegetables in the fall and enjoy their gardening efforts.
- Hold West Kent Home and School meetings every 4 to 8 weeks. Continuing with the goal to increase parent involvement in WKHS. This year childcare is being offered during WKHS meetings for children of parents attending the meeting.
- Struck a School Change Working Committee, (chaired by John Cuncliffe). The committee had a very tight timeline. Their impressive work included:
  - a Parent Survey (using an online tool - Survey Monkey)
  - a process to develop WK options
  - oral and written presentations



- background research and development of proposed solutions
  - writing and editing a final submission.
- Continue to offer a hot-lunch program for all school days. 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.
- Continue to operate our snowshoe library, lending snowshoes to WK families over the weekend in support of an active lifestyle and family fun
- Supported Staff Appreciation Week with WKHS providing various treats and covered lunch duty to allow staff to have lunch together.
- Support a volunteer with mobility challenges who comes into the school once a week to work with children in grades 2 to 6. WKHS purchases a Pat and the Elephant punch card to help offset this valuable volunteer's expenses.
- Support an after school chess club and working toward offering after school art classes.
- Continue to work toward improving parent communication through the WK Face Book page and Twitter.

**WEST ROYALTY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**Vanessa Ford / Lori Ferguson-Brown, Co-Presidents**

**EXECUTIVE:**

President: Vanessa Ford & Lori Ferguson-Brown

Vice President: Krystal Mayne

Treasurer: Deanna Bellamy

Secretary: Maha M. Mardini

Website: <http://www.westroyaltyhs.ca/>

**EVENTS/ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

Meet the staff night - September 13

Magazine and Gifts Fundraising Campaign - September 14th - October 3rd (online sales open all year)

Indigo Fundraising nights - September 29-30

Green Space - ( fall cleanup of flower beds) - October

Walking School Bus - October 5th

Halloween Dance - October 27

Pancake Breakfast - November 26

Christmas Families - Throughout the month of December

Cookie Dough Campaign - January 30-February 14 (extended to February 22 due to storm days)

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week- February 13-17, lunch February 17

Spring Carnival - May

Spring Fun Day - June 23

Green Space - (spring clean up of flower beds) May/June

Grade 6 Fundraising - Year Round

Healthy Snack - Year Round

Math club - ongoing throughout the year

Nutrition committee - ongoing throughout the year

**MEETINGS:**

Meeting are held monthly on every second Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. and conclude by 8 p.m.

We follow a set agenda, with updates from the principal as well as committee chairs. We have a small but loyal group of parents that are in attendance at our meetings, as well as a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers that we are fortunate to be able to reach out to at any time.

**PROVINCIAL MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

Leadership Training Sessions - September 26, 27

Semi-Annual Meeting of PEI Home and School Federation - October 25

Annual Meeting of PEI Home and School Federation - April 8

**PARENT ENGAGEMENT:**

West Royalty Elementary School submitted a proposal to host a parent engagement night in March. We planned a night to engage and inform parents/guardians as well as children on the importance of cyber safety and anti-bullying. The evening will include presentations by Constable Kiezer of the Charlottetown City Police, as well as Jason Mosher will share his experiences as being bullied as a child. We hope to enhance our parent library with resources that provide parents with tools they may need when in these situations. We plan to host the evening in March.

**TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK:**

Due to storm days teachers and staff were provided with snacks on Wednesday February 15th, with a special lunch provided by parents on Friday, February 17. There was no need for classroom monitors as the lunch was held on a storm day. The thought moving forward is that we try to schedule for PD day as teachers did not feel the need to rush through their meal. There were draws and giveaways for the teachers and staff.

**DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS RAISED:**

The West Royalty Home and School had 2 major fundraisers this year, our Magazine & Gifts at the beginning of the year and the Cookie Dough campaign in February. Our principal will provide us with a "wish list" of items to be considered by the Home and School executives. This year we have adjusted our budget to include an increase of funds to certain committees based on last year's numbers. These increases were within our healthy snack initiative, parent engagement, nutrition group, spring fling and fun day. Because resources are limited with the number of Home and School initiatives we support the school has opted to sell coupon books.

**EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES:**

Again this year our school has been trying to access external funding sources. We are currently running indigo shop nights throughout the year with 20% of sales donated by customers and Indigo going to West Royalty to help enrich classroom literacy.

**COMMUNICATION:**

We at West Royalty are very fortunate to have a mix of skills on our Home and School Executive this year. We have a few members who have been involved with the Home and School for a number of years and a few new members who bring a fresh perspective to the table. We work very closely with the administration staff at the school, as well as keep all members of the West Royalty Elementary School community updated and informed on all upcoming events and opportunities to volunteer with our monthly newsletters and regular blog updates.

We are fortunate as the West Royalty Home and School to have many volunteers who give endlessly of their time and efforts throughout the school year. We would like to thank everyone as it is not possible to accomplish all that we (the West Royalty School Community) do throughout the year without your dedication and hard work.

**WESTISLE PARENT COUNCIL**  
**Kelly Herget, President**

Westisle has a parent council chaired by the principal which met approximately 6 times over the school year so far. The first meeting was held after the school's meet-the-teacher night, held in September to start the year off. The executive was in place by the second meeting with Monique Horne as treasurer, Shelley Williams as Secretary, Lori Cahill Vice-president and Kelly Herget as President.

The year began with a Ford Test Drive event in mid-October, which had many staff, student and parent volunteers out to help make this day successful. This was a great fundraiser and also served as a great way to get people involved.

From then on, most of the discussion has centered on the school review process. Several members of this parent council partnered with representatives from the other schools in the Westisle family to form West Prince Home and School United. It was felt that the review process had potential to divide and pit schools against one another as they fought for their home schools. To keep this from happening, the larger group worked together to support all the schools in our area and instead focused on the resource deficits already felt in rural PEI. Other options were suggested to help with the low occupancy rates in rural areas that could also help with the resource deficits such as the hub school model. This group worked hard from October and is currently still together, awaiting the final recommendations from the Public Schools Branch.

Other activities included planning our annual Staff Appreciation Week in February which, although delayed due to storms, was successful. A potluck meal was provided one day, along with sweets and treats another and pizza on the third day. Student council and the administration also provided surprises for the other two days.

A resolution was developed for this year's PEIHSF AGM regarding changing the high school from a 4 period day to a 5 period day to enable students to take part in more of the wonderful electives provided at our school.

All in all, the 2016/17 school year was a busy one, with the focus being on the school review process.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Herget

**WESTWOOD PRIMARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION****Margo Thistle, Chair**

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 will go towards the purchase of SPARK Brain Bikes, resources for the school counselling library, art education, a document camera, an outdoor kindergarten learning space as well as other items to help support our school family.

Our fundraising activities for this year included:

- A fall QSP catalogue fundraiser;
- A Mabel's Labels fundraiser which is ongoing throughout the school year; and
- A family fun night in November celebrating Westy's birthday including a silent auction, basket raffle, 50/50 and lots of fun games and activities for the kids.

**Other Activities**

- Our association supported Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week; various treats for all Westwood staff were brought in by Westwood parents.
- Local artist, Maurice Bernard, will come to the school for a week in the spring to do a small art project with each classroom. This was initiated and supported by the Home and School.
- We continue to improve parent communication by updating our Westwood Home and School Facebook page and twitter account.

**Westwood Home and School Executive**

Margo Thistle, Chair  
Karen Wight, Secretary  
Jolena Malone, Teacher Rep

Amy MacFarlane, Treasurer  
Laura Steeves, Communications

**Contact**

<http://westwoodhsa.wikispaces.com>  
[westwoodhsa@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodhsa@gmail.com)

# PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION

## 2017 NOMINATION REPORT

Submitted by: Peter Rukavina

### EXECUTIVE:

Positions:	Nominees:	Two Year Term Expires:
Treasurer	_____	2019
Secretary	_____	2019

### REGIONAL DIRECTORS: Families of Schools

Positions:	Nominees:	Two Year Term Expires:
Bluefield	_____	2019
Kensington	_____	2019
Souris	_____	2019
Three Oaks	_____	2019
Westisle	_____	2019

**PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION  
PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS  
Annual Meeting, April 8, 2017**

**RESOLUTION 1-2017      SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES**

**Submitted by the Englewood Home and School Association**

**WHEREAS** according to the Canadian Mental Health Association, 70% of adults with mental illness report that their symptoms first appeared in childhood and adolescence, and an estimated 10-20% of Canadian youth are affected by mental illness or disorders; and

**WHEREAS** the most common mental health disorders affecting children - anxiety and depression, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and eating disorders - affect students' quality of life and the ability to benefit from their school experience; and

**WHEREAS** research has shown that early intervention, diagnosis and treatment of mental health disorders can reduce negative outcomes and allow children to develop the resilience needed to cope with life's difficulties. Without early intervention, the potential results of mental illness – serious impairment, substance abuse, unemployment, homelessness, poverty and suicide – can be costly to the individual and society; and

**WHEREAS** one of five interconnected strategic priorities in PEI's new Mental Health and Addiction Strategy is "Invest early – focus on children, young people and families"; and

**WHEREAS** school counsellors may be the only resource available to students and their families in rural communities and are often the first point of contact in identifying problems that need immediate or more intense treatment; and

**WHEREAS** the current allotment of school counselors in Prince Edward Island schools (1 per 400 students) is insufficient to address the mental health needs of Prince Edward Island school children. School counsellors are forced to be reactive rather than delivering programs aimed at preventing mental health issues and building resilience; and

**WHEREAS** counsellors in PEI schools can spend as little as two days per week in a school, making it difficult to establish familiarity with the student body and develop relationships needed for success. Teachers, administrators and staff deal with students' mental health needs on days when school counselors are not present. This places additional stress on the teachers who lack the time and training to deal with serious issues of mental health and puts the child at risk if imminent problems are unaddressed; and

**WHEREAS** mental health needs of students has been a topic of discussion in meetings of the newly established PEI District Advisory Councils; and

**WHEREAS** the Province just signed a new Health Accord with the Federal Government in which 20.5 million is allocated for mental health initiatives over 10 years; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the PEI Home and School Federation request the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Minister of Health and Wellness improve access to counseling services in Prince Edward Island schools, with an emphasis on providing proactive programs to support children and youth mental health and wellness in schools and communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the PEI Home and School Federation request the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to demonstrate its commitment to youth mental health by establishing a target of one School Counsellor to 250 students.

**DESTINATION:** Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture  
Minister of Health and Wellness  
Public Schools Branch  
Health PEI  
Canadian Mental Health Association, PEI Division



## **RESOLUTION 2- 2017      SCHOOL FOOD GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

### **Submitted by Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation**

BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation adopt School Food Guiding Principles to assist in the establishment of a provincial school food strategy for all students in P.E.I.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Public Schools Branch to adopt the PEI Home and School Federation's School Food Guiding Principles to lead and assist in the establishment of a provincial school food strategy for all students in P.E.I.

DESTINATION:      Public Schools Branch, Minister of Education  
Minister of Early Learning and Culture  
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries  
Minister of Health and Wellness  
Premier of Prince Edward Island

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### **PEI Home and School Federation School Food Guiding Principles (DRAFT)**

The **PEI Home and School Federation** is the umbrella organization of local "Home and School" and "parent council" organizations in 55 schools across Prince Edward Island.

We bring together parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff to promote the total well-being of children and the highest standards of education for each child in the province.

The Prince Edward Island provincial school food strategy will be a model for how all stakeholders in education can be brought together to promote their shared values for the benefit and wellbeing of all Island children.

The strategy will be developed and nurtured through a collaboration of students, parents and guardians, government departments, primary industries, cooks and chefs. The following principles will guide the implementation of the strategy.

#### **1.      We will create school environments that make healthy choices easiest for students.**

Good food and authentic hospitality nurture the whole child and invite collaboration and success. We will create inviting and safe environments within schools and provide enough time for eating, discussion, sharing and learning around food. We will offer opportunities for students to open up to new, shared food experiences and local food possibilities.

