

For Immediate Release:



Award Given Recognizing Two Parent Councils

(Winnipeg, April 27, 2012) – *F.W. Gilbert Parent Advisory Council* and *Sherwood School Parent Advisory Council* were jointly awarded the *Parent Council Recognition Award* by Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) at its Annual Banquet on April 27, 2012 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg.

F.W. Gilbert PAC (Whiteshell School District) was nominated by school principal, Darcia Light. Highlights of the group's achievements include:

- Operating lunch programs based on transportation and weather challenges
- Working together with the school and community to address student safety concerns
- Encouraging environmental responsibility with students and families
- Working collaboratively with staff and administration on the annual school planning process
- Fundraising to support literacy, fitness, and school improvement projects

"This is a group of dedicated parents who give consistently and unselfishly of their time, support, energy and ideas in helping our school be as incredible as it is," states Light.

Sherwood School Parent Advisory Council (River East Transcona School Division) was nominated by school principal, Theresa Hunt. Highlights of the group's achievements include:

- Fundraising to demonstrate building community as well as financial resources
- Celebrating multiculturalism as a reflection of the changing demographics of the community
- Promoting the addition of a pre-school daycare in response to parental needs in the community
- Operating in a transparent and inclusive manner with parents, staff, and administration
- Collaborating with staff and administration to ensure meaningful and respectful relationships are sustained

"I have been part of many school PAC organizations both as a parent and as a staff member," states Hunt. "Sherwood School PAC is one of the finest that I have had the privilege of working with."

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils Recognition Award was established in 2009 as an opportunity to highlight the extraordinary efforts put forth by school based parent groups to support, promote, and enhance meaningful parental involvement in Manitoba's education system. Representatives from educational stakeholder groups are invited to serve on the judging panel and review each nomination to determine the annual recipient.

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils is dedicated to supporting, promoting, and enhancing meaningful involvement and participation of parents in order to improve the education and well-being of children in Manitoba.

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