

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.
Minutes of the 58th Annual General Meeting
Saturday, April 16, 2011
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel

The 58th Annual Meeting of the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc. (PEIHSF) was held on April 16, 2011 at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel in Charlottetown, PEI. Owen Parkhouse welcomed delegates and introduced the head table. Marion Murphy, Parliamentarian, Anna MacDonald, Secretary, Bill Whelan, Past President. Marion recited the Prayer/creed to begin the meeting

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA 2011

MOTION: To approve the Annual Meeting April 16, 2011 agenda as circulated.
Moved by Sue Petit. Seconded by Laverne MacKinnon.
MOTION CARRIED.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES 2010

MOTION: To adopt the PEIHSF 2010 minutes as circulated.
Moved by Basil Dixon. Seconded by Christine McAleer.
MOTION CARRIED.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Highlights include:

- PEIHSF represents 50 out of 57 English language schools across PEI
- Successful Parent Engagement year with over 40 projects highlighted on our website.
- Collaborative and informative consultations with Minister and Deputy Minister of Education.
- Active participants in the Minister's Summit on Learning in June of 2010
- Co-sponsoring Western School Board's "Talking & Sharing TOO", second roundtable on parent involvement, May 11, 2011 at Hernewood School.
- Received many visits to our website.
- Organized Fall Leadership Training workshops for membership
- Successful President's Brainstorming session, held in Hunter River, November 2010.
- Locals/Federation reaching out to immigrant families in Home & School
- Representatives on all Dept of Education Curriculum Standing Committees
- New Parent Engagement Initiative coming 2011-2012

See full President's Report on Page 8 in Book of Reports.

4. ADOPTION OF FINANCE REPORT

Total Revenue: \$76,484 Total Expenditures: \$72,227
Excess Revenue: \$4,257 Statement of Financial Position: \$108,755

See full report in Book of Reports, pages 19-24.

This report was presented by Bill Whelan in the absence of Treasurer, Tom McLellan

MOTION: To adopt the financial report as presented.

WHEREAS participating in science fair is currently an extra-curricular activity, and

WHEREAS school/teacher support for students having to participate in science fair is inconsistent across schools, and

WHEREAS by participating in science fair, students are developing critical thinking, problem solving and communications skills, and

WHEREAS this skills set is recognized as a key pillar of 21st Century Learning;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and School Boards to integrate science fair project development and student participation into the core science curriculum for grades 5-12.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
School Boards

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2/11 - Science Fair

Moved by Bill Whelan. Seconded by Sue Pettit.

One edit: Remove "Heritage" as this applies specifically to Science Fair

Opposed 9, abstentions 2

MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 3/11 ALLOCATION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS IN SCHOOLS

Submitted by Merritt E Callaghan Home and School Association

WHEREAS while most students will have their educational needs met in the classroom, some situations will require assistance beyond what classroom/subject teachers can provide, and

WHEREAS driven by societal change and with the help of more sophisticated identification processes and medical interventions, greater numbers of students with special educational needs are attending school and being included with their peers, and

WHEREAS the nature of these special needs has also changed significantly resulting in the need for a wider range of versatile, multi-skilled support staff to assist educators, especially with the significant rise in statistics of students diagnosed with Autistic Spectrum Disorders, and

WHEREAS the current ratio is 1 instructional position assigned for every 14 students who are determined core high needs and 1 instructional position be assigned for every 500 students to address general lower needs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the Minister of Education and

Early Childhood Development and School Boards to actively pursue a better Educational Assistant ratio/formula that will support regular classroom/subject teachers and the rising numbers of identified students with special needs thereby increasing overall success for the inclusive classroom environment.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
School Boards

BACKGROUND: MINISTER’S DIRECTIVE NO. MD 2010-05 School Board Staffing and Funding Program for the 2010-2011 School Board Fiscal Year
www.gov.pe.ca/eecd/index.php3?number=1036825&lang=E

MOTION: To approve Resolution 3/11 - Allocation of Educational Assistants in Schools
Moved by Kelly Herget. Seconded by Kelly Gillis.
2 abstentions
MOTION CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION 4/11 EQUAL ACCESS TO VALUE-BASED
EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES**

Submitted by Merritt E. Callaghan Home and School Association

WHEREAS after the Minister’s Summit on Learning in June 2010, there was a clear and widespread understanding among participants that the traditional learning model requires some modification to adapt to the changing social and economic context in which Islanders live, and

WHEREAS of the 3 categories of skills (Learning & Innovation, Literacy and Life/Career) identified as needed to succeed in 21st Century, life skills knowledge is not acquired well in a lecture-based formula and needs community, real-world opportunities that make links between class work with real life/world and career options, and

WHEREAS provision of extension and enrichment activities such as field trips, including exposure to the arts and music, etc. will introduce added value to the project-based learning and integrate content and skill learning, and

WHEREAS many enrichment activities are located in areas of higher urban population, and despite the “One Island” philosophy, travel times and associated expense can be extensive;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests PEI School Boards and the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to ensure that all students have equal access to real life/world opportunities regardless of geographic and socio-economic factors of the students or the location of the value-based learning experience.

