

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

*“Putting our Children First”*

**55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Book of Reports**



**Saturday, April 12, 2008  
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Kent Street Charlottetown, PEI**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement. . . . .	2
Home and School Prayer/Creed/Thought . . . . .	2
Agenda April 12, 2008. . . . .	3
Business Procedure/Meeting Tips . . . . .	4
Board Directory/Committee Directory 2007-2008. . . . .	5
Local President's Directory 2007-2008. . . . .	6
Annual Meeting's Minutes 2007. . . . .	7
Provincial President's Report . . . . .	12
Project Reports. . . . .	16
Committee Reports. . . . .	20
Local Association President's Reports . . . . .	25
Resolutions. . . . .	59
Local By-Laws (Sample) . . . . .	65

## **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 PRAYER**

“Our Heavenly Father, we pray that our endeavors may at all times be guided by Thee. Give us knowledge that our thoughts may be well directed. Give us tolerance that we may respect the rights and views of others. Imbue us with understanding and clear vision, that we may always seek the highest good for our children, our homes and our schools. And grant us wisdom that we may ever choose the right.” Amen.

## **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.

**Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.**  
**55<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**“Putting Our Children First”**  
**Saturday, April 12, 2008**  
**RODD Charlottetown Hotel, Kent Street, Charlottetown, PEI**

AGENDA

- AM
- 8:20 Registration/Visit Displays
- 8:50 Welcome - Wendy MacDonald, President  
Business Meeting - Parliamentarian: Marion Murphy
1. Adoption of Agenda 2008
  2. Adoption of Minutes 2007
  3. President’s Report
  4. Adoption of Finance Report - Linda Dennis, Treasurer
  5. Other Reports (Accepted as circulated)
  6. Resolutions - Stephen Cousins, Board Director
  7. Nominations Report/Elections - Martha Ellis, Chair
  8. New Business
  9. Adjournment of Business Meeting
- 10:10 Nutrition Break/View Displays
- 10:30 Presentations
- 10:45 Introduction to New PEIHSF Website - Bill Whelan
- 11:00 Panel: Health, Learning, and Safety  
Facilitator: Jacquie Lidstone, PEIHSF Board  
Jo-anne Wallace, Provincial Coaching Western Region Coordinator  
Sandy MacDonald, Superintendent, Eastern School District  
Anna MacDonald, PEIHSF Board, Parenting the Net Generation
- PM
- 12:30 Luncheon  
Special Guests: Past Presidents 1953-2008  
Greetings:  
- Hon. Gerard Greenan, Minister Education & Attorney General  
- Phyllis Horne, President PEI Teachers’ Federation  
- PEI School Trustees Association
- Closing Remarks  
Photo of Past Presidents

\*\*\*\*\*

*Note: AM Sessions - City Center  
Luncheon - Georgian Room*

## BUSINESS PROCEDURE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

1. The Annual General Meeting is conducted in accordance with our Constitution and By-Laws. In the case of any procedural dispute, reference shall be made to Parliamentary Procedures which is based on Robert's "Rules of Order".
2. Each Local Association may have five voting delegates, but all members can 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 your turn to speak.
6. A delegate may not speak for more than two minutes on any question under discussion, not more than once on the same question unless requested or permitted by the Chair to clarify a point. However, the mover of a motion or resolution shall have the privilege of speaking first to begin discussion and speaking last to close debate on the question.

### MEETING TIPS

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

Thank You!

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.

EXECUTIVE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2007-2008

EXECUTIVE:

President	Wendy MacDonald
Past President	Martha Ellis
Vice President	Bill Whelan
Treasurer	Linda Dennis
Secretary	Connie Macdonald
Executive Director	Shirley Jay

REGIONAL DIRECTORS:

Region 1	Jacque Lidstone / Lisa MacDougall
Region 2	Anna MacDonald / Scott Lundrigan
Region 3	Ruth Morrison / One vacancy
Region 4	Stephen Cousins / Graham Hicken

PEI HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION INC.

COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

2007-2008

Department of Education Standing Committees:

1. Elementary	Vacant
2. Elementary Health	Vacant
3. Intermediate	Lisa MacDougall
4. Intermediate Health	Laura Bowness
5. Senior High	Linda Dennis
6. Diversity	Stephen Cousins
7. Computers For Schools/Libraries	Shirley Jay
8. Special Education	Vacant
9. Minister's Advisory committee on Computer & Information Technology (C.I.T.)	Bill Whelan
10. School Calendar	Wendy MacDonald

Other Organizations:

11. Healthy Eating Alliance	Vacant
12. Newspaper Column	Wendy MacDonald
13. Smoking Prevention (i.e. Council for a Smoke-Free PEI & PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance - PETRA)	Shirley Jay
14. Literacy	Wendy MacDonald
15. Active Living Alliance	Vacant

DIRECTORY OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS 2007-2008

WESTERN SCHOOL BOARD

<i>Home and School Association</i>	<i>President</i>
Alberton Elementary	Shani Henderson
Amherst Cove Cons	Sharon Leard
Athena Consolidated	Mary Smith
Bloomfield Elementary	Shelley Sentner
Ellerslie Elementary	June Ellis
Elm Street Elementary	Maureen Campbell/Martha Irvine
Greenfield Elementary	Rhonda Blanchard/Linda Celliers
Hernewood Intermediate	Colleen Parker
ME Callaghan Intermediate	Judy Morrissey Richard
Miscouche Consolidated	Mar McIsaac
O'Leary Elementary	Tammy Rix
Parkside Elementary	Joanna Stewart
Queen Elizabeth Elementary	Lori Coulson
Somerset Elementary	Lori Palmer
St. Louis Elementary	Suzanne Murphy
Tignish Elementary	Nicole Morrissey
Westisle Composite High	Lissa Profit

EASTERN SCHOOL BOARD

<i>Home and School Association</i>	<i>President/Co-Chair</i>
Belfast Consolidated	Anne McLeod
Bluefield High	Dale McIsaac (contact)
Cardigan Consolidated	Stacey Newell
Central Queens Elementary	Dana Coles
Charlottetown Rural High	Anne Koughan
Donagh Regional	Lesla Murnaghan
Dundas Consolidated	Lora Lee Gordon/Kandy Johnston
East Wiltshire Intermediate	Beth Luttrell/Brenda Dougay
Eliot River Elem/Westwood Primary	Janette Conklin/Tracey Hagan-O'Connor
Englewood Consolidated	Bonnie Ralph
Glen Stewart Elementary	Marie O'Hanley
Grand Tracadie Elementary	Martie Murphy
Gulf Shore Consolidated	Kerie Murphy
Lucy Maud Montgomery Elementary	Tina Vessey
Montague Consolidated	Cindy Lava
Morell Consolidated	Graham Hicken/Kathy Vail
Mount Stewart Cons.	LaVerne MacKinnon
Parkdale Elementary	Jessie Frost-Wicks
Prince Street Elementary	Lori MacDonald
Queen Charlotte Intermediate	Inge Dorsey/Mike Ramsey
Sherwood Elementary	Susie Dillon
Southern Kings Consolidated	Teresa MacKinnon
Spring Park Elementary	Patti Devine/Tracey Willoughby
St. Jean Elementary	Tammie Smyth
St. Peter's Consolidated	Andrea Studzinski
St. Theresa's Consolidated	Marcella Byrne
Stonepark Junior High	Iris Rodger
Vernon River Cons.	Margaret Wilton
West Kent Elementary	Rhoda Speare/Brenda Fraser

Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.  
Minutes of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, April 14, 2007  
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel

The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc. (PEIHSF) was held Saturday, April 14, 2007 at the Charlottetown Hotel in Charlottetown, PEI. Wendy MacDonald, President, welcomed delegates

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Wendy identified the convention kits which contained the revised agenda and thanked the various contributors for installments to the kit. TD Canada Trust donated the pens and note pads. The president introduced the head table executive members, Marion Murphy, Parliamentarian, and other special guests - Georgina Allen, President of the Canadian Home and School Federation.

MOTION: To accept the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting's Agenda with one addition.

Addition: A brief ceremony to install new officers and board members.

Moved by Maria Green. Seconded by LaVerne MacKinnon.

MOTION CARRIED.

2. ADOPTION OF 2006 53rd ANNUAL MEETING'S MINUTES

The minutes of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the PEIHSF were presented as circulated.

MOTION: To accept the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting's Minutes as presented.

Moved by Stephen Cousins. Seconded by Bernie Lamphere.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Wendy MacDonald, President, reports how fortunate she is to have a good board. Bill Whelan, Vice will be assuming the chair at the end of her term.

Parent Engagement - Wendy began her term with responsibilities regarding Parent Engagement, mandated by the Minister of Education. Funding was available but thought process had to be clarified. This application was submitted and approved this week and includes a telephone survey which will give ideas on how parents are involved; a survey of best practices and ideas to share among schools. The strategy isn't all research. We hope to develop 10-12 pilots throughout schools with a hope there will be funding to carry out projects. Our hope is to create a more positive environment for parents to become involved in Home and School and guidelines around fund-raising. An exciting year!

VolNet - The Federation applied for and received funding from the Volunteerism Network (VolNet). In January, Focus Groups were organized which provided feedback regarding Parent Engagement. School surveys were part of process to measure parent issues.

Substance Abuse - The Canadian Home & School Federation was funded by Health Canada to carry out a National Substance Abuse Prevention project. Thank you to Georgina Allen for her leadership in this project. The aim was to offer factual information on this issue to parents across Canada. Professionals such as RCMP, Addictions Counsellors, City Police, and Pharmacists were

asked to present info at school-based sessions. Thank you to members for getting people involved at the local school level. This was a great learning experience.

Many more items the provincial board worked on over the past year will be touched on during this meeting.

MOTION: To accept the President's report as circulated.

Moved by Wendy MacDonald. Seconded by Shelly Muzika.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### 4. FINANCIAL REPORT

Linda Dennis, Treasurer, presented the PEIHSF Finance Report for the year ended December 31, 2006, as presented in the Book of Reports, pages 20-23.

Total Revenues	\$61,342
Total Expenditures	\$52,678
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ 8,664
Statement of Financial Position, Year-end	\$33,149

MOTION: To adopt the Financial Report as presented.

Moved by Linda Dennis. Seconded by Patti Devine.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### 5. OTHER REPORTS

Other reports were included in the 2007 Book of Reports.

MOTION: To accept reports as circulated.

Moved by Marcella Bradley. Seconded by Laura Bowness.

MOTION CARRIED.

Wendy welcomed Katherine Linkletter, past board member who is a wonderful support to the PEIHSF. Katherine was thanked for her work on the Island Products Fundraiser.

Wendy then introduced Bill Whelan, Vice President and invited Bill to chair the resolutions portion of the meeting.

#### 6. RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions are included in convention package and must be moved to the floor for discussion.

Resolution 1/07 Fundraising Guidelines  
Submitted by PEI Home and School Federation

WHEREAS many Home and Schools Associations carry out fundraising to enhance the school environment, enrich learning, and support children's healthy development and well-being; and

WHEREAS significant variations exist among schools in the processes for priority-setting, handling, and accountability for use of funds raised by Home and School Associations; and

WHEREAS Home and School Associations are often approached by their schools to assist in funding basic and core items such as equipment, supplies, books, etc., and

WHEREAS elementary and secondary education is publicly funded, and materials pertaining to

curriculum should be covered by the school budget rather than by funds raised by parent groups; and  
WHEREAS the PEI Home and School Federation frequently receives queries from local associations, schools, and school boards regarding fundraising issues; and

WHEREAS clear guidelines can contribute to a more positive partnership between schools and parent groups;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation be mandated to consult with local associations and with the Eastern School District and the Western School Board, and develop Federation guidelines to support local associations in their fund-raising activities, for submission at the 2008 AGM.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 1/07.  
Moved by Linda Dennis. Seconded by Maria Green.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Note: PEIHSF is looking only to establish guidelines.

Resolution 2/07          Volunteer Policy for Schools  
Submitted by PEI Home and School Federation

WHEREAS Home and School Association members are recognized for the many hours volunteered in schools across PEI; and

WHEREAS Home and School members and other volunteers support schools in a range of ways, such as assisting in the classroom, supervising field trips, helping with events, running safe arrival programs, providing nutritious meals and snacks, and many other activities; and

WHEREAS it is a goal of the Home and School Federation to promote and facilitate all forms of parent involvement in education; and

WHEREAS volunteer activities reside under the direction of the administration of individual schools and consultations indicate that current roles and procedures vary widely among schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation be mandated to carry out research on volunteer policies, and to consult with local associations and with the Eastern School District and the Western School Board to promote development of Board policies which encourage much-needed volunteer involvement while at the same time ensuring the safety and well-being of children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastern and Western School Districts encourage all schools to actively engage volunteers to maximize the effectiveness and reach of parent and community volunteers available to them.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2/07.  
Moved by Laura Bowness. Seconded by Jacquie Lidstone.

MOTION CARRIED.

Note: This resolution is intended to provide Locals with a backup set of guidelines.

7. NOMINATION REPORT/ELECTIONS

Martha Ellis, Past President and Nominations Chair announced committee members Laura Bowness and Florence Coffin. She presented the proposed slate of officers for 2007-2008 and called for further nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations. Martha noted there are people considering the vacant positions and required a little more time for consideration. The following officers stand with vacancies to be filled by the PEIHSF Board.

MOTION: To accept the 2007 Nomination Report as presented.

Moved by Laura. Seconded by Florence.

MOTION CARRIED.

The new Executive and Board of Directors for 2007-2008 is as follows:

President	Wendy MacDonald	Term expires 2008
Past President	Martha Ellis	Term expires 2008
Vice President	Bill Whelan	Term expires 2008
Treasurer	Linda Dennis	Term expires 2009
Secretary	Connie Macdonald	Term expires 2009
Region 1 Director	Lisa MacDougall	Term expires 2008
Region 1 Director	Jacque Lidstone	Term expires 2009
Region 2 Director	Scott Lundrigan	Term expires 2008
Region 2 Director	Vacant	Term expires 2009
Region 3 Director	Ruth Morrison	Term expires 2008
Region 3 Director	Vacant	Term expires 2009
Region 4 Director	Stephen Cousins	Term expires 2008
Region 4 Director	Vacant	Term expires 2009

The new board was sworn in by Marion Murphy, Parliamentarian.

8. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Wendy MacDonald declared the business meeting adjourned.

10. ANNOUNCEMENT

Wendy invited Gail Lecky, Executive Director to make an announcement and thanked CPF for co-sponsoring the Nutrition Break. Gail presented background information on the Canadian Parents For French.

11. NUTRITION BREAK

Wendy invited people to the Kent Room for the nutrition break and to view displays set up by businesses and non-profit organizations.

12. WORKSHOPS/SPEAKER

- a) Delegates participated in a workshop session titled: "Tell Us Your Priorities"  
A. Keeping in Touch - Bill Whelan, Facilitator

B. Investing in Education - Wendy MacDonald, Facilitator

C. Parents as Teachers - Joy Shinn, Facilitator

- b) Guest speaker, Pierre Ouellet, B. Ed., Department of Education, presented “Innovations in Learning: Multi-Age Classroom” followed by a Question/Answer Session.

13. VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The 2007 Home and School Volunteer of the Year Award was awarded to Katherine Linkletter, who volunteered many hours at the local, and provincial levels of Home and School.

14. GREETINGS

Greetings were brought by Ann Millar representing the PEI School Trustees’ Association.

15. LUNCHEON

Hon. Mildred Dover, Minister of Education & Attorney General was the PEIHSF’s guest speaker during the luncheon. Minister Dover outlined highlights of the recently presented budgetary items for education.

Respectfully submitted by,

Florence Coffin, Region 4 Director  
Acting Recording Secretary

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATION  
Wendy MacDonald, President

The past year has been a positive and exciting one for the PEI Home and School Federation as we began to implement our strategy to increase parental involvement in their children's learning, and to foster a more positive environment for parent involvement in education. We work to serve parents of school aged children in PEI through our mandate to pursue, "the total well-being of children and the highest standards of education for each child in the province." This year, we are proud to represent almost 11,000 parents at 48 schools. We are recognized as an official partner in education and the voice for parents in PEI's English language schools on issues related to students' learning and well-being.

In the April 2007 Budget, the Federation was awarded a grant of \$50,000 to support the first phase of its work to develop a strategy to increase parent involvement in learning, and this funding was confirmed by our new government in the fall Budget. This funding has enabled the Federation to move forward with a range of school-based pilot projects and other exciting initiatives. To guide and focus this work, the PEIHSF has adopted an eight-point definition of parent involvement which builds on the strengths of the involvement that already exists. The framework identifies four ways in which parents are involved with the education of their own children, and four ways in which parents are more broadly involved in the life of their school and in supporting the education system

We believe that the vast majority of parents are already involved with their own children's education, by:

- Parenting - raising healthy, happy children, and sending them to school well rested, well fed, and feeling loved and good about themselves.
- Communicating - with the child's teacher and with the school.
- Learning at home - supporting the school curriculum through homework and other means, and even more importantly, teaching "life's lessons" in terms of values, character, life skills, social skills, and communications skills.
- Celebrating the child's achievements by attending school events such as concerts, plays, science and heritage fairs, art expos, and sporting events.

In addition, many parents also take part in and contribute to their child's school community, by:

- Fundraising - providing resources to enrich the school's environment and activities, and helping provide access to opportunities for all children.
- Volunteering - helping in the classroom, the lunchroom, the playground, at events and on trips.
- Decision-making - taking part in local and provincial parent associations, connecting with education partners, and advocating for change.

- Partnering - bringing resources and support from other community organizations to the school.

The challenge facing PEIHSF is to build on this involvement and help more parents to become more involved in more ways. To achieve this, work is moving forward on many fronts.

**Parenting** To support parents in their parenting role and to promote the health and well-being of children, the Federation is involved in a number of provincial partnerships – including the Healthy Eating Alliance, the Active Living Alliance, the PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance, and various special projects and initiatives. Most recently, the Federation has been asked to sit on the Advisory Committee on the Youth Addictions Strategy, in recognition of its past work to promote drug awareness and drug education among parents. At the AGM, delegates will be provided with information on *Parenting the Net Generation*, an Internet safety workshop designed for parents by the Media Awareness Network in partnership with the Canadian Home and School Federation. The Federation is also placing more emphasis on promoting physical activity, and will be following up on its policy resolution and AGM speaker on issues of respect and inclusion in sport.

**Communicating** Good communications are the foundation of parent involvement at all levels. The education system is making progress on communicating to individual parents about their child’s academic achievement, school participation, and well-being, also the subject of an AGM presentation. At the provincial level, the Federation is the voice of parents within the education system. We work to fulfill this vital responsibility in many ways – our monthly newspaper column, our interaction with the media on education issues, our liaison with other partners in education, our policy resolutions to bring forward parents’ issues and priorities, and our awards to communicate to the public and to the school system the qualities that we value in staff. To strengthen this role, we have developed a new logo and visual identity to freshen our “look.” As well, we are renewing and expanding our website to make it a daily go-to resource and meeting place for parents and parent groups.

**Learning** To support learning at home, PEIHSF is working with Learning and Reading Partners to hold up to twelve parent support pilots in schools across PEI. Based on feedback from parent groups and schools in the spring of 2007, a number of exciting pilot projects are underway in schools across PEI. In February 2008, almost twenty parents from ten schools met and shared their plans, experiences, ideas, and hopes for these pilot projects.

- Queen Charlotte’s Parent Learning Club is connecting immigrant parents with Island parents to develop language skills and familiarize newcomer parents with the school system.
- At Sherwood Elementary, parent information sessions are in progress and a video is being developed demonstrating best practices in parent reading.
- Belfast Consolidated’s project will involve games evenings to build awareness of the learning that can happen when parents and children play board games, cards, and other activities.
- St. Teresa’s is planning math workshops for parents and developing a math dictionary for parents.
- Gulf Shore Consolidated and Glen Stewart Consolidated are planning information sessions on topics of priority interest to parents.
- Tignish Consolidated, Kensington Intermediate and Senior High, Donagh, and Rollo Bay

are developing projects to increase parent and volunteer involvement.

- Several other schools are in earlier stages of project planning.

Thanks go to Mait MacIsaac and Sandy Rendall of Learning and Reading Partners for their commitment to empowering parents, and their leadership in facilitating and supporting these pilots. Findings from the pilots will be used to promote expansion of parent support programs in future years. In addition to these pilots, PEIHSF has offered to assist parent groups with school-level initiatives, and to help them tap funding for larger projects.

As well, this year, the Federation has expanded its awards for children's learning to include the science fair projects from the Eastern and Western School Boards which best explore topics related to children's learning, health, or safety. This adds to the awards for best family-related projects in the Heritage Fair, established in 2006. At the Provincial Science Fair on April 3, in addition to the winners' awards, the Federation also provided "science in a suitcase" kits for use in school or at home, to the winners' schools. Thanks go to the Union of Public Sector Employees for its sponsorship of these awards.

**Fundraising** Although fundraising can be a positive way to involve parents and to help the school, money issues can undermine relationships between schools and parents. In October 2007, the Minister of Education announced at the Teachers Federation annual convention that his government was committed to eliminate school fees, affirming a commitment made during the May 2007 election. This important announcement responds to parent concerns and to a resolution at PEIHSF's 2006 AGM calling for a policy on school fees. While the Federation welcomes this commitment, it holds the potential to put further support on parent groups to fundraise for items that schools cannot or will not cover out of their core funding. To address this, PEIHSF will continue to press for adequate funding for schools, and to work on a policy on fundraising to guide and support local associations in their interactions with the school, as mandated by a resolution at the 2007 AGM.

**Volunteering** Volunteer involvement in the schools, although important and welcomed, is not currently supported by any policies in PEI. Focus groups by PEIHSF in early 2007 indicated a wide range of practices in schools across PEI. Events in other organizations and service systems have clearly shown that policies are needed to ensure the safety and protection of the children, and also of volunteers. Also mandated by a resolution at the 2007 AGM, the Federation has worked to research and develop policy in this area for discussion with the Department and school boards. A policy resolution is being submitted to the 2008 AGM calling for stronger certification requirements for volunteer coaches to promote respectful and inclusive behavior in school sports.

**Advising and Advocating** Strengthening and supporting local associations has been a major priority for the Federation:

- In September 2007, with funding support secured from the Community Foundation of PEI, executive training sessions were provided to members of Home and School currently in or considering executive roles. Almost thirty members attended the sessions, held at Parkside and Glen Stewart Schools, and gave high ratings to the information, ideas, and tools presented by workshop leaders Vicki Bryanton and Stephen Gould on the roles of president and treasurer. It is hoped to make these workshops an annual event.
- Local by-laws have been developed for consideration by local associations, drawing on a model developed by the Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations. A

copy of these is contained in the Book of Reports for reference. Locals are urged to review these, adapt them as needed, and adopt them, as they can help prevent problems in the day to day operations of locals, and quickly resolve issues that do arise.

- Future priorities include clarifying the issue of parent advisory councils, and their relationship to Home and School, and promoting the greater involvement of local parent groups in their schools' development planning process.

**Partnering** To expand its recognition and celebration of teachers and staff, the Federation established its Bus Driver Award in 2006. This year, the award was moved to Bus Safety Week, during October 2007, and garnered a number of great nominations. The awards were given to Ned Crossman of St. Peters School and Donna Campbell of Bloomfield Elementary. As well, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week in February 2008 marked the fourth annual Extra Mile Awards, awarded to a teacher or staff person who "goes the extra mile" to make a difference in the lives of students and help them to develop, achieve, and succeed. Bonnie Rogerson of Kinkora High School was recognized for her teaching of agriculture and science in ways that built her students' awareness of ecological and global issues, while Sylvia Henderson, Language Arts resource teacher at Stone Park Intermediate School in Charlottetown, was recognized for her "genuine caring and deep affection for students with special needs."

In closing, my thanks go to my Board, to my colleagues who have offered to further serve on the Executive, and especially to our members of the Board and Executive who have completed their terms, for all their work and their many contributions during their time with the Federation.

- Martha Ellis, Past President
- Lisa MacDougall, Region One Director
- Scott Lundrigan, Region Two Director
- Ruth Morrison, Region Three Director
- Stephen Cousins, Region Four Director

As well, my heartfelt thanks go to our Executive Director Shirley, now in her 25<sup>th</sup> year with the Federation, for her dedication and commitment, her hard work, her creativity in stretching the Federation's resources as far as possible, her unfailingly positive attitude, and her patience with my just-under-the-wire work habits.

Your Board looks forward to the coming year with all its opportunities to further increase parent involvement in education, and to working hard to promote "the total well-being of children and the highest standards of education for each child in the province."

PARENT ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE UPDATE, April 2008  
Bill Whelan, Vice President

In response to the recommendations by the Task Force on Student Achievement, the Minister of Education asked the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation (HSF) to lead the development of a province-wide Parental Engagement (PE) Initiative. This request represents a strong endorsement of Home and School Associations by the provincial government and recognizes our emerging role as a learning and teaching partner in the education system on Prince Edward Island. The overall vision of the PE initiative is to establish collaborative home and school learning environments for our children so that they can succeed as individuals, as students and as citizens.

In May 2007, Wendy MacDonald, HSF President, circulated a survey to principals and local presidents to gather information on the current nature and extent of parent involvement, so as to learn about effective approaches/activities that are already underway and to identify needs and priorities. Twenty-five responses were received which included suggestions for parental engagement topics/activities. To complement the activities already underway, the HSF entered into a partnership with Learning and Reading Partners - LRP (Mait MacIsaac and Sandra Rendell) to design supports for parent involvement in learning and to launch a pilot program in 10 Island schools. LRP has extensive experience in literacy, parent program development and community engagement. The initial survey responses were consolidated into six topics for schools to consider.

**Training Parents as School Volunteers**

- \* parent volunteers as learning partners in the school

**Immigrant Parents Understanding the School System**

- \* parents helping immigrant parents in the school

**Parents and the School Curriculum**

- \* helping parents understand the school curriculum so that they can better assist their children with school learning and assignments

**Father Engagement**

- \* fathers working on strategies to assist their child with reading development

**Family Math**

- \* parents working on strategies to assist their child with math/numeracy

**Professional Development for Parents**

- \* parents learning about various topics to help them better understand how their children learn

In September 2007, these options were communicated to local Home and School presidents and school principals, who were asked to work together to identify a topic of greatest interest. Twelve schools responded and were enrolled in the pilot program. For the past 6 months Mait MacIsaac and Sandy Rendall have criss-crossed PEI, working with Home and School associations, teachers and principals at each of the Partners in Learning (PIL) pilot sites to develop and launch their parental engagement activities based on a collaborative team approach. In addition, Mait and Sandy along with the HSF organized a well-attended planning session on February 20<sup>th</sup> for H&S presidents, parents, school principals and school staff from the PIL sites. The purpose of this get together was to provide an opportunity for the leaders at the individual PIL sites to share experiences/stories, to support one another and to establish the beginnings of a province-wide network for parental engagement.

The following table outlines the schools participating in the PIL pilot projects and the activities that are developing. The sites are at different stages of implementation. These activities represent Phase I of the Parental

Engagement Initiative. The HSF is now seeking funding from the provincial government for Phase II which will look to expand the initiative to further develop projects already underway and to include more schools. So stay tuned!