#### **2.      We will create school food programs that are universal, inclusive and equitable.**

We will provide adequate, nutritious food to all school-aged children in Prince Edward Island, regardless

of their ability to pay, the availability of resources in the community, or the location of the school. We will ensure that hunger is not a barrier to learning for any child. We will serve a variety of foods in recognition of the diversity of the student population and we will create an environment of respect for every person's inherent value and celebrate their potential to contribute to their school and community.

**3. Young people will be given opportunities to drive the school food programs.**

We will make schools a hub for food activity and emphasize developing the capacity of young people to advocate for their own needs. We will provide students with regular opportunities to collaborate with students from other Island schools.

**4 We will provide opportunities for curriculum integration.**

We will provide opportunities for hands on learning, service learning, citizenship and community projects, social entrepreneurship and articulation agreements with post-secondary institutions. Integration with the curriculum will allow students to prepare and grow food, make healthy choices outside school, think critically about the food system and media, and develop self-awareness and confidence.

**5. We will work with local farmers, fishers and processors to emphasize the value of fresh, local, sustainable, seasonal food.**

We will engage grassroots stakeholders and respect the assets and resources already available in schools and communities. We will place a high emphasis on local, seasonal food and we will aim for sustainability by building support and capacity at the community level.

**6. We will secure additional funding and resources to ensure that programs are properly staffed and funded to be sustainable and create significant impact.**

Volunteers are valued in schools, but sustainable funding and dedicated staff are vital. The provincial school food strategy will not be an added responsibility for school staff and volunteers. We will implement pilot projects that will aid in developing processes that clarify expectations for schools and school staff.

**7. We will set achievable goals with clear targets and timelines to measure success.**

Achievable goals will be set and progress toward these goals will be monitored. Evaluation measures will include indicators relating to, but not limited to, the availability of healthy food in schools, the wellbeing of students, food literacy, attendance and academic achievement, the cost of the program, amount of local food accessed by the school food program, the economic multiplier effect of local food procurement, and the time and resources required by school staff and volunteers. Successes will be celebrated!

## **RESOLUTION 3- 2017      SCHOOL HEALTHY SNACK TIME**

**Submitted by Spring Park Home and School Association**

WHEREAS we know that making time for physical activity and nutrition in school does not detract from academics; it's an investment in higher academic performance, with studies showing that healthy kids get better grades, attend school more often and behave better in class, and

WHEREAS research on properly fueling your body supports the concept of consuming frequent healthy meals and snacks and drinking lots of water, five to seven times per day, as the best way to enhance cognitive performance and keep blood sugar levels constant, and

WHEREAS recognizing that students should have a nourishing snack and water every three to four hours, students would benefit from a 10 minute healthy snack time separate from recess to boost energy and facilitate learning;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Public Schools Branch to develop policy for the purpose of implementing a 10 minute healthy snack time apart from recess in all schools in Prince Edward Island to contribute to overall student health and learning.

DESTINATION:      Public Schools Branch  
Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture

### Background:

[http://www.communityhealthmagazine.com/community/new\\_york/why-students-should-be-allowed-to-eat-in-class/article\\_cc6e0c30-0c91-11e4-bad2-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.communityhealthmagazine.com/community/new_york/why-students-should-be-allowed-to-eat-in-class/article_cc6e0c30-0c91-11e4-bad2-001a4bcf887a.html)

<http://www.phcanada.ca/academic-performance>

<https://ccaeducate.me/blog/blog-post/17/eat-smart-how-to-improve-academic-performance>

[https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/health\\_and\\_academics/pdf/health-academic-achievement.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/health_and_academics/pdf/health-academic-achievement.pdf)

<https://hbr.org/2014/10/what-you-eat-affects-your-productivity>

## **RESOLUTION 4- 2017      SCHOOL LUNCH TIME FRAME**

### **Submitted by Spring Park Home and School Association**

WHEREAS according to Statistics Canada, in 2011<sup>i</sup>, approximately one third of Canadian children between the ages of 5 and 17 were obese and given the amount of time children spend in school, we must recognize the school setting is one that significantly influences students' food choices and intakes and, consequently, affects their overall health and weight, and