DESTINATION: School Boards
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

BACKGROUND: Proceedings of the Minister's Summit on Learning, June 4, 5, 2010, Pg. 22, 23

MOTION: To approve Resolution 4/11 - Equal Access to Value-based Educational Experiences

Moved by Kelly Gillis. Seconded by Kelly Herget.

8 opposed, 6 abstained

MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 5/11 MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE AND SCHOOL BOARD POLICY FOR REPORTING STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES TO PARENTS

Submitted by Spring Park Home and School Association

WHEREAS schools, under the Occupational Health & Safety Act, are required to form an OHSC Committee that meets monthly, keeps a record of these meetings, and reports to the OHS officer, and

WHEREAS the responsibility for student health lies with School Boards and ultimately, the Department of Health under the direction of the Chief Public Health Officer, and

WHEREAS there is a need for School Boards and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to be transparent and communicate any and all health and safety issues to parents and each school's Occupational Health & Safety Committee as soon as health issues arise in schools, and

WHEREAS once a possible health issue has been identified by either the Occupational Health & Safety Committee (OHSC) or someone reporting to the OHSC, there is a responsibility to report immediately to parents as well as employees in that school;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to develop a Minister's Directive requiring parents be informed immediately when any potential health issue has been made known to, or identified by, a School Occupational Health & Safety Committee that impacts children in schools by September 1, 2011, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests School Boards to develop policy requiring that parents be informed immediately when any potential health issue has been made known to, or identified by, a School Occupational Health & Safety Committee that impacts children in schools by September 1, 2011.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development

School Boards

BACKGROUND: http://www.gov.pe.ca/law/statutes/pdf/o-01_01.pdf pg. 15

MOTION: To approve Resolution 5/11 - Minister's Directive an School Board Policy Reporting Student Health and Safety Issues to Parents

Moved by Ellen Campbell. Seconded by Tracy Willoughby.

MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 6/11 PROVISION OF TRANSLATION RESOURCES TO SUPPORT NEWCOMER FAMILIES

Submitted by Prince Street Home and School Association

WHEREAS recent years have seen a dramatic increase in the population of non-English speaking newcomer families in Prince Edward Island schools, and

WHEREAS it is to everyone's benefit to have all parents engaged in their children's education and in the activities of their local home and school associations, and

WHEREAS it is to everyone's benefit to have key school documents like School Development Plans and school handbooks accessible to all families, and

WHEREAS it is a significant impediment to full engagement when printed materials are available in English only and when meetings are conducted in English, and

WHEREAS the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada's "Immigrant Student Liaison Program" and "English as an Additional Language" services provided to students do not extend to activities of the home and school, and

WHEREAS at Prince Street School a pilot project to engage newcomer parents in the local home and school by providing translation services has proved successful, and

WHEREAS the cost of translating printed materials and providing simultaneous translation at meetings is beyond the means of local home and school associations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF requests the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to provide funding and/or services to school districts and to local Home and School Associations so that, at schools where, in the opinion of the principal, there is a significant non-English speaking population of parents sharing a given language, the following translation services can be provided:

1. Simultaneous translation of local Home and School Association meetings.
2. Translation of local Home and School Association meeting notices, agendas, meeting

- minutes and financial reports.
3. Translation of key school documents, such as School Development Plans and school handbooks.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development
School Boards

**MOTION: To approve Resolution 6/11 - PROVISION OF TRANSLATION
RESOURCES TO SUPPORT NEWCOMER FAMILIES**

Moved by Shelley Muzika. Seconded by Kelly Allen.

