

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Microsoft Teams

2021 JAN 18
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robin Cawlishaw	Laura Prodanyk
Chitra Jacob	Trudy Tuchenhagen
Shannon Jessiman-MacArthur	Fred Van Elburg
Sharon Kanutski	
Ian MacRae	
Julie Morin	
Michael Otway	

RESOURCE:

Judy Hill, Executive Assistant
Stephanie Rea, Communications Officer

GUESTS:

Keira Essex, Indigenous Student Trustee
Simran Talpade, Student Trustee
Megan Tiernan, Mental Health Lead

1. **Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

Director MacRae called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

2. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

There were no disclosures of conflict of interest.

3. **Election of Parent Involvement Committee Chair**

Director MacRae called for nominations for chair of the Parent Involvement Committee. As no nominations were forthcoming, Director MacRae chaired the remainder of the meeting.

4. **Election of Parent Involvement Committee Vice Chair**

Director MacRae called for nominations for vice chair of the Parent Involvement Committee. There were no nominations forthcoming.

5. Director's Report

Director MacRae reported on the following:

- Trustee Ellen Chambers and Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen were re-elected to their respective positions, chair and vice chair of the Board.
- Highlight of recent reports to the Board: Health & Safety Semi Annual Report, Early Learning, Multi Year Capital and Lakehead Public Schools International.
- COVID-19 update – Director MacRae publicly thanked the Thunder Bay District Health Unit for all of their guidance as we work our way through this pandemic.

6. Confirmation of Minutes – November 16, 2020.

The minutes were approved by consensus.

7. Mental Health Update

Megan Tiernan, Mental Health Lead, provided a power point presentation on the three-year strategic plan outlining the priorities in Mental Wellness and Health until 2023. Questions from the group were addressed.

8. 2021-2022 School Year Calendar

Robin Cawlishaw, the Parent Involvement Committee representative on the School Year Calendar Committee, provided drafts of the elementary and secondary school year calendars for 2021-2022 for comment. A start date of Tuesday, September 7, 2021 for students is being proposed with the last day of school being June 29, 2022.

9. Kindergarten Information Evening

Stephanie Rea, Communications Officer, provided an update on Kindergarten Information Evening. This year's event will be held virtually on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via the Board website. There will be a book reading of *The Kissing Hand* by a Kindergarten teacher and an early childhood educator. Parents who have already registered their child for Kindergarten with us, or who are interested in registering their child, can pick up their free Welcome To Kindergarten bag at any of our elementary schools on Thursday, January 28 and Friday, January 29, during school hours (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) to receive the following:

- copy of *The Kissing Hand*, by Audrey Penn, to follow along during the virtual book reading on February 1, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.;
- materials for the interactive follow-along activity on February 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.; and
- their child's own kid-sized Class of 2035 graduation T-shirt.

Questions from the group were addressed.

10. Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (AEAC) Report

Sharon Kanutski, AEAC representative, reported on the following from the last AEAC meeting:

- working on a memorial for Dolores Wawia – looking into the creation of a book of Dolores' writings;
- provided input into the Indigenous education strategic plan;
- Indigenous student trustee and student trustee updates; and
- Tyler Armstrong is teaching a new program at Sherbrooke Public School with the assistance of Ron Kanutski, Community Partner.

11. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report

Deferred to next meeting.

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.