WHEREAS healthy food choices and practices have been linked with learning readiness and academic success, as well as fewer discipline and emotional problems<sup>ii</sup>, and

WHEREAS a study out of Harvard<sup>iii</sup> found that when children had a school lunch period of less than 20 minutes, they consumed less of their entrees, vegetables and milk, and they were less likely to choose a fruit to go with their meal, and

WHEREAS the PEI Public Schools Branch states in their School Nutrition Policy 2.4.1 a) Schools SHALL allow a minimum of 20 minutes for students to eat lunch<sup>iv</sup> (Note: This should not include time to stand in line, travel to lunch areas, or prepare foods), and

WHEREAS the PEI Public Schools Branch also states in their School Nutrition Policy 2.4.1 b) In the elementary setting, encourage that foods are eaten after outside play, whenever possible and 2.4.1 c) Assure that lunch is eaten in a calm positive environment<sup>iv</sup>;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Public Schools Branch to strictly enforce its policy of a minimum 20-minute school lunch eating time for all students keeping in mind that this is eating time only; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Public Schools Branch to ensure that elementary students will eat their lunch after outside play, whenever possible, in a calm and positive environment to facilitate healthy eating in a relaxed atmosphere that is not distracted and hurried.

DESTINATION:      Public Schools Branch  
Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture

#### References:

- i. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-003-x/2012003/article/11706-eng.htm>
- ii. <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/foodnutritionsummarybackground.pdf>
- iii. <http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2015/09/short-lunch-periods-dont-serve-students-needs/>
- iv. [http://www.gov.pe.ca/edu/psb/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/602.1\\_Nutrition\\_in\\_Schools.pdf](http://www.gov.pe.ca/edu/psb/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/602.1_Nutrition_in_Schools.pdf)  
<http://www.gov.pe.ca/edu/psb/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/wsb-Nutrition.pdf>

#### Related Articles:

- <http://www.today.com/health/does-your-child-have-time-eat-well-school-t43426>
- <http://www.metronews.ca/news/calgary/2017/02/02/pilot-nutritional-program-helping-calgary-students-focus.html>
- <https://foodsecurecanada.org/resources-news/resources-research/provincial-and-territorial-guidance-document-development-nutrient>
- <http://www.todaysdietitian.com/newarchives/tdaug2007pg44.shtml>

**RESOLUTION 5- 2017      PROVINCIAL SCHOOL FOOD STRATEGY**  
**Submitted by Montague Regional High Home and School Associations**

- WHEREAS the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation passed a resolution in 2015 calling for a universal provincial school food program, and
- WHEREAS Public Schools Branch schools are required to follow the School Nutrition Policy<sup>i,ii</sup> developed by the Prince Edward Island Healthy Eating Alliance, and
- WHEREAS the food being served currently in Island schools does not follow the Public Schools Branch School Nutrition Policy, and
- WHEREAS the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation has developed seven guiding principles for a provincial school food strategy, and
- WHEREAS several schools, such as Montague Regional High School, are poised to establish independent school lunch programs which will replace processed foods with locally-grown freshly-prepared meals, offer a multitude of curriculum integration possibilities for students and build on the resources available in the community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Public Schools Branch to lead and assist in the establishment of a provincial school food strategy, beginning with pilot projects in several schools, that are guided by the Public Schools Branch School Nutrition Policy

DESTINATION:      Public Schools Branch  
                         Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture  
                         Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries  
                         Minister of Health and Wellness

**BACKGROUND:**

i. <http://www.gov.pe.ca/edu/psb/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/wsb-Nutrition.pdf>

ii. [http://www.gov.pe.ca/edu/psb/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/602.1\\_Nutrition\\_in\\_Schools.pdf](http://www.gov.pe.ca/edu/psb/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/602.1_Nutrition_in_Schools.pdf)