Opposed 4, abstentions 4

MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 7/11 ACADEMIC OUTCOMES
Submitted by Stonepark Home and School Association

WHEREAS the primary purpose of the educational system is to provide students with basic education as well as knowledge and intellectual skills to move into the work force or pursue post secondary education, so that students can participate fully in and contribute to the rapidly changing and technology-dominated global society, and

WHEREAS the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) measures educational outcomes in three key areas (reading, mathematics and science), assessing the extent to which youth at age 15 have acquired the essential knowledge and skills for full participation in modern society, and

WHEREAS PISA scores for PEI students decreased significantly from 2000 to 2009 - PEI students went from performing above the average in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Economic Development (OECD) countries for reading in 2000 to scoring below the OECD average in 2009; in 2003, PEI students scored at the OECD average in math and above the OECD average in science, while in 2009 PEI scores were below the OECD average in both domains, and

WHEREAS the recent PISA report confirms that PEI was the only province in Canada to score below the OECD average in each of the three domains: reading, mathematics and science, and

WHEREAS the 2008-09 Annual Report of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development reports an average mark of 59 percent on an intermediate math assessment completed by 2000 PEI students; and

WHEREAS the 2005 Task Force on Student Achievement Report highlighted the importance of the PEI public education system recognizing the relevance of existing social and global standards as a measure of student achievement, and

WHEREAS an under-performing public education system is a major hindrance to the economic prosperity and competitiveness of our province and contributes to a sense of mediocrity instead of excellence;

BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant the *School Act*, the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development establish and publicly declare the expected PEI academic outcomes and standards of academic performance for mathematics, science and reading, that compare favorably with national and international standards, and take immediate steps to assess the extent to which outcomes are achieved and standards are met, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development hold School Boards accountable for achievement of academic outcomes and meeting the standards of academic performance as set by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that School Boards hold school administrators accountable, through the school improvement planning process and annual performance review, for the achievement of academic outcomes and meeting the standards of academic performance as set by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development.

DESTINATION: Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development
School Boards

BACKGROUND: PISA <http://www.gov.pe.ca/eecd/PISA>
School Act http://www.gov.pe.ca/law/statutes/pdf/s-02_1.pdf
Task Force on Education http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/task_force_edu.pdf
Organization Economic Co-operation and Economic Development
<http://www.oecd.org/home/>

MOTION: To approve Resolution 7/11 - ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

Moved by Michelle Cottreau. Seconded by Debra Trainor.

9 opposed, 3 abstentions

MOTION CARRIED.

- Nutrition Break/View Displays -

7. NOMINATIONS REPORT/ELECTIONS

Bill Whelan, Nomination's Chair presented the 2011 Nominations Report as follows:

Treasurer	Tom MacLellan
Secretary	Peter Rukavina
Region 1 Director	Raeann Kinch
Region 2 Director	Sue Pettit
Region 3 Director	Shelley Muzika
Region 4 Director	Lloyd O'Brien

Bill called for further nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations.

MOTION: To cease nominations and approve the slate of officers for 2011-2012 as presented.

Moved by Bill Whelan. Seconded by Lisa Geldert

MOTION CARRIED.

Marian Murphy, Parliamentarian carried out the swearing-in ceremony with the full board.

The PEIHSF board for 2011 - 2012 is as follows.

President	Owen Parkhouse	Term expires (AGM 2012)
Past President	Bill Whelan	Term expires (AGM 2012)
Vice President	Angie Matheson	Term expires (AGM 2012)
Secretary	Peter Rukavina	Term expires (AGM 2013)
Region 1	Lainey Williams	Term expires (AGM 2012)
Region 1	Raeann Kinch	Term expires (AGM 2013)
Region 2	Sue Pettit	Term expires (AGM 2012)
Region 2	Pam Montgomery	Term expires (AGM 2013)
Region 3	Shelley Muzika	Term expires (AGM 2013)
Region 3	Lisa Geldert	Term expires (AGM 2012)
Region 4	LaVerne MacKinnon	Term expires (AGM 2012)
Region 4	Lloyd O'Brien	Term expires (AGM 2013)

8. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

9. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING.

MOTION: To adjourn the PEIHSF 2011 Annual Business Meeting.

Moved by Sue Petit. Seconded by Kelly Murphy

MOTION CARRIED.

10. BRAINSTORMING SESSION

A summary of discussions will be circulated to all Home and School Associations.

11. LUNCHEON

- Greetings brought by: Carrie St. Jean, President PEI Teachers' Federation
- Speaker: Hon. Doug Currie, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development gave a state of the department of education address to delegates.
- "Farm to Table" presentation by students: Naomi Cousins and Daniel Cousins.
- Volunteer Award presented to Teri Hall, Souris Consolidated.
- Thank you to Marian Murphy, Parliamentarian, and farewell to outgoing board members Anna MacDonald, Kelly Gillis and Andrea Pickett.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna MacDonald
Recording Secretary