School	Parental Engagement Activity
Belfast Consolidated	Organize a games evening in the school for parents and children to help establish effective playing/learning strategies.
Central Queens Elementary	Organize professional development sessions for parents with a focus on literacy.
Donagh Regional	Support parents and other volunteers to enhance children literacy skills and learning through non-classroom activities.
Glen Stewart Elementary	Organize professional development sessions for parents with a focus on literacy.
Grand Tracadie Elementary	Organize professional development sessions for parents with a focus on school curriculum.
Gulf Shore Consolidated	Organize professional development sessions for parents with a focus on learning.
Kensington Intermediate Senior High	Train parent volunteers to enhance literacy skills during regular volunteer activities.
Queen Charlotte Intermediate	Establish a Parent Language Club to help immigrant parents understand the school curriculum by first helping parents make friends and develop language skills.
Rollo Bay Consolidated	Organize professional development sessions for parents with a focus on literacy.
Sherwood Elementary	Make a video for parents demonstrating best practices for family reading.
St. Teresa's Consolidated	Organize math workshops and produce a math dictionary for parents.
Tignish Consolidated	Organize an event where parents can get together to share experiences and celebrate their existing involvement with the school.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROJECT: "DRUGWISE PARENTS"

Shirley Jay, Project Coordinator

The Substance Abuse Prevention Project: Drugwise Parents has ended as a successful project for the Canadian Home and School Federation and the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation. Parents are discussing this topic and the provincial Federation would like to encourage Local Home and School Associations to continue to organize these types of information sessions. The overall comment from participants was "we want to hear more and feel that every parent in PEI should hear this information." Details include the following:

1. The number of kits distributed:
  - 38 English schools
  - 14 French Schools
  - 32 Other
  
2. Dates/Locations of Training:
 

October 10, 11, 16, 2006	November 7, 8, 21 (2), 22, 30, 2006
December 6, 2006	February 8, 2007
March 10, 2007	May 15, 2007
  
2. Name of Trainers:
  - Jeff Jardine, Pharmacist
  - Cst. Gary Clow, City Police
  - Cst. Scott Lundrigan, RCMP
  - Michael Doiron, Addictions Counsellor
  - Margie Campbell, Pharmacist
  - Cpl. Reg Campbell, RCMP
  - Sean Morrison, Addictions Counsellor
  
3. Locations: = 13 representing 37 schools
 

Oct. 10/06	Lucy Maud Montgomery Elem.	Oct. 11/06	StonePark Intermediate
Oct. 16/06	Englewood Consolidated	Nov. 7/06	Charlottetown Rural High
Nov. 8/06	Colonel Gray High	Nov. 21/06	Morell Regional High
Nov. 21/06	East Wiltshire Intermediate	Nov. 22/06	Three Oaks Senior High
Nov. 30/06	Gulf Shore Consolidated	Dec. 6/06	West Royalty Elementary
Feb. 8/07	Souris Area Schools (all levels)	Mar. 10/07	Parkside Elementary
May 15/07	Dundas Consolidated		
  
4. Feedback Summary:
  - Most found the sessions positive, informative and educational; Need more sessions then 1 or 2 (*per*) year; Invite the public; Try and get in to as many H & S meetings as possible; This is very important information
  - Appreciated demonstration of what drugs look like...; videos are powerful
  - Having a pharmacist is a perfect person to do this type of session; They are very knowledgeable and can answer our questions
  - Discuss what parents can do, approaches on care after parent has suspected drug/alcohol use/abuse. Where can the parents go and get help before the problem gets too far
  - Consider reducing the amount of information from each speaker or just offer one subject

- The presentation was very well done. I wish that this could be done yearly to schools across the Island! It can never be heard too much. Thank you!
- Like suggestion of Junior Crime Stoppers
- Talk a bit more about our actual (*local*) area. It may make it all seem even that much more real to us when we actually hear about how close it is to the home
- This was an awesome session...highly recommended for all parents to attend again
- Great presentation! This meeting was very helpful! Thank you, Home & School.
- More information for parents on what to tell children.
- Our students need to be aware of what's out there and the side effects; Grades 5 and up.
- Most parents were "blown away" with the information and not aware
- About 50% of parents had no ideas what is happening...in their communities; other 50% had some knowledge and were seeking more information, resources and tools
- The session was well done! We were happy to organize this presentation for parents.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE:** Since the writing of this report, the PEI Francophone Parents Association confirmed a meeting to discuss the SAP project. All French kits will be distributed to this group to distribute to all PEI French schools.

On December 7, 2007, the Francophone meeting took place. This group is interested in organizing parent information sessions. The PEI Home and School Federation offered to assist with setting up these meetings with professionals and guidance to obtain resources for participants.

INTERMEDIATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Lisa MacDougall

The Intermediate Standing Committee met on November 1/07 at the Belle Alliance, Summerside. Clayton Coe is the department Chair.

1. Grade 9 Social Studies Update - Bethany Doiron

- ▶ The grade 9 program is currently in a “renewal” stage. This is a transition year as we move toward a new curriculum; Interim curriculum plan developed

Other resources to be highlighted during in-service

- ▶ The overarching theme for the grade 9 year is “Interdependence.” Students will examine issues, impacts, and other realities related to the concept of “interdependence”
- ▶ Teachers will continue to use current curriculum guide and resources.
- ▶ The “Evolving Identity” Booklet is a supplementary resource that was originally created for the new grade 8 “Canadian Identity” social studies program

2. CIT Update - Bruce Brine and Greg Bungay

Dept. Education CIT wanting to provide similar model to Montague Intermediate where Tech program does not utilize computer lab equipment; using refurbished computers from Computer For Schools program.. Integration is being encouraged wherever possible

3. Grade 9 Mathematics Assessment - Cindy Woods

- ▶ 16 grade 9 teachers and board reps worked on creating a fair assessment for the students
- ▶ 1,535 English students, 110 French students, 170 exempted wrote the assessment, an alternative form used in one school; 62 questions, paper & pencil test only
- ▶ Teachers are very positive....said they’re ready for this, believe it is important
- ▶ Dissemination of 2007 results = School Boards June 20<sup>th</sup>; Schools June 20<sup>th</sup>; Teachers June 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>; Students & Parents June 26<sup>th</sup>; Results are similar to ESD assessment
- ▶ Now bringing in grades 7,8,9 teachers to develop this year’s test
- ▶ Question of “teaching to the test”.....different questions will be used each time; this assessment helps teachers identify problem areas to help students
- ▶ June 12, 2008 is date for this year’s test day; teachers will score their assessments in classroom which is worth 10%; they will send results to the Dept. Ed to do the centralized scoring in July; teachers are given their school results, board score and provincial score

4. Student Services Language Arts - Jarmo Puiras

Reading and Writing Achievement Standards (CAMET) - These standards are meant to help educators have a common understanding of reasonable expectations for reading and writing at the end of each grade level.

5. Health - Lori MacPherson

Grade 8 Sexual Health Outcomes for students were reviewed.

ELEMENTARY HEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Laura Bowness

The Elementary Health Curriculum Committee is working on Grades 4, 5, and 6. At the February 28/08 meeting, we reviewed resource books for the curriculum and added reference notes to the outcomes. There is no current text book available so we looked at two American books and our present Canadian book (last edition 1990!!!)

Lori MacPherson, Department of Education Health/Physical Education Specialist is the chair of this standing committee. She is trying to find better text books. They hope to Pilot the grades 4, 5, 6 health curriculum this spring and launch it in September 2008. But if there is a good book going to be published over the summer then they will pilot in the fall and launch in January. There was one textbook we all seemed to agree was the best of what was there. The publisher may be able to omit any "American" content pages. An example is that one book had a Spanish glossary. I really enjoy this committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

MINISTER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
Bill Whelan

The Department of Education through its Strategic Plan on Communications and Information Technology (CIT) (available on their website [www.gov.pe.ca/educ](http://www.gov.pe.ca/educ)) has been launching new initiatives to make computers and information technology an integral part of the PEI public school system, contributing to student learning outcomes in grades 1-12. Over the past year, the committee met on May 28, October 12 and February 8 to discuss a number of issues including the following items of direct interest to Home and School:

Internet Safety: There is an excellent internet safety resource for parents, created by the RCMP and other police forces, called Welcome to the Internet 101 ([www.internet101.ca](http://www.internet101.ca)).

Information / Research Databases: An internet resource is available to help students research Science Fair and Heritage Fair projects ([search.ebscohost.com](http://search.ebscohost.com)). A username and password is required which you can get from B. Whelan.

Instructional Websites: The internet site ([www.pageflakes.com](http://www.pageflakes.com)) is being used by teachers as an in-class instructional tool. Teachers and students can develop homepages that link to web based educational material (i.e. newspapers, weather, satellite images).

Home and School Associations are encouraged to interact with teachers, school Technology Committees, parents and students to support and promote the integration of technology-based learning in the school. You can contact Bill Whelan ([ferncottage@pei.sympatico.ca](mailto:ferncottage@pei.sympatico.ca), or phone 628-1176) for more information.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES STANDING COMMITTEE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Shirley Jay

This committee met on November 22/07 and March 7/08 with Peter Meggs, Department of Education as Chair. The following is an overview of meeting presentations/discussion.

1. M.Ed in Inclusive Education
  - ▶ New Masters Program at UPEI; material has been distributed to educators; 22 students will be accepted into the program; deadline January 15/08; begins summer 2008 with graduation May 2011
2. Resource Credit
  - ▶ Resource Credit (RES 401, 501, 601) is offered in high schools; students must be recommended for this credit, and can only receive one credit per year
3. Primary Intervention Program & Other Francophone Initiatives
  - ▶ Primary Intervention Program (PIP) started last year as a pilot program; the model comes from a grade 7 class in Fredericton, NB; Four students are selected for intensive intervention for 20 to 25 consecutive days; pretests and post-tests are administered; another group of students is selected at the end of the 25 days.
4. Autism Update
  - ▶ 120 researchers, teachers, parents and clinicians attended Autism Research Symposium
  - ▶ All studies failed to connect vaccinations with autism; in spite of this fact, 54% parents still believe it is a cause; Alternate treatments used; caution regarding special diets
  - ▶ Research gaps regarding intervention, more students being identified in schools, varied provincial approaches, the need for trained professionals, calls for universal screening
  - ▶ Some students have aspergers, not autism; website info: [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)
  - ▶ No evidence or research that states autism is epidemic...not even a significant increase!
5. Community Access Facilitator
  - ▶ Working on Transitions with Special Needs children, new position began October 1... transition to community; Working on Transitions binder for Secondary Students; Need to create a directory of services for individuals with special needs
6. Provincial Literacy Assessments
  - ▶ Review Provincial Literacy Assessments for grades 3 and 6 in the Spring; discussion about students on adapted and modified programs, and other students who might fall under the exemption criteria, or be in need of partial exemptions - adaptation cannot lower expectation
7. Discussion on Students with Multiple Handicaps
  - ▶ Problems exist for multiply-handicapped students in rural communities, and the limited options in place in all settings for students with complex needs; Need for a coordinator to oversee the delivery of disability services in the province. ESD has created a new position

(Student Attendant) at a few schools for the care of the physical needs of students; need for better services for multiple-handicapped individuals.

8. UPEI Adult Connections in Education (ACE) program
  - ACE is an inclusive post-secondary education program for students with intellectual disabilities. It stipulates that the ACE Program is “committed to improving a student’s quality of life through the development of literacy, social and life skills to increase self-awareness, independence and employment in an inclusive environment.”
  - ACE is a 4-year program, 12 months a year, including two semesters of University classes and activities (Sept.-May) and a semester of employed or volunteer work experience (May-August).
9. Update on Kurzweil Textbook, CD’s
  - Student textbooks and other material need to be accessible, and on the Department website. Everything new should be in e-text and available on the website. However, this could raise copyright issues with publishers. The use of memory sticks is another option.
10. Update on the M.Ed. in Inclusive Education
  - Carla mentioned that the University received many applications for the Masters Program in Inclusive. The Literacy course from the Certificate in Inclusive Education will still be offered. The Faculty of Education has a new Dean: Dr. Tim Goddard, also three new professors, one in Math, one in Language Arts and one for Leadership. Carla mentioned her presentation at UPEI on research on adults with Learning Disabilities trying to access UPEI and Holland College.
  - Marie-Jacquard asked if the University could offer a course on Assessment in French. The University needs 20 people and a French-speaking instructor to offer the course.
11. High School Literacy Initiatives
  - Clayton Coe from the Department distributed a list of courses of Resource and English.
  - Resource credit information and options for literacy initiatives have been assembled.
  - WSB Counsellor’s Issues - Margie Cain
  - It was suggested that the allocation of staff for the Boards not be included in the Staffing Model formula.
  - UPEI should also focus on Special Ed. in the B.Ed. Program.

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

The PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance and Council For a Smoke-Free PEI are working to create a tobacco free province.

### Mission

The PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance is composed of government and non-government organizations concerned with the health, social and economic consequences of tobacco use. Members of the Alliance work together to support, implement and evaluate the goals of the PEI Tobacco Reduction Strategy; preventing tobacco use among Island youth; encouraging and helping smokers to quit; and protecting the public by promoting healthy environments and eliminating exposure to second hand smoke.

### PETRA Partners

The PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance operates through the collaboration of a variety of partners who are committed to its goals. The following organizations contributed to the development of this strategic update:

Canadian Cancer Society – PEI Division, Canadian Council for Tobacco Control, Council for a Smoke Free PEI, Department of Education, Department of Health (Environmental Health Services, Addiction Services, Chronic Disease Prevention), Eastern School District, Health Canada, Heart & Stroke Foundation of PEI, Holland College, Lennox Island Health Centre, Licensed Practical Nurses Association of PEI, Medical Society of PEI, PEI Active Living Alliance, PEI Home and School Federation, PEI Lung Association, PEI Pharmaceutical Association, PEI Recreation and Facilities Association, UPEI (School of Nursing, Department of Psychology, Health Research Institute, Wellness Centre), Western School Board

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2007-2009

Strategic Area #1: Youth Prevention and Cessation

Strategic Area #2: Young Adult Prevention and Cessation

Strategic Area #3: Adult Cessation

Strategic Area #4: Protection

### Council For A Smoke-Free PEI

The Council's Priorities include:

- Designated Smoking Rooms (DSRs) removal action
- Point of display ban compliance
- Smoking outdoors - Tracking complaints & gauge public concern
- Monitor tobacco industry targeting of young people (young adults in particular); targeted products (candy flavoured) appearance and promotions

Council representatives met recently with Dr. Heather Morrison, Provincial Health Officer; Joe Bradley, Manager of Environmental Health, and Janet Christian, Legislative Specialist to discuss the Council's recommendations for legislative change.