**RESOLUTION 6-2017      MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE ON SCHOOL LIBRARIES**  
**Submitted by Glen Stewart Home and School Association**

- WHEREAS the Public Schools Branch is undertaking a School Review Process - Better Learning for All, and
- WHEREAS the Public Schools Branch states it is responsible to ensure students have equitable opportunities to learn and that resources be used effectively, and
- WHEREAS research is clear that a culture of learning and student achievement is strengthened when schools have access to teacher-librarians and a school library program, and
- WHEREAS many schools currently have eroded, minimal or no time allocated for teacher-librarians and a school library;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation request the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture and the Public Schools Branch revisit the Minister's Directive on School Libraries (2010) to strengthen its support for school libraries and teacher-librarians, with a commitment to meeting the Directive's staffing allocations based on school enrolment.

DESTINATION:      Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture  
Public Schools Branch

Background:

[https://www.lrs.org/documents/school/school\\_library\\_impact.pdf](https://www.lrs.org/documents/school/school_library_impact.pdf)  
<http://www.ncte.org/positions/statements/supportinglibraries>

Additional notes:

- Teacher-librarians help students develop a love of reading and life-long learning which is fundamental to their success as engaged citizens. They help students use digital technologies as well as print resources.
- Teacher-librarians help students learn independently and provide expert advice in locating and using high quality information.
- Teacher-librarians support classroom teachers with resources that enrich the curriculum and help support learners.
- An erosion of teacher-librarian positions in many schools across the province means many students do not have equitable access to library resources and the expertise of a teacher-librarian. This reality undermines access to resources for students and teachers and undermines opportunities to strengthen literacy across the K-12 system
- The development of lifelong learners is at risk when schools experience inequities based on geography, school size and in many cases, insufficient staffing allocation. If we are to be truly committed to equitable long term literacy, schools with teacher-librarians and libraries must play a pivotal role.

**RESOLUTION 7-2017      INCREASE TO 5 PERIOD DAYS FOR HIGH SCHOOL BY  
DECREASING CLASS LENGTH TO 60 MINUTES**

**Submitted by Westisle Parent Council / Home and School Association**

WHEREAS    an all around education includes opportunities to explore interests through elective courses and students that are able to do this would be better equipped to make informed choices for post-secondary education, and

WHEREAS    the number of mandated classes was increased in 2015 to include a grade 10 physical education class as well as a career exploration class and a creativity and innovation class, and

WHEREAS    the current high school programming is a semestered system with four 75 minute classes per day for 2 semesters to give a total of 24 credits over 3 years, 20 of which are needed for graduation with 12 that are mandatory, and students pursuing certain programs like advanced sciences and French immersion have little room for elective courses over the three years, and

WHEREAS    it is felt that 75 minute periods are too long to keep students engaged and productive, and

WHEREAS    the French School Board has already implemented a 5 period/day semestered system and have adjusted curriculum and graduation requirements accordingly, and

WHEREAS    the Department of Education is stressing career planning by making the Career Explorations course mandatory for high school students, it has decreased the opportunity for students to explore through other elective courses i.e. music, foods, computer science;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF request that the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture review its current semestered system and consider switching to a five period day of 60 minute classes and adjust curriculum and graduation requirements accordingly.

DESTINATION:    Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture  
Public Schools Branch

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

To be presented to the PEI Home and School Federation Annual General Meeting, April 8, 2017 by  
Shelley Muzika, Treasurer

**MOTION:** To increase the PEI Home and School Federation Membership Fees as follows: \$100 for schools having under two hundred students and \$200 for schools having over two hundred students.

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# Responses to 2016 Resolutions



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

RECEIVED OCT 13 2016

September 30, 2016

Ms Lisa MacDougall, President  
Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc  
P O. Box 1012  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

Dear Ms MacDougall:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Resolutions passed at your April 9<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. First, let me thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend and speak to your membership. 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:

## **RESOLUTION 1 – 2016 – Social Media Policy**

The province of Prince Edward Island has initiated a social media policy for all of its departments and education authorities which is presently under review.

