

THE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCIL CHAIRS

ANNUAL REPORT 2008-9

The Council of School Council Chairs (CSCC) started off the 2008/9 school year with the guidance of a new constitution. The CSCC has continued to be a parent-led committee with the following mandate:

The Council of School Council Chairs assists all school councils within the board to further their support of student achievement and enhancement of educational experiences of all students. The Council provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, concerns, and best practices for individual school councils on matters of significant importance impacting all schools.

Membership: As a support and a resource to all school councils, each school council can have a representative on the CSCC. For the 2008/9 school year, every school provided a contact.

Executive Members (Oct. 2008 – Oct. 2009):

Co-Chairs: Gail Iwanonkiw; Sheila Stewart
Past Chair: Carol McNeice
Co-Vice Chairs: Heather Holland (Secondary); Michelle Mantey
(Elementary)
Secretary(s): Keri Maki; Leigh Abthorpe

CSCC Representation on Board Committees:

Success Advisory Committee – Gail Iwanonkiw
Special Education Advisory Committee – Shelly Helget; Sheila Stewart (alt.)
Parent Involvement Committee – Jenn Johnson; Domonique Houstoun;
Sheila Stewart
School Year Calendar Committee – Carol McNeice

Meetings:

The CSCC held meetings on the following dates: Oct. 6 (elections); Nov. 10; Dec. 8; Jan. 12; Feb. 9; Mar. 9; April 6; May 11, Sept. 14.

Activities and Initiatives:

Presentations

October – Lakehead District School Board’s Strategic Plan and Operational Plan;

Kindergarten Report Card Pilot Project

January – Safe Schools/Bullying Prevention Policy

February – Thunder Bay Police Gang Investigation Unit

March – Ministry of Education, Pat Rose, Regional Education Officer – School Councils/Parent Committees

Local School Board Consultation

Members had opportunities to provide input on the following: Bullying Prevention Policy and Procedures; School Year Calendar; Principal Placement Input Process; School Board Budget for CSCC.

Ministry of Education Consultation

Members had opportunities to participate in sessions and submit input on the following: Ministry of Education’s Review of School Board Governance; Ministry’s Parent Focus Group for Student Evaluation, Assessment, and Reporting.

Community Outreach and Participation

The CSCC provided information about the committee’s mandate and role through the web page on the board website, a submission in school newsletters, and at board-wide events for school councils.

All school council chairs/co-chairs received information by email on various educational matters, local and provincial. The CSCC was contacted to distribute invites and information to school councils regarding local presentations and speakers, community events, and resources. (e.g. Roots of Empathy Presentation).

The CSCC initiated a project of developing informational print resources for individual school council usage with parents and the community.

The CSCC meetings were well attended—several schools represented at every meeting and always 10 or more schools represented at each meeting during the 2008-9 school year.