Other:

- UPEI's efforts to become smoke-free are slow, but in the process
- Vicki Bryanton has offered to do presentations where needed on the current Council Plan to move ahead with priorities (i.e. Womens' Institute)

## BELFAST HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Anne McLeod, President

## Executive Members:

President	Anne McLeod
Vice- President	Gail Thaxter
Secretary	Karen Gillis
Treasurer	Penny Hall

## Partners in Learning:

- Our school principal, Derek McEwen, and I met with Sandy Rendell to begin planning for our Partners in Learning initiative and Mr. McEwen attended the recent workshop with several teachers. We are in the process of forming a committee to launch a Games Night for students in grades 1 to 6, along with their parents. This pilot project would involve parents and children in a evening of games set up, initially, by the teachers to show how learning can take place in a fun environment. The games night could be held at regular intervals, with a different subject as the theme each time (e.g. math games, word games, geography/map games.) Hopefully, parents will take home some of the ideas to use at home or even develop their own fun ways of learning. The main focus will be that learning is an ongoing process that happens in all settings, not just school, and that it can be enjoyable. The project is not intended to make parents into teachers, but to allow parents to spend more time with their children in a fun, stress-free environment. The benefit to the children should be two-fold: more time together with family and increased learning

## Lunch Program:

- As nearly all our students are bussed to school, a breakfast program is not practical, but we do have a hot lunch program every day, serving healthy choices such as baked potatoes, chili, soup, chicken strips, and burgers, along with salads, fresh fruit, carrot sticks, and milk. The menu changes from time to time as some items gain in popularity (e.g. chili in the winter, salads during warm months.)

## Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

- For Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, parents sent in snacks for the school staff each day, ranging from cookies and cakes to vegetable trays with dip. A luncheon for all staff members will be held on the P.D. Day in April. Parent volunteers will be providing soup and chili, along with rolls and biscuits and several desserts. These events are generally held each year with slight variations and are always appreciated by staff.

## Fund-raiser:

- Along with sales of the compact fluorescent light bulbs, our fund-raisers have included participation in the 70-Mile Yard Sale in September (canteen plus table rentals), a magazine renewal campaign, and a Christmas raffle. With declining enrolment, it is always a challenge to find volunteers for fund-raising and other school programs. We certainly appreciate all those dedicated parents and teachers who are willing to give of their time.

CARDIGAN CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL  
Stacey Newell, President

Executive Members:

President	Stacey Newell
Vice- President	Sharon MacEachern
Secretary	Tanya Garnham
Treasurer	Lori Myers

Meetings:

- We meet on the third Tuesday of every month with some executive meetings in between.

Fund-raisers:

- Past, Present, Future Concert, where past, present, and future students and teachers presented entertainment.
- Yard Sale which was fun for the whole family.
- Movie and Pop-corn. 80 + kids stayed after school to watch a movie.
- Hot Dog Day. Held regularly throughout the year for students and staff.
- Fudge Sale held at our Christmas Concert is always a great success.

With our funds we try to provide the classroom teachers with some money to pay for the extra items for craft supplies, etc. and decorations for the grade 8 Closing Ceremony.

CENTRAL QUEENS HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Dana Coles/Basil Dickson, Co-Presidents

The Central Queens Elementary Home and School Executive members include:

Co-president	Dana Coles
Co-president	Basil Dickson
Treasurer	Lynn Clow
Secretary	Melinda Wolters

Other Board Members: Joanne Clow, Bonnie Wigmore, Michelle Newton, Sharon Weeks, Scott Glendenning, Melissa Brownlow, Monica Hill and Jennifer Metcalfe

The Central Queens Home and School Executive and volunteers are very active in the school and work hard to help improve our children's education. The following is a list of many of our roles in the school:

- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week - hot lunch was served for all the staff to enjoy. Parents provide yard duty coverage during the meal so all staff members can enjoy this event.
- Sponsored a Winter Fun Day activity in February for the children to celebrate and enjoy a wintery day of both indoor and outdoor activities.
- School skate transportation sponsorship.
- Spring General Meeting hosted by Home and School and Partners for Living with Dr. Jennifer Taylor presenting "Finding Ways to Improve the Health of Canadian Youth".
- Spring Family Dance fund-raiser was held in April 2007 for all the students and their parents in the school gym.
- Organize the large number of volunteer sign up sheets for school activities, such as hot meal preparation, token sales, library assistance, hair check days, fudge donations and Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week.
- Continual collection of Campbell's Soup labels and grocery receipts in support of classrooms.
- Very active in our weekly Healthy Snack Program. We are thankful for our committee and the work they do for this important program.
- Attend provincial Home and School annual meeting in the spring and semi-annual meeting in the fall.
- Annual Christmas concert fudge sale fund-raiser which is very successful with proceeds going towards our Maurice Bernard classroom art lessons.

We are extremely proud of the Central Queens Elementary Home and School Executive and the work they do throughout the year.

CHARLOTTETOWN RURAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Anne Koughan, President

Our principle activities this year include:

- Hosting “Meet the Teacher” night in September
- Attending Parent Teacher interviews in October to circulate substance abuse materials and encourage parents and students to attend both Substance Abuse Session and Graduation Information Night in November
- Organizing and hosting a Substance Abuse session for parents and their children in November
- Organizing an information night for potential graduates and their parents in November
- Operating a raffle as our annual fund-raiser
- Providing treats for staff during “Staff Appreciation” week in February
- Providing dance chaperones for the Charlottetown Rural prom as requested
- Contributing to the school newsletter and website
- Facilitating discussion on topics raised by parents
- Planning and hosting a reception for graduates and their parents on graduation night in June
- Donating prizes to a number of graduating students
- Executive members this year are Anne Koughan and Cheryl Dalziel. The executive are joined by an active core group of parents and additional volunteers who assist with specific projects.

DONAGH REGIONAL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Danny Murnaghan, Vice-president

Executive Members:

President                    vacant  
Vice-president Danny Murnaghan  
Secretary                 Patti Shea  
Treasurer                 Rachel Power

Greetings from Donagh Regional Home and School. Here are some ongoing activities at our school.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation:

- A dinner is being planned for teachers/staff in April (P.D. Day) when students are not in school.

Lunch Program:

- Once a month, baked potatoes are prepared by volunteers and provided to students for lunch. This idea was started last year and has been a successful addition to the lunch program. Other menu items are continually being explored with the hope that new lunch items may be added in the future.

Partners in Learning:

- We are currently starting into this program, training volunteers to assist students with reading and math. We are hoping to have a representative from this program speak at our next monthly meeting. Interest in this program is strong but it has been a challenge to recruit volunteers.

Fund- raising:

- We are currently involved in two projects. The Manual Skills class has built a mini barn which is being raffled off. Secondary prizes have been added / donated to enhance this fund-raiser. Money raised will be used to cover material costs with the rest going to the school. Light bulbs are also being sold as a fund-raiser for the school. Home and School will also continue the Annual Community Calendar Drive again this year. Funds are used to support direct activities of Home and School . Calendar sales will start in mid April with orders taken for 2009.

Guest Speaker/Presentation:

- At our January meeting, we had R.C.M.P. Cst. Crozier and R.C.M.P. school liaison Greg Marche deliver an informative Internet Safety Presentation. This presentation was well received by parents.

Food Program:

- At our Christmas concert, Home and School had a fudge and baked goods sale to help stock the pantry for students lacking sufficient snacks and lunches. As the year keeps rushing by and we look forward to March Break, we would like to wish teachers, staff, students, guardians and parents a very successful school year.

## DUNDAS HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Lora Lee Gordon/Kandy Johnston, Co-Chairs

### Executive Members:

Co-Chairs     LoraLee Gordon / Kandy Johnston  
Secretary     Sandra Morrison  
Treasurer     Paula Faye-Matheson

We are the members of the Dundas Consolidated School and we are proud of what we have been able to accomplish at our school. We know most parents struggle with the rising costs of everything these days so we figured we could help out in a small way with our parents at Dundas.

We have off-set the cost of our students to attend certain activities throughout the year. For example we have paid a small fee for the students to attend a play in at the Confederation Centre and another one at Montague Regional High. The students enjoyed these outings and in a small way we were able to help them get there!

We have also paid for a rink day and the travel expenses for a trip to the Cari Pool. As a Home and School we have committed ourselves to buying books for our library whenever we can do so. We feel these are the little things that make a big difference to the students during their school year. Our members and the parents of the school help in any way possible. We provide healthy snacks to help our "Healthy Eating" program at Dundas. The students are able to try new or possibly different food that is healthy for them.

We also have a parent volunteer list so that they can come to the school and cook on our hot dog days or chicken finger days. We also provide a couple of pancake breakfasts during the year. We provide the supplies and get parent volunteers to make the pancakes and serve the students and staff (including the bus drivers) these delicious pancakes and a healthy glass of milk or two! Although some may eat too many, it's a chance for us to provide every student with a healthy breakfast and we all know how important that is!

There is another chance for us to provide food for the staff. We provide a cold plate meal for them during their Staff Appreciation Week including desserts and sweets too!

We meet the last Tuesday of the month. Our meetings are very informative and allow us to know what is going on at the school and for us to discuss any concerns that parents might have. There is on average about 12 parents in attendance including our members. We have four members on our committee: Co-chairs - LoraLee Gordon and Kandy Johnston, Secretary- Sandra Morrison, Treasurer- Paula Faye-Matheson

We are kept busy during the school year with this obligation but we enjoy being able to help out in any way we can. Our fund-raising ideas include: a wreath sale, fudge sale at the Christmas concert, and an occasional bottle drive. Our fund-raising efforts allow us to help the students attend functions they may otherwise not be able to. This is our contribution to our school and we are proud of the things that we have done so far.

## EAST WILTSHIRE INTERMEDIATE PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Brenda Dougay/Beth Luttrell, Co-Chairs

## Parents Advisory Committee:

Co-Chair Brenda Dougay

Co-Chair Beth Luttrell

We like to refer to ourselves as a Parent Advisory Committee. We have approximately 12 members with tremendous guidance from Principal - Windsor Wight and teacher advisors Marlene Toole and Susan Gould.

## Committee Agenda:

- Staff changes
- Math and Language Arts Assessment results
- Staff Appreciation Week
- Student teams, committees, and achievements
- Equipment purchases

## School Dances:

- We have a few parents work the door at all school dances. This allows the staff to circulate amongst the students.

## Staff Appreciation:

- On Friday, Feb 15th we hosted a wonderful luncheon for Staff Appreciation Week. This was very well received.
- Our group may not be as active as some other chapters, but we feel that we have a terrific relationship with the staff at East Wiltshire. This translates to us being very informed and involved with our sons and daughters education and school life.

We trust this gives you a little insight on our activities. Please don't hesitate to contact us for any further information.

ELIOT RIVER/WESTWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Janette Conklin/Tracey Hagan-O'Connor, Co-Chairs

Executive Members:

Co-Chairs	Janette Conklin/ Tracey Hagan-O'Connor
Treasurer	Glenda MacKinnon Peters
Secretary	Michelle Laird
Communications	Michelle Laird

Other Board Members: Ruth Morrison, Lori MacDonald, Lisa MacKay, Jeannie Campbell, Charlotte Bryant, Stewart Darrach, Anita Murphy, and Don MacFadyen

Meetings:

- We have a very small Home and School executive that meets several times a year.

Award:

- We nominated Kent Lennan for the bus driver of the year award.

Development Initiatives:

- There was a general meeting in November. Representatives from both Eliot River and Westwood presented their school's development initiatives. Five parents attended the meeting.

Fund-raiser:

- We organized the sale of light bulbs as our fund-raising efforts this year. Monies generated were spent at Eliot River School to purchase more surround sounds. Westwood has not yet dedicated their funds.

Staff Appreciation:

- The executive members provided snacks for Staff Appreciation Week.

## ELLERSLIE ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

June Ellis, President

## Executive Members:

President      June Ellis  
Secretary     Lisa MacDougall  
Treasurer     Teresa Williams

## Parent Engagement Initiatives:

At the beginning of the school year, we mailed out a volunteer form to the parents. On this form lists various activities that the parents/guardians would be willing to help out with. This is very valuable as we use this to contact parents when an event arises that we need volunteers for. We realize that many parents do not have the time to attend meetings, but would like to help out in other ways.

In September, the new principal suggested a barbeque get together for the parents. It was extremely well attended with everyone meeting the new principal, Jason Cormier.

## Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

- Free pizza for staff
- Lunch - chili and rolls
- Fruit tray

## Fund-raisers

- Annual ADL frozen food drive - very successful, but a learning item for us in the future. We will not accept any more cash. In future, we will be operating this fund raiser accepting cheques or money orders only.
- Ecumenical service for the community winter carnival was held at the school. This was very successful with a great turnout. The collection was donated to the school with the monies going towards a large screen for the stage. This is something that other schools may want to have as it is a great way to bring people together.

## Initiatives

- D.A.R.E. program
- The school continues to be well used by the community; walking program, meetings, community schools, inside sports for families and hockey teams, etc.

## ELM STREET ELEMENTARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Maureen Campbell, President

## Executive Members:

President	Maureen Campbell
Vice President	Marta Irvine
Secretary	Angie Matheson
Treasurer	Becky Hink

September started off quickly with our annual school fund-raiser. We chose a catalogue sales campaign and we sold light bulbs. We were very happy with the sales from both of these campaigns.

Our Home and School continues to offer a lunch program every Friday. The program got off to a slow start this year because of lack of coordinators and volunteers, it finally started in December. We offer pizza, garlic fingers, salads, subs and wraps from Greco Pizza. Volunteers go into the school on Fridays to organize the lunch for the students. Home and School also stocks a cupboard in the kitchen with dry goods for students who come to school without a breakfast or lunch.