## **RESOLUTION 2 – Teaching Profession Act**

The Education Act includes sections that pertain to the teaching profession in the area of Responsibilities of Principals and Responsibilities of Teachers. As well, the following regulations stipulates requirements regarding: Instructional Personnel Regulations, Teacher Discipline Regulations, as well as the Certification and Standards Regulations which deals with certification of teachers for the province of PEI.

## **RESOLUTION 3 – 2016 – Public Reporting and Removal of School Fees**

The Public School Branch (PSB) is in the process of merging Western School Board Policy 33 and ESD policy CFA-R on School Fund-raising Administration and Accounting Procedures. The Director will consult with school principals and school communities to determine the best manner to convey the fee structure. Once the consultation process is complete, the PSB Board of Directors who will direct the PSB on implementing any recommendations.

#### RESOLUTION 4 – 2016 – French Immersion

1. The Department works closely with the Human Resources staff of the Public Schools Branch to assess their staffing needs and if necessary, to recruit French teachers off Island. In 2015-2016, the Department has provided financial support to the Board for recruitment efforts in Nova Scotia and Moncton. The Department also works closely with UPEI to support the French B. Ed. The Bachelor of Education in French at UPEI receives \$380,000 annually to support the delivery of the program. A joint funding agreement between the provincial and federal governments is in place until 2017-2018. Twelve students graduated from the program in 2016 and 16 are now registered for 2016-2017. Many of these students are hired to teach in our schools.
2. There are no specific initiatives that address the concern of French substitute teachers and EAs. However, French language is certainly an asset that is prominent in the database used to search for substitutes.
3. A minimum of \$200,000 of learning resources is annually put into our French Second Language programs. Schools that have seen large increases in the number of students can always apply for extra funding for school and classroom libraries.
4. The Department provides bursaries for teachers wishing to further their study in French (\$7000 in 2015-16). It also provides individual French language coaching for up to ten teachers a year through the Programme de Perfectionnement Langagier (\$16 000 in 2015-16). The Department also provides bursaries for French Second Language teachers to attend out-of-province Professional learning sessions in French (2015-16, \$6000).

#### RESOLUTION 5 – 2016 - Automated External Defibrillators

Some schools have purchased these devices on their own and training by qualified personnel has been offered to individual school staff if they have purchased the equipment. The board has not initiated a program to purchase devices for schools. It is estimated that a board wide initiative would cost in excess of \$100K. Currently, the board would not be able to finance this expenditure for all schools. However, funding is provided to the Public Schools Branch if there are special circumstances that arise for individual students.

I look forward to further conversations on educational matters

Sincerely,



Doug W Currie  
Minister



## English Language School Board

Stratford Office • PO Box 8600 • Charlottetown PE C1A 8V7 • 902-368-6990 (T) • 902-368-6960 (F)  
Summerside Office • 288 MacEwen Road • Summerside PE C1N 0J1 • 902-888-8400 (T) • 902-888-8449 (F)

May 19, 2016

Ms. Lisa MacDougall, President  
PEI Home and School Federation Inc.  
P O Box 1012  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

*Lisa*  
Dear Ms. MacDougall:

Thank you for your correspondence of May 2, 2016, for a copy of the resolutions approved at your Annual General Meeting on April 9, 2016

As you are aware, the English Language School Board will be integrated into the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture in the near future. The new entity will be called the Public Schools Branch. I have noted that your resolutions have been directed to the Minister of Education, Learning and Culture. As the Minister will be responsible for the Public Schools Branch, I feel it would not be appropriate for me to respond to the resolutions at this time.

I wish you well in the years to come as you carry on the work of the federation in support of our parents, staff and students.

Yours sincerely,

Ricky Hood  
Official Trustee

c Bob Andrews, Acting Superintendent of Education  
Shirley Jay, Executive Director, PEI Home and School Federation ✓

RECEIVED MAY 27 2016



# PEI Home and School Federation Inc.

## 64th Annual General Meeting & Convention

### April 8, 2017 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.*

<b>Please circle one answer</b>			
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 speakers was...	Poor	1 2 3 4 5	Excellent
The usefulness of the round table 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!***