Home and School continues to operate a Healthy Snack Program. Parent volunteers bring in a prepared healthy snack into each classroom every second week. This is our fifth year for this program and it is well received by all students and staff.

We celebrated National Child Day with home made chocolate chip cookies, a drink and a wristband for the 480 students who attend the school.

For Christmas, Home and School gave all the children a chapter book. We ordered the books from Scholastics Book Orders with the help of a teacher. The books were given out at the assembly before Christmas break. This was a very positive venture; both the children and the teachers were excited with the gift.

Our Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week was once again a wonderful week. Parents from our school community helped to celebrate by providing lunches, snacks, treats, gifts and so much more. We bought the teachers a Cricut Machine to help cut out shapes for school bulletin boards and special crafts. The teachers thought this was a wonderful gift.

Our Home and School was very pleased to hear about the plans for our new gym and improvements to the school. The ground will break this spring for our new gym.

Elm Street Home and School remains a small, but very active group of individuals who work very hard to help make a difference within the school.

## ENGLEWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Neila Auld – Treasurer

## Members of Executive:

President	Bonnie Ralph
Vice-President	Cindy Darbyson
Treasurer	Neila Auld
Secretary	Beth Shaw
Directors	Trish Shaw, Ida MacDonald, Stacey Nicholson

## Lunch and Snack Program:

Our snack and lunch program continues to succeed and expand at Englewood. We are into our fourth year. Monday, Wednesday and Fridays we offer hot lunches for \$2 that and has seen the selection grow each year. On Tuesdays and Thursdays we offer fruit and vegetable trays (free) that include a selection of 3 items (varying each week) plus cheese pieces.

The canteen has expanded its healthy snack selection for purchase and includes homemade muffins/ cookies (donated by parents), bottled water and 100% pure juice boxes. The sub provider will supplies subs without processed meats. Last year we instituted “lunch coupon sheets” – parents can buy a sheet of 20 or 40 coupons – it alleviates having to have change and is less work for the committee.

We continue to get wonderful support from the businesses in the community (money donations); farmers (donating potatoes), and community members who volunteer to prepare the trays for classroom delivery. We have upwards of a hundred parents volunteering – baking, cutting for trays, shopping, etc.

## Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

All are recognized: Teachers, Bus Drivers, Custodians, Project L.O.V.E. volunteers, Library volunteers, Tutors, Teacher Assistants, Secretary, etc. Activities include a food item each day (Breakfast fruit, Breakfast muffins) and two days of a hot lunch and full courses! The highlight for the week for the Teachers is “yard and hall supervision” each day. This allows the staff to all “sit together” and enjoy the treats or meals – and just interact! It is always a fun week, and always appreciated.

## Fundraising:

We have yet to implement a fund-raiser this year, but are planning a spring Norcard (Greeting cards and wrap) sale. Once again the proceeds will support the Healthy Eating program. In April we have a session planned in conjunction with Bluefield and the PEI Health Sector Council. This will have the Council introduce the many health professions in PEI and give guidance to students, parents and teachers when planning courses and career considerations.

This is my last year at Englewood. It is hard to believe I have spent 11 years there and all being involved with the Home & School executive in some format. It has been a very rewarding experience and I have met many wonderful and dedicated parents and teachers over those years. A special thank you to Shirley Jay from the Federation, she has been a tremendous resource. I encourage all parents “to get involved”!

## GLEN STEWART HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Marie O'Hanley, President

The highlight of the last year for our association has been the opening of our two new playgrounds. Hawk's Hangout is a standard playground focusing on upper body strength, designed to complement our walking/running trail. Eagle's Nest, a Boundless Playground for Prince Edward Island, represents a major change in playground construction. Boundless playgrounds focus on providing a playspace accessible to all. Our efforts at fund-raising and research into playground design have resulted in a playground that is totally accessible, huge, visually exciting and, according to the children, awesome. We would invite everyone to come and have a look. The playground is open to the general public outside school hours and is also available to students with special needs from all Island schools at any time. We are very grateful to the support of the Eastern School District's support in the planning and implementation of the playground. We are also very pleased by the response from other schools as they attempt to make their playgrounds more accessible.

Our other focus areas at the school have been the School Development Plan, large class sizes, lack of physical facilities and space at the school and strategies to help parents help children.

We ran a very successful week of celebration during Staff Appreciation Week. There is currently a study in progress which is looking at viable, healthy school lunch options for a school with 658 students, 70 staff and no cafeteria.

Our Greater Grounds committee continues to explore ways to improve the grounds both as a play area and as a support to the curriculum. Plans are underway for another paved pad and more accessible playground equipment over the spring and summer.

We had two very successful fund-raisers this year, the Spring Fling (for the playground) and the Christmas Craft Fair. With our funds we have supported the science fair, purchased TV'S and DVD players for each of the grades, the gym program, the library, purchase of choir microphones and also the purchase of classroom textbooks to support literacy initiatives.

The members of the executive would like to thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers that come out whenever they are needed. We would also like to thank our wonderful school administrators, teachers and support staff for all their help this year, especially with the playground.

GREENFIELD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Rhonda Blanchard/Linda Celliers, Co-Presidents

Executive Members:

Co-Presidents	Rhonda Blanchard/ Linda Celliers
Treasurer	Cheryl Gallant
Secretary	Brenda Fisher

Parental Involvement:

- The parents are usually pretty involved at our school. We like to make sure that our school gets what it needs to help our children have a better education and fun as well while attending Greenfield.

Lunch Program:

- We only have a lunch program available on Fridays, although it would be nice to try for a little more.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation:

- For Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week we had snacks provided every day with a potluck on Valentines day.
- We got the students involved with decorating and with the assembly. For the assembly to finish off the week we had the teachers and staff sing karaoke.

Fund-raiser:

- We plan to do our Nocard fund-raiser again since it works well for us and with the profits we usually try to buy equipment that the school needs either indoor or outdoor.

GULF SHORE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Kerie Murphy, President

Executive Members:

President	Kerie Murphy
Vice President	Gayle Forrester
Secretary	Merryman Porter
Treasurer	Theresa Toombs

The last year at our school has been very successful. Our playground has been completed. This offers the children many new, safe, facilities to play with. There has been a lot of positive feedback from it and our playground committee worked very hard to reach its goal.

Our school is continuing with the healthy eating alliance offering soups, subs, chicken burgers and cheese pizza three times a week. We have a good group of volunteers that organizes it but are still working on getting more help for when these people have to move on. We also are able to keep up our food supply for children who have forgotten or show up to school without a lunch. It can be costly but we feel it is worth it for the children.

We have had yet another record making Terry Fox run. All the children had a wonderful day and we had lots of community support.

We have expanded our Science Fair this year to include more grades and give us a larger variety of projects to see.

We are currently working with the Partnerships and Learning with their pilot project to develop learning modules that can be presented to parents and groups in the school. They will be developing teaching sessions for volunteers, fathers, curriculum and a wide variety of other things.

Our primary Norcard fund-raiser was carried out in the fall with increased results. This fund-raiser is a great success for us because it is nice not to have to focus on only raising money through-out the school year. We are able to focus more on encouraging parent participation and teaching.

We have also invested in the Home and School Connection newsletter that provides information to parents on everything ranging from dealing with emotions to how to study for tests. We ordered this at the start of the year and every month have a two page newsletter we copy and send home with the kids for the parents to read. We have had a lot of positive feedback about this and plan to continue it for next year.

We had a very productive Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week giving them a turkey dinner, outdoor duty breaks, snacks every day, and soup and sandwiches. We had many parent volunteers who helped out with this and want to thank all of them especially Monica Simpson for all their hard work.

We have great teachers and staff at Gulf Shore. Everyone is very close-knit and extremely helpful. We are also lucky to have a good supply of parent volunteers and they do a great job. Our meeting turnout has been good this year with a variety of parents showing up. This gives us a better view of all the different concerns and we hope the parents keep turning up.

HERNEWOOD INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Colleen Parker, President

The Hernewood Parent Council met for the first time this year on October 10, 2007. The handbook on School Councils was distributed and an explanation was provided by Colleen Parker, President of Hernewood Home and School.

At all the meetings the principal provides a written and verbal report on activities in the school. It is a good opportunity to learn more about our school.

The Student Council teacher and student reps attend council meetings to provide a report on their activities.

At our initial meeting this year we selected the dates for all the meetings and included a storm date for each one.

Two of our council members attended the Home and School training session at Parkside Elementary.

At our November meeting we were treated to presentations of the Smart Boards that the school was able to purchase. This was very interesting and a great tool for teaching.

At our January meeting the upcoming provincial activities and deadlines were highlighted. We are hoping to have good representation at the Annual Meeting.

We also planned our Teacher's Appreciation activities. It proved to be a stormy week but trust that the teachers did get to enjoy some treats.

Our next scheduled meeting is March 5, 2008.

I believe if we could get more parents out to the school meetings they would really enjoy learning more about what goes on in the school.

LUCY MAUD MONTGOMERY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Tina Vessey, President

On our executive this year:

President	Tina Vessey
Vice-President	Roma Misner
Treasurer	Lynn Jardine
Secretary	Valerie Herring-MacBeath
Past President	Debra Lynn Trainer
Teacher Rep	Cyndi Proude

The number of meetings we held this year to date is three with two remaining.

Our main parent engagement initiative this year was our Parent University. This was held at our school on October 20th/07, with Lloyd Mallard. We had a great committee put together a morning full of great sessions and speakers. Some topics were nutrition, how to help our children become better readers and parenting today. We had a great turnout and very good feedback for future session.

We have a great lunch program which is run by Valerie Herring-MacBeath. We serve Taco, pizza and chicken nuggets weekly while we serve hotdogs by-weekly.

We have a great bunch of parent in our school that are more that willing to help us out with Teacher/Staff Appreciation week with organizer Debra Lynn Trainer. We had our parents bring in treats everyday to the staff while ending off the week with a big potluck. This went over very well with lots of thanks from the staff.

Our one and only fund-raiser of the year is our annual Winter Carnival Family Fun Night which is organized by Christine MacDonald. This was held on Friday, November 23rd from 6:00-9:00. This night is full of excitement with a silent auction, bake sale, used book sale, raffle draw, and loads of games for the kids to play. We exceeded other years by bringing in a total of \$15,330.46.

This has been my first year as President and I have enjoyed working with the executive and parents to try and do all we can to help our children and teachers. I look forward to doing it all again next year

MISCOUCHE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Mar McIsaac, President

Executive members:

Past President Lori-Colborne Barry  
Treasurer Lesley MacKinnon  
Secretary Cathy Richard

Members:

Dianne MacCormack  
Lynn Compton  
Lynn Paynter  
Cathy Campbell  
Carol Ann Arsenault  
Lori Richard

Our lunch program still consists of hot dogs on Fridays. We tried subs from Subway and homemade spaghetti on one Friday a month but it did not work out. Our parents on a whole send healthy food with their kids lunches.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week went very well in our school. We decorated the teachers lounge in hearts in keeping with Valentines. They were given treats everyday by parents and Home and School members. We also bought them a CD player for the lounge. We always do a potluck supper for them on parent/teacher interview day. They have to stay late on April 3rd anyway and they get to all sit down together. They like that.

Our fund-raising initiatives include the magazine campaign, a Christmas basket and we help with a Halloween Gym. This is so much fun and we look forward to it every year. Our school consists of grades 1-9, so we have to downplay it a bit for the younger kids but the older ones are great to have fun with. The teachers are the absolute most fun to scare. It is such a hoot.

We always end our school year with a barbeque for all the kids and staff for free. It goes over very well.

MONTAGUE CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Cindy Lava, President

Meet the Teacher Night/Open House:

- Held in September 2007
- Parents and guardians appreciated meeting the new teachers.

Concerts:

- Christmas Concert - for grades 1 - 3 where parents, grand-parents, and family enjoyed their little ones.
- Spring Concert - for grades 4 - 6 where everyone was entertained and enjoyed the students and hope for the new season. This concert was also special- because the Donations at the door helped special student- related needs.

Christmas Food Drive:

- In lieu of gifts for the season, turkeys were donated for the Food Drive.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week:

- Every Friday in February (extra day for the 29<sup>th</sup> ) snacks were provided in the staff lounge with a special “WE APPRECIATE YOU “ cake on the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- During parent/teacher interviews a hot “ Potluck “ supper was provided and greatly appreciated.

Initiatives:

- Our major fundraiser was a great success – “BULBS & BULBS” - garden bulbs and energy efficient light bulbs; light bulbs were donated by the government at no cost to the Home and School and sold for a full profit; the money is to be used for the library, sports equipment, and other projects.
- We are looking for ideas and ways to update and expand the Green-space surrounding the school. This is an on-going project that will benefit everyone - students and the community.

MOUNT STEWART HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
LaVerne MacKinnon, President

Executive Members:

President	LaVerne MacKinnon
Vice-President	Isabell Coffin
Treasurer	Juanita Hughes
Secretary	Mary MacDonald

Time has flown by again this year. As in years past it has been very busy at our small, but MIGHTY Home and School Association. I would just like to highlight a few of our accomplishments.

Kindergarten Program:

- We have run a full-time Kindergarten Program that is vital to children entering into Grade One. We were very pleased to be part of the S.I.R (Spring Into Reading) Program that ran for 10 weeks.
- Parents and children benefitted greatly from this wonderful program.

D.A.R.E. Program:

- Our principal, Mrs. Lamphier was VERY pleased to have had the D.A.R.E Program at our school this year. This program wrapped up with a wonderful Graduation Ceremony in March.

Fund-raisers:

- Our major fund raisers again this year were the Elimination Draw and the Birthday Calendar. MANY THANKS go out to the Mount Stewart Fire Department for their on going support of our School and our children. A BIG thank you to Linda and Juanita for ALL their hard work on the Birthday Calendar. With the funds that we raise we have been able to treat the students and staff to many hot lunches, swims at the pool, bowling and new gym equipment and a play.

Staff Appreciation:

- Staff Appreciation Week was a great time to show all the staff how much we appreciate all they do. We were very honored to have our School Trustee, Edna Reid attend our January meeting. It was interesting to hear all the aspects of her position. We hope to have her back again soon.

We at Mount Stewart Home and School hope everyone enjoys a successful school year.

## O'LEARY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Tammy Rix, President

## Executive Members:

In-coming President	Colleen MacLeod
Secretary	Amy Buchanan
Treasurer	Janet Hart

The O'Leary Home and School has had a very busy year thus far. The beginning of the year started with the election of a new executive. Donna Woodside resigned as President but remains actively involved with the committee. Thank you Donna for all your hard work and dedication over the last few years.

The fall was a very busy time with the installation of new playground equipment purchased for the school and community. The children were very excited and happy when the installation was complete in October. Congratulations to all the volunteers who helped fund-raise \$35,000 over the last year, this was a very impressive amount and you should all be very proud for a job well done.

## Goals for 2007-2008

- Our main goal for the year was to assist the school with fund-raising to assist with purchasing a number of FM systems for the classrooms.
- Support and deliver the "I'm a Thumbbody" program
- Present a couple of parent programs ie. Kids West, (not done)
- St. John's Ambulance Babysitting program (not done)

## Fund-raising Initiatives

- The month of December we held a Christmas Flea Market. The children brought items in and were then able to purchase these items for a loonie. This year we fund-raised \$ 369.
- Penny Parade was held in February for two weeks and raised \$ 850.00.
- Baked potatoes are sold every Tuesday to the children for a \$ 1.00, this has been a very successful fund-raiser over the past few years.

## Policies

- A new policy was adopted at the beginning of the year for volunteers who travel outside of West Prince area are reimbursed for their travel @ .25 cents/km.

## Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

- During Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week a potluck was held one day, carnations and a apple were delivered to all staff; a local restaurant owner, Vinny's delivered muffins and another day is usually fudge day.

PARKDALE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Jessie Frost-Wicks, President

Executive Members:

President	Jessie Frost-Wicks
Vice-President	Lisa MacLaren
Secretary	Cathy McKenna
Treasurer	Tracey McAskill

Our meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month. Attendance at the meetings is generally comprised of two teachers and the executive, however we have a wonderful community of parents who are always at the ready to support our efforts and volunteer their time and abilities.

Some of the initiatives we have undertaken this year have included:

1. Our President and Vice-President were able to attend the Executive Training Session which was held at Glen Stewart school in the fall, and found it both educational and fun
2. Annual Christmas Concert fudge and bake sale and 50/50 draw
3. Spaghetti dinner at the Superstore Community Room
4. Pancake breakfast at the Superstore Community Room
5. During Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, despite some storm interruptions, we provided daily snacks and a lunch as well as covering playground duty each day for lunch and recess. We were also able to recruit donations from local businesses to provide draws each day for all of the deserving teachers and staff. We brought the students into the celebration by providing each with an apple cut-out for them to decorate and signify why they think their teacher is so special.

Thanks to the success of the fund-raisers in which we have participated, we are able to continue to assist with the costs of the babysitting course, field trips and year-end class trips as well as make contributions to individual classes for books and athletic equipment for the school. We shall also be looking into the possibility of replacing and/or purchasing new musical instruments for the music program at Parkdale.

## PARKSIDE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Joanna Stewart, President

## Executive Members:

President	Joanna Stewart
Vice-President	Sandra Hall
Secretary	Crystal Gaudet
Treasurer	Jessica Gauthier

## Meetings:

We meet once a month, usually the second Tuesday at 7 pm for one hour. These meetings are all open. Sometimes the executive needs to meet in between monthly meetings to organize special events.

Guest speakers: None scheduled yet.

## Parent Volunteers:

We sent out a form at the beginning of the school year requesting volunteers for the following activities: hotdog day, pizza day, lunchtime readers, healthy snack providers, and special events. A spreadsheet was then created to organize the volunteers and schedules were then drawn up with copies going out to all the volunteers.

## Special Events include:

Cabot Park Beach Sweep - Parents organize, fund and serve a barbeque lunch to the whole school.

Halloween - Parent readers get dressed up and read to the children as part of the school's activities.

Christmas - Parents brought in items for a bake sale which took place at the Parkside Christmas concert. All funds raised went to Salvation Army's adopt-a-family.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week - Special coffee break snacks were provided all week long, as well as a buffet lunch on the Tuesday. Parents organized, brought in food and helped clean up.

Bike Rodeo - We organize the City of Summerside Police to visit our school and provide safety information as well as fun prizes and snacks.

Family Fun Night - In June, as school is getting ready to wrap up, the Home and School organizes a night of games, cake auction, silent auction, and barbeque for the whole family.

Healthy Snacks - The Parkside Home and School funds and stocks healthy snack type food for children to access should they arrive at school without breakfast or without a lunch .

Lunchtime Readers - Parents read to all classes while the students eat their lunch one day a month.

Fund-raising - We have a penny parade in the fall for six weeks and also in the spring. This pays for our Beach Sweep barbeque, Family Fun Night Barbeque and Healthy Snacks.

## QUEEN CHARLOTTE INTERMEDIATE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Executive: Sue MacDonald, Mike Ramsay, Inge Dorsey

Queen Charlotte Intermediate School Home and School reactivated in November 2006. At that time, it was determined to form an executive, hold regular meetings, communicate closely with school administration and student's council and join the PEI Home and School Federation. The activities that we have undertaken include:

Parent Volunteer Survey – Staff identified a number of areas where parent volunteers would be welcomed. Parents were invited to complete a survey indicating their interests and availability. The survey results have been utilized to arrange volunteers for various school activities.

Meet the Teacher – Home and School volunteers baked and served muffins to encourage volunteers for the Breakfast Club. We also sold light bulbs that evening.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon – Home and School organized and hosted a lovely lasagna & dessert buffet for all school staff in February. This event was very well supported by parent volunteers and greatly appreciated by staff.

Winter Carnival – In cooperation with Student's Council and school staff, Home and School host a Pancake Breakfast for the school community in March.

Fund-raising – QCIS Home and School sold CF Light bulbs within the school community. Funds raised have gone to support the Breakfast Club.

QCIS Parent Language Learning Club – A new initiative, in partnership with PEI Home and School Federation, is the establishment of a project to help immigrant parents become more familiar with the school, school community and to facilitate opportunities to speak English. All newcomer parents have been invited to participate in the organizing as well as the activities. There have been four gatherings (two organizing meetings, Asian cooking demonstration, wood craft class) with more planned. All members of the school community are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Breakfast Club – This is the most ambitious project of QCIS Home and School. Home and School hosted Charmaine Campbell of the Healthy Eating Alliance to discuss the establishment of a breakfast program at QCIS. Home and School volunteers organized and staffed a pilot program in April and May 2007. The QCIS Breakfast Club is up and running and serving a healthy breakfast and good cheer to the students. Operations began in October, just after Thanksgiving, under the cheerful and organized leadership of volunteer Coordinator, Sue MacDonald. The program operates three mornings per week October – January, April - May and five mornings a week February – March. Following is a highlight list of the program:

- On average, daily we serve 60-80 students a serving of bagel, toast and juice. We serve

80-100 cups of 100% juice and 5 pounds of fresh fruit.

To date, we have had 24 parents/family members volunteer.

- One morning a group of parents prepared and served a selection of Korean foods. The food was delicious and well received by students and staff.
- Mark Kelly, QCIS teacher, supports the program by having a rotation of his homeroom students assist with cleanup. Approximately 12 students participate regularly.
- Anne Francis, parent volunteer, is assisting with coordinating the volunteer schedule; Great Canadian Bagel continues to be a generous supporter of the program, donating bagels every week.
- Ian and Cyrilla Saunders, QCIS parents, have been generous supporters of the program with donations of waffle making equipment, a toaster as well as food supplies. Ian regularly volunteers at the program as well.
- During this reporting period the program has spent \$746.21 on food and supplies. We have spent \$23.32/day and we had budgeted \$30.00. This amount brings us under budget by an average of \$6.68/day. Congratulations to Coordinator Sue MacDonald for doing an excellent job of keeping things on track!

School Clothing Sales – In cooperation with school staff and Student’s Council Home and School have assisted in arranging for the sale of crested sweaters, t-shirts and pants. Proceeds will go to support school activities.

Green Space Project – Home and School have been active in supporting the development of a Green Space on school grounds.

Traffic Concerns – Home and School have supported the school Administration’s efforts to have traffic flow concerns in the Simmons Arena parking lot and along North River Road addressed by writing letters of support to City of Charlottetown officials and maintaining regular communication with school and city officials. We are pleased that the parties were able to work together to design and implement a plan, which has addressed the majority of the concerns.

Communication – The Home and School executive have maintained regular communication with school administration through regular executive meetings, frequent e-mail and telephone communications and scheduled Home and School meetings. The school administration has facilitated our communication with other parents by publishing items in the monthly school newsletter, making announcements in the school and establishing a page on the school website for Home and School news.

School Development – Principal Jean Boudreau prepared and delivered a report on the progress of School Development issues to a meeting of the QCIS Home and School

We are pleased with the progress we have made in establishing a positive working relationship with administration, staff and students. We appreciate the support of the school administration and staff to help Home and School become active again at QCIS.



## SHERWOOD HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Susie Dillon, President

## Executive Members:

President	Susie Dillon
Vice-President	Shelly Morrison
Treasurer	Kim McNeill/Joanne Jay
Secretary	Tanya Bevan

This year Home and School has been kept busy doing many things. We started in the fall with a fall carnival. This was our big fund-raiser, and a great way to bring our families together. We were able to help the school update the computer lab as well as deferring the cost of a rock climbing wall and a gym curtain.

There has and continues to be a host of parent workshops on a variety of topics such as “learning styles” “mental math” and “building your child’s self-esteem. Our school has also been selected as a pilot school in a parent engagement project with Partners In Learning to develop a grade 1 video on literacy.

Staff Appreciation Week was a success with lots of treats, staff prize draws and lunch supervision being covered by the many families within our school.

Upcoming events still to happen are Story Night and our school barbeque. Story night is an evening to promote family literacy through the enjoyment of reading. In June, on sports day, we provide a barbeque to all staff and students including a hotdog, a drink, and a treat as a thank you for all their support through out the year.

In closing the biggest success we have encountered this year are the many new parents who have come on board to help out in all aspects of Home and School. We have people helping out on a daily and weekly basis with general duties around the school like food programs. We are able to do the many things at our school because of the great parent support shown throughout the year. Everyone wins when parents /caregivers become involved in our school.

SPRING PARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Patti Devine/Tracey Willoughby, Co-Chairs

**1. H.S.A. Executive**

Patti Devine (Co-Chair)

Tracey Willoughby (Co-Chair)

Lisa Geldert (Secretary)

Mike Ramsay (Treasurer)

Carol O'Hanley (Communications)

Maria Green (Past President)

**2. Parent Engagement**

In an effort to create a greater sense of community at the school and increase parent engagement with the Home and School Association we undertook the following initiatives:

- Scheduled meetings once a month on the same day, i.e. the first Wednesday of every month. Principal or Vice Principal and at least two teachers – different ones each time – attend the meetings. Having teachers attend really opens up the communications channel.
- The Executive came up with a plan for activities for the year and based on that plan we created a number of committees and positions.
- Created a Communications Officer position on the Executive. We were fortunate to recruit an enthusiastic, dedicated and talented parent to take on this role. The Communications Officer has created special Home and School newsletters to get the word out to parents and teachers about the association, promote specific events and to respond to requests for information, for example, about the food program. She also has increased our presence on the School website. The Association has its own link on the site and the website administrator kindly posts our changes to our site. The communication officer also contributes a section to the bi-weekly school newsletter.
- Created a Volunteer Coordinator position. Again one of our parents who is a whiz with databases agreed to become the volunteer coordinator. She created a database based on the Grade One parents who signed up at orientation last June, the volunteer list from last year, and volunteer sign-up sheets for the specific volunteer opportunities that flow from the annual plan. Creating this database and giving the responsibility to one person has facilitated our volunteer recruitment efforts.
- Set up a table during the October parent/teacher interviews to get the word out about the Association, promote our upcoming activities and solicit volunteers for specific activities/events.

**3. Policy Resolutions/By-laws**

- We have not submitted any resolutions. This has largely been because no one has had the time to turn their attention to this matter and not because we don't want to see changes made by the Department of Education.
- We currently are not guided by a set of by-laws; however, we have begun work in this area and hope to see something adopted this spring to guide the Association going forward.

#### **4. Lunch Program**

- Opportunity to purchase a healthy lunch every day but Thursday.
- A hot lunch is available 3 of the 4 days.
- Menu adheres to the Healthy Eating Alliance guidelines.
- Program could not happen without the commitment and cooperation of our teaching staff.
- Each Monday morning students bring in their orders and payment for the week. Teachers collect the orders and designate a student to take the orders and money to the office.
- Food program coordinator organizes parent volunteers to count the money and tally the orders.
- School secretaries phone in the orders to the vendors.
- The Home and School Treasurer picks up the money and makes the bank deposit.
- The lunch program is a well-oiled machine ; it serves the needs of students and parents, and is an excellent revenue source for the Home and School Association.

#### **5. Safe Arrival Program**

- This program has been in operation for at least six years.
- Parents call in to leave a message on the Safe Arrival Line voice mail if their child will NOT be in school that day or will be arriving late.
- Our safe arrival coordinator schedules parents to come to the school each morning to check the Safe Arrival Line voice mail.
- If a parent has not left a message and his/her child does not arrive at school the volunteer calls the parent to inform them.

#### **6. Fund-raising**

In our plan for 2007-2008, we determined the Library Revitalization Project would receive the bulk of the proceeds from our fund-raising efforts.

October Christmas Card and Calendar sale.

- First year with this fund-raiser. Very successful.
- High quality English and bilingual cards and calendars.
- Raised \$5600 net

Spring Magazine Sale

- Our third or fourth year
- Good revenue source but sales are starting to decrease year over year
- Will run in early April
- Can earn a certain percentage even from magazine renewals.

- ▶ Other special events under consideration for this year
- ▶ Bingo night for students and families in April. A fun event only. Not meant to raise money. If money is raised, it will be allocated to the Library Fund.

#### **7. Special Events**

- Ice cream social – Friday of first week of school. Teachers, staff, bus drivers, parents, students and families all participated. Good feedback. A good way to start off the year.

- Spooktacular – Organized by teaching staff. First Spooktacular held in 2006 as a fund-raiser for a family at the school experiencing health-related issues. Home and School was asked to coordinate the bake table. Halloween theme event. Games, pinch penny fair-type sale.
- Ice Skating Fun Day – Home and School provided hot chocolate to the students when they returned to school.

#### Christmas Shoppe

- ▶ Meant as a fun and festive activity for students to have an opportunity to shop on their own for two special people, such as parents, care-givers, grandparent.
- ▶ Parents donated gently used items to be sold to the students for .50, \$1 or \$2
- ▶ Gift wrapping was provided
- ▶ Result: students left the Christmas Shoppe with specially wrapped gifts they chose and bought.
- ▶ A huge success, especially for its first year.
- ▶ Money raised was a by-product, not the purpose. Donated to the Food Bank.

Bingo Night – April (To Be Confirmed)

End of School Fun Day – June

Hot dogs, ice cream, outdoor game

### **8. Special Initiatives or Projects**

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Spring Park School! To mark this milestone, a joint teacher-parent committee has been formed. A special event in June is in the planning stages.

- Library Revitalization Project
- Home and School Executive recognized the need to revitalize the library
- Solicited two people, co-chairs to lead the committee
- Have enlisted the help of an architect and interior designer
- Goal is to re-design the current space housing the library and computer lab to create a dynamic and inspirational space to enhance students' education through the world of books and multi-media
- May be two-stage project
- Hope to have one stage completed in time for 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **9. Teacher Appreciation Week**

- Scaled back slightly from last year in terms of number of activities. SPS has taken on a lot of new activities / initiatives this year.
- Monday ... actually Tuesday since school was cancelled on Monday – provided homemade muffins and coffee
- Wednesday – hosted a beautiful pot-luck luncheon for the teachers and staff; the parent who organized the luncheon used her experience and talent in catering to create an extra special Valentine-theme luncheon, with fancy table linens, Valentine's decor and even a waiter in black tie to help serve and clean up. Teachers and Staff raved about the luncheon....it was greatly appreciated.

### **10. Conclusion**

We seem to be reaching our goal of increasing parent engagement and have a good relationship with the school administration and staff.

ST. PETER'S BAY CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Andrea Studzinski, President

President	Andrea Studzinski
Treasurer	Kathy MacEwen
Vice-President	vacant
Secretary	vacant

Greetings from lovely St. Peter's Bay Consolidated! We have had a busy year so far in our Home and School. This year, our executive members include, Andrea Studzinski, President, and Kathy MacEwen, Treasurer. The positions of Vice-President and Secretary remain vacant. We have 8 meetings per school year and we have a dedicated core of parents that attend meetings.

Each year, our Home and School provides funds for a number of projects. We contribute money towards student activities such as Christmas school skates, Confederation Centre plays, and end of year field trips. We also donate money to the Kings County Music Festival each year and this year we provided the students with a fruit snack day.

Our fund-raising this year has included fudge sales, Christmas wreath sales, bake sales, 50/50 tickets and a CD raffle with 4 CDs generously donated by J.J. Chaisson. Each year, we contribute money from our fund-raising to a special school wish list which this year includes items such as science equipment and drama materials.

We celebrated Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week by providing snacks to the teachers during the week and also by cooking a roast chicken dinner at the school for all teachers and staff. Our small parent base really pulls together on this day to show our teachers and staff how much they are appreciated !

We have had several guest speakers this year. Ms. Nancy Malcolm Sharratt, the Healthy Living Coordinator for Kings and Queens, gave a talk on healthy living at our October meeting. Reverend Sandy Clark, our School Board Trustee, was our guest at our March meeting and plans to have a guest speaker from Parents For French are being made for our May meeting.

This year, our Home and School nominated one of our bus drivers for the School Bus Driver of the Year Award. We were thrilled when Ned Crossman won the award for the Eastern School District.

Although we did not present any resolutions this year, we do have representation at both the Semi-Annual and Annual General Meeting to stay informed with what is being discussed.

In summary, it has been a busy year with a great Home and School!

ST. TERESA'S CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Marcella Byrne, President

Executive Members :

President	Marcella Byrne
Vice President	Deborah Bradley
Secretary	Michelle Gouthro
Treasurer	Trina Connors

This year we held monthly meetings each month except for December. Our meetings cover several topics ranging from fund-raising, volunteering for the many things that come up throughout the year (ie. Teacher Appreciation week, healthy snack initiatives, friendship soccer tournament, luncheon for DVA, choir, etc.).

This year we will be holding our 2nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Concert to raise money for the Library, last year we raised \$1000 towards new books for our school library!

Each day during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, five groups of volunteer parents came to the school to prepare and serve a hot lunch with dessert included.

Our school received monies towards the healthy snacks program and volunteer parents pick up these snacks and take them to the school for the students to enjoy once a week.

We have taken advantage of the Parental Engagement Pilot Program. Our school has decided to get help for parents in the Math curriculum. Our hopes are to have someone from the Department of Education to come out and speak to the parents and give them tips to help their children with math. Math has changed a great deal since our parents have gone to school that we feel sometimes we can't be of much help with math homework, so we are looking forward to having this information made available to us.

Our annual fund-raiser was a success once again. We hold a lottery and sell tickets to parents and those in our community, we raise enough (money) to help out with several areas in our school.

Our Home and School would not be the success it is without the help of our parents. Twice a week a parent comes into the school to microwave lunches for the students and have them ready for them when their lunch time comes.

STONEPARK HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Iris Rodger, President

## Executive Report:

President	Iris Rodger
Vice-President	Dana Blakely
Secretary	Hilda Kennedy
Treasurer	Hilda Kennedy

Our year began with meet the teacher night. A basket for donations was passed around while Mr. Beck (Principal) gave his welcoming speech. It resulted in triple our usual Loonie/Toonie jar. Thanks for the idea Dana! The Environmental Club has worked with sales of the energy efficient light bulbs. They will submit their ideas for the school to us and we will be working with them to distribute the funds.

Alison Peters had responded to our request for ideas to Stonepark Home and School for projects for us to follow through with this year with our funds. Her request was for a recording device to assist in music class and could possible be used in the library as well. All at the Home and School meeting agreed that this would be a good purchase and so it was purchased.

Hilda and I attended the Semi-Annual PEIHSF meeting. Tina Vessey was also at the meeting representing Lucy Maud Montgomery School as well as our school. We listened to Lori Johnston's presentation of Homework Without Tears. After discussing this presentation with our Home and School group it was decided maybe a website linked to PEIHSF on Intermediate aged students should be our first goal. I discussed with Shirley Jay about whether this should be PEIHSF or just our local Home and School. Upon Shirley's request I will follow up with Lori Johnston.

One of the two "EXTRA MILE" awards given to a deserving teacher of PEI was won by one of our own teachers at Stonepark, Sylvia Henderson, a resource teacher. Hilda Kennedy, Dana Blakely, and I were present at the surprise award ceremony held with Sylvia's fellow teachers, Principal Norman Beck and Wendy MacDonald President of PEIHSF presented the award.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week went over well even though Monday was a snow day and Wednesday afternoon was as well. Helium balloons were put in the office starting off our week. Tuesday, Hanna, president of student council gave a speech with the morning announcements; bagels and coffee were provided for all staff. Wednesday was a luncheon was provided for all staff. Thursday a written thank you and valentine treats. Friday fruit, muffins, hot chocolate, and cheese and crackers were provided. Four teachers who were in Quebec that week with 96 grade 9 French immersion students were given individual treats the following week.

Home and School executive members were invited (Dana Blakely attended) to a Potluck that was being put on by Student Social committee and student government for our EAL students and their families. Our student suggestion box is still a great way for students to address their concerns and they are read at each Home and School meeting with follow up.

Grade 9 Closing went well last year. This year we will offer sandwiches and sweets to parents, students, and teachers before grade 9 closing at 1:00 pm.

This year the present Executive terms are up. We are pleased to have new parents attending. Parental involvement is still important at the intermediate level.



VERNON RIVER CONSOLIDATED HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
Margaret Wilton, President

Executive Members:

Co-President	Margaret Wilton
Co-President	Vacant
Co-Treasurer	Janice Prosper
Co-Treasurer	Donna MacLean
Co-Secretary	Tanya Ryan
Co-Secretary	Pam Bastedo

Home and School Meetings:

We have had scheduled but if the need arises, we will add more to our scheduled calendar. We have had consistent attendance at the Home and School meetings, from a small, but very dedicated parent body.

Executive Committee Positions:

The majority of positions have been filled and we are currently looking to fill the Co-President's position. It has worked very well over the past few years to have two volunteers for each executive position for a two-year term. This allows for continuity within the executive committee and ultimately a well-run Home and School.

School Development Plan:

VRCS is in Year 2 of the 3 year cycle in the school development plan where we are focusing on a couple of areas we wish to improve upon that include reading comprehension, family literacy and parental engagement.

Additional Funds Disbursements:

As a Home and School committee we annually donate funds to the school in a way that our children will benefit most, either through education or through play. This year's special projects that have been approved are as follows:

Funding for transportation for Special Needs Students - This money will pay for mileage for the Educational Assistants as they take the students on outings.

Food Cupboard - This food is used for students that do not have food with them for snacks or lunches.

Girls Basketball Team - The girls and parents have done a huge amount of fund-raising and have purchased new uniforms for the 15 girls on the team. The request for 1/3 of the cost of the uniforms was approved.

Playground Equipment - A considerable amount of money will be needed to properly outfit the playground with new equipment. It was suggested that this year's Home and School start a "Playground Equipment Fund". The need for a large fund-raiser with student and or community involvement project similar to one that was launched at Glen Stewart School was discussed. More discussion is required for a larger number of the parent body.

Hot Lunch Program:

We currently have a very talented outside provider for our Hot Lunch Program, Dianne Fullerton of Borrowed Cupboard. She has a very health conscious and varied menu. The quality and variety of the menu items speak for themselves. She is now offering fresh muffins each morning for sale as well as has developed an advanced menu that includes; chicken wraps, spaghetti and meat sauce,

meatballs and rice, fruit, healthy cookies and low fat ice cream. We are very pleased to have Dianne continue her service at the school.

#### Healthy Eating Alliance:

The monies received from the Health Eating Alliance to supplement our healthy snacks are being well utilized. The Education Assistants are working with a group of special needs students to produce the healthy snacks for the school. This will not only benefit the entire the student body but will also assist the students in acquiring necessary skills.

#### School Improvements:

proposal has been received to create solid walls for the majority of classrooms. The floor plan was reviewed and is available at the school. The band room will be moved into the school and sound proofed. This work will hopefully occur over the summer school break.

#### Fund-raising Events:

We will be continuing with our annual fund-raiser that we have planned which is for the spring when we hold a meat draw and sell tickets. This fund-raiser has always been successful in the past for our students, thanks to the support of Steerman's Quality Meats (a family run business of two).

#### Annual Events:

Each year we undertake several volunteer events that include:

Staff and Teacher Appreciation - We provide each staff member with daily treats, hand written cards and on the final day a catered lunch is provided by parents and students assist in the service.

Volunteer Appreciation Tea - This tea party is held every May and we provide tea and sweets for all of our volunteers. Students, parents and teachers assist with the service and preparation.

End of Year Field Trip/Fun Day - Is organized each year with the assistance of the staff and parents for all students. It is usually held at Lord Selkirk Park with fun events and a BBQ.

#### Closing Comments:

We have had a great year with much progress on outstanding issues and an excellent working relationship with the staff of our School. We must commend all of the staff for their dedication and commitment to our students. A special mention must be made of how amazing our new Principal and Vice Principal are to work with. The school has a vibrant, welcoming atmosphere that is infectious. Why have we become a part of this Home and School some may ask...because we truly do believe that no group can influence public opinion and school officials as successfully as an enthusiastic, interested group of parents and teachers!

## RESOLUTIONS 2008

Resolution 1/08 PUBLIC SCHOOL-BASED KINDERGARTEN

Submitted by Athena Home and School Association

WHEREAS the social preparation of students and the progress of their learning is to a great extent dependent on and enhanced by the way they were introduced into the education process; and

WHEREAS the effects of the disparity in levels of education upon entering the public school system follows a child through their education; and

WHEREAS in all provinces except PEI, this introduction to the education system takes place through a publicly funded, public school based kindergarten; and

WHEREAS kindergarten in PEI is publicly funded and guided by a provincial curriculum, but is delivered through a community-based system of private and non-profit facilities; and

WHEREAS declining enrolment has created the capacity within the education system to accommodate additional students;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation request the Department of Education to take the necessary steps to develop and implement a publicly funded school-based full-day kindergarten program within PEI's education system by the year 2010.

DESTINATION: Department of Education  
School Boards

Resolution 2/08      POLICY FOR EXTENDED INTERRUPTION OF CLASSES DURING  
MID-TERM AND FINAL EXAMS DUE TO EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Submitted by: Englewood, Eliot River/Westwood, Gulf Shore Home and School Associations and Bluefield Parent Council

WHEREAS    successful outcomes for Intermediate School (Grade 9) and Senior High School examinations are crucial for subsequent grade courses, entrance to post secondary studies and scholarships; and

WHEREAS    extended interruption of a student's preparation for these examinations due to unavoidable circumstances such as storms and power outages can have a negative impact on scholastic outcomes; and

WHEREAS    all Island students should be provided a consistent policy for School Boards to respond to such situations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that PEIHSF recommend to the Department of Education and to the various school boards that current policies be amended or new policies be developed as required to ensure that, if an extended period of school closures occur during Mid-Term and Final Exams timeframes, due to weather, power outages, etc. both at home and in school, that examinations will be rescheduled in a consistent manner to ensure the students can adequately prepare.

DESTINATION:    Department of Education  
                         School Boards

Submitted by the PEI Home and School Federation Board

WHEREAS physical activity is essential to the well-being and healthy development of children and youth; and

WHEREAS sport is a key form of physical activity, and also contributes to the social and personal development of children and youth through development of values and ethical standards, interpersonal and leadership skills, lifelong friendships, teamwork skills, self-discipline, and self-esteem and a sense of belonging; and

WHEREAS coaches play a core role in realizing these benefits for children and youth through the way in which they carry out their role; and

WHEREAS negative experiences with coaches may have lasting harmful effects on children's well-being, self-esteem, and participation in sport; and

WHEREAS current policies pertaining to the role of volunteers in schools are very broad, placing extensive discretion with the principal regarding screening, roles, activities, and requirements; and

WHEREAS the safe and healthy development of children and youth requires that volunteer coaches be of good character, be familiar with and consistently use positive and supportive coaching techniques and philosophies, and model high standards of ethics, respect, and sportsmanlike behavior;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that minimum standards for coach training and certification be established for all volunteers and teachers coaching sport in the school setting, and that the PEIHSF partner with the PEI Department of Education, School Boards, the PEI School Athletic Association and the Provincial Sport Organizations to develop such standards.

DESTINATION: Department of Education  
School Boards  
PEI School Athletic Association

Submitted by the PEI Home and School Federation Board

WHEREAS    violent incidents and violent intruders in the school environment pose a significant risk to the safety of students; and

WHEREAS    emerging best practice to deal with a threat of violence in the school environment consists of lockdown procedures to secure students and staff in the classrooms, rather than school evacuation; and

WHEREAS    other jurisdictions have established or are in the process of establishing lockdown policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS    in PEI, existing emergency procedures and drills only pertain to evacuation of schools; and

WHEREAS    work is currently in progress by police and boards in PEI to develop lockdown procedures and policies; and

WHEREAS    such policies and procedures, although necessary for the safety of our children, must be designed and implemented in such a way as to minimize their traumatic effects and to avoid creating a climate of fear among students;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PEIHSF seek to participate in the process of developing and implementing such policies to ensure that they safeguard our children as fully as possible while minimizing any negative impacts on their emotional well-being.

DESTINATION:      Department of Education  
                                 School Boards

Submitted by the PEI Home and School Federation Board

WHEREAS enrolment in Island schools is in the midst of a long-term decline, from 24,000 in 2000-01 to 21,000 in the current year, to a projected 17,000 a decade hence; and

WHEREAS declines are taking place unevenly across PEI schools as population shifts from rural to urban areas; and

WHEREAS the Department of Education has tendered a major study on the issue of changing enrollments and how the projected future trends will impact on all Island schools and to develop options that could be implemented to deal with the anticipated future enrollments; and

WHEREAS the second phase of this work is to consist of a series of public consultations to inform the public about the anticipated impacts of changing enrollment, and to gauge public interest and support for the various options contained in the report; and

WHEREAS this process may result in significant changes to the number of schools across PEI and to public investment in education;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation supports the development of criteria for system change which place top priority on providing the best possible learning opportunities to our children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any savings realized as a result of system change be reinvested in education rather than shifted to another area of public expenditure.

DESTINATION:      Department of Education  
                            School Boards

Resolution 6/08      RESOURCES TO MEET NEEDS ARISING FROM CHANGE TO AGE OF SCHOOL ENTRY

Submitted by the PEI Home and School Federation Board

WHEREAS the Department of Education has recently announced a decision to change the cut-off date for age of school entry from August 31 to October 31, effective in the 2008-09 school year; and

WHEREAS this measure means that approximately 260 children born in September and October 2002 will now be eligible to attend school in September 2008; and

WHEREAS some of those children will be enrolled by their parents, and will have had only three months of kindergarten preparation or none at all; and

WHEREAS this change will result in an age range of 14 months in next year's Grade One cohort, which will endure throughout their school experience; and

WHEREAS it is probable that a higher than average proportion of these new students will require additional supports and resource given their younger age and lower level of preparation; and

WHEREAS school staffing allocations had already been established before this decision was taken;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Education invest additional bridging resources in teaching, Reading Recovery, and other resources as needed to ensure that the needs of both these additional students and of previously enrolled students are fully met, and that they are as fully prepared as possible for the remainder of their school experience.

DESTINATION:      Department of Education  
                            School Boards

- SAMPLE -  
**CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS**

Please feel free to use this sample adapted to Prince Edward Island from a model developed by the Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School Associations for use by local associations. A general meeting must be held in order to present your Memorandum of Association & By-laws and have them passed by the membership. Any changes that are to be made at future dates should be published six weeks in advance to the membership before a general meeting.

The items in bolded italic print are sample info and should be filled in with the information specific to your school and your local association. Underlined italicized items are notes the provincial Home & School Federation would like to make you aware of. Please remove these areas from the final copy of your constitution.

- SAMPLE -

**Home & School Association Memorandum of Association and By-Laws**  
*(name of school)*  
*(date By-laws were passed)*  
*(date of any amendments to the original By-Laws)*

**MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE 1.           NAME

1.       The name of the organization shall be *(e.g Your School Name Home & School Association)*, hereafter to be referred to as "the Association." *[Your school]* Elementary School shall be referred to as "the school."

ARTICLE 2.           AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- \*       To obtain the best for each child in Prince Edward Island.
- \*       To promote the welfare of all children and youth in this province.
- \*       To foster cooperation between parents and teachers, so that every Island child may grow to his or her full potential.
- \*       To give parents an understanding of the school and its administration.
- \*       To be informed, constructive partners with educators.
- \*       To promote high standards of well being in each child's life.
- \*       To promote the care and protection of children and youth.
- \*       To promote affiliations with any organizations which concern themselves with the care and development of children and youth, in the home, school and community
- \*       To obtain the best for each child according to his or her physical, mental, social and spiritual needs.
- \*       To foster high ideals of citizenship and to promote through educational means, international goodwill and peace

**BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE 1:           POLICIES

- 1.1     The policies of the Association shall be educational.
- 1.2     The policies of the Association shall be non-commercial, non-political, and non-sectarian.

ARTICLE 2:           BANKING & CHEQUES

- 2.1 The Association shall open a bank account with a registered financial institution selected by the Association Executive.
- 2.2 Cheques of the Association bank account shall be signed by two (2) of the following three (3) people: the President, the Vice-President, and the Treasurer.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP & FEES

- 3.1 Active membership shall be open to all parents/guardians of students attending the school.
- 3.2 Active membership shall be open to all teachers and staff working at the school.
- 3.3 Associate membership (non-voting) shall be open to those members of the community who subscribe to the aims and objectives of the Association and who are not eligible for active membership as defined in sections 3.1 and 3.2 above.
- 3.4 Individual membership dues may charged at the decision of the Association. If dues are charged, the level should be set at a general meeting of the Association.  
*[Note: Some schools find that by charging dues for members to attend ie. Single \$5.00, Family \$10.00, they have more members out to meetings. This may possibly be due to a feeling of ownership because people have paid for something and therefore want to be a part of it.]*
- 3.5 Membership fees in the provincial Federation shall be submitted annually by November 30 of the school year, as per the following formula: \$100.00 for schools having 200 or more students and \$50.00 for schools having fewer than 200 students.

ARTICLE 4: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 4.1 The Officers of the Association will be comprised of:
  - President (1 vote in the event of a tie)
  - Vice-President (1 vote)
  - Treasurer (1 vote)
  - Secretary (1 vote)
- 4.2 A majority of the Officers of the Association shall be parent members.
- 4.3 The Officers of the Association shall serve as the Executive Committee of the Association.

ARTICLE 5: FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Association shall be responsible for:

- 5.1 The management of the Association and its affairs.
- 5.2 The establishment of ad hoc committees as need arises.
- 5.3 In the event of a vacancy occurring on the executive, shall have the power to elect any active member of the Association to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term of the executive member whose vacancy is being filled.

ARTICLE 6: TERMS OF OFFICE

- 6.1 The term of office for all officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be for one year.

- 6.2 Officers and members of the Executive Committee are eligible for re-election to their position for a second and third successive year but shall not be eligible for re-election to the same position for more than three consecutive years.
- 6.3 The term of office shall be from **October 1 to September 30**.  
[Note: *Terms of office should coincide with the fiscal year as set out in section xx below. Some Associations begin their year in September and others begin in late spring.*]
- 6.4 If an executive member is absent for more than two consecutive, scheduled executive meetings without good cause, and without prior notification to the President or secretary, than that office may be considered vacant by a majority vote of the executive.

ARTICLE 7: ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE

- 7.1 The Executive may appoint a Nomination Committee by May 31 of each year.
- 7.2 The Nomination Committee shall consist of the Past President of the Association (chairperson) and two additional members of the Association.
- 7.3 The Nomination Committee shall present its nomination for the various positions to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.4 Nominations shall also be called for and may be made from the floor of the Annual General Meeting. If a person is nominated who is not present at the meeting, his or her consent to be nominated shall be presented to the Chairperson of the Nominations Committee.
- 7.4 Election of officers shall be by secret ballot decided by a simple majority (50 % plus 1) of votes cast.

ARTICLE 8: MEETINGS/VOTING

- 8.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in the **first** month of the school academic term.
- 8.2 There shall be a minimum of **three (3)** General Meetings of the membership conducted per year including the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.3 The Executive may call Special General Meetings of the Association at any time.
- 8.4 A quorum of **ten (10)** shall be required at a General Meeting to pass any motions.  
[Note: *The number for your quorum will have to be based on average numbers out to your meetings. Ideally, the quorum should be large enough that the members present outnumber the executive.*]
- 8.5 Decisions shall be based on a simple majority (50 % plus 1) vote of the membership.

ARTICLE 9 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- 9.1 The President shall:
  - 1. Chair all meetings of the Association and Executive.
  - 2. Decide on all questions of procedure and order not covered by the Constitution & By-laws.
  - 3. Supervise the general management of the affairs of the Association.
  - 4. Perform duties incidental to the office.
  - 5. Serve as "Ex-Officio" member of all committees except the Nomination Committee.

6. Be the official spokesperson for the Association.
- 9.2 The Vice-President shall:
1. In the absence of the President, preside as chairperson at all meetings of the Association and Executive.
  2. Perform the duties of the President during his/her absence.
  3. Be responsible for developing and distributing monthly newsletter.
  4. Perform duties assigned by the President or by the Executive.
  5. Assume the office of President should the President be unable to complete his or her term of office.
- 9.3 The Treasurer shall:
1. Receive and hold all monies of the Association.
  2. Keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements.
  3. Pay out such monies as voted upon in the budget at the Annual General Meeting.
  4. Have the books of account balanced as of ***September 30th*** of each year.
  5. Prepare statements of disbursements for the Executive Committee.
  6. Prepare for approval at the Annual General Meeting a complete statement of receipts and disbursements during the fiscal year of the Association.
  7. Prepare with the assistance of the Executive Committee a budget to be approved at the Annual General Meeting.
  8. Arrange for the financial records to be audited by a person agreed upon by the Executive.
- 9.4 The Secretary shall:
1. Keep a written record of the proceedings and attendance at all meetings of the Association and process said records for distribution or presentation.
  2. Perform duties assigned by the President or by the Executive.

## ARTICLE 10 FINANCES

- 10.1 The fiscal year of the Association shall be ***October 1 to September 30.***
  - 10.2 Funds over and above the Association expenses shall go toward carrying out the aims and objectives of the Association.
  - 10.3 The Executive shall have the power to expend the funds of the Association in accordance with the objectives of the Association and the agreement (i.e. proposed budget, and motions recorded in minutes) of the general membership.
  - 10.4 The Treasurer and one of the other two signing officers shall sign all cheques.
  - 10.5 The Executive shall have the authority to approve up to ***\$500.00*** per item on a non-recurring basis for requests that occur outside of the approved budget and throughout the fiscal year.
- [Note: Some schools find it difficult to try and organize a general meeting should funds be required quickly. If the above item is passed in your By-laws then it allows the Executive to deal with these emergency non-planned requests. i.e. shortage of money for a bus trip.]*
- 10.6 Receipts must be provided for all expenses incurred.
  - 10.7 The Treasurer shall arrange to have the financial records audited annually. A formal auditor is not necessary but someone who the Executive Committee agrees upon.

## ARTICLE 11 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 11.1 The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be the consideration of committee reports, the election of officers, budget, appointment of auditors and other such business that may arise.
- 11.2 At least six (6) weeks notice shall be given in writing to members of all Annual General Meetings, such notice to state the subjects to be considered including the registration fee if any.
- 11.3 All members of the Association are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting and to speak to any motion or address the chair, present or second motions and vote.

ARTICLE 12 PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

- 12.1 Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all points respecting the holding and conduct of meetings of the Association not covered otherwise in these By-laws.

ARTICLE 13 AMENDING THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION & BY-LAWS

- 13.1 The Memorandum of Association and By-laws may be amended at an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of the Association, provided that due notice of the proposed amendment has been circulated to members at least six (6) weeks prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE 14 PEIHSF or PROVINCIAL MEETINGS

- 14.1 As a member of the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation, the Association is eligible to send five voting delegates to two provincial meetings, Semi-Annual and Annual. Associations may pay registration and travel expenses for these delegates.

ARTICLE 15 DISSOLUTION

- 15.1 If this Association desires to disband, it shall notify the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation by letter, addressed to the President, giving reasons, at least sixty days before taking further action.
- 15.2 Upon disbanding, the books of the Association shall become the property of the Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation.
- 15.3 Any funds held by the Association at the time of disbanding will be given to the Association's school or to another charity as determined by the Association's membership.

These By-Laws were adopted by a meeting of ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

Home and School Association on the ( \_\_\_\_ ) day of ( \_\_\_\_\_ ), ( \_\_\_\_ ).  
Day Month Year

---

\_\_\_\_\_ President Secretary

- NOTES -