

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Board Room
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2020 JAN 20
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robin Cawlishaw
Serena Essex
Chitra Jacob
Shannon Jessiman-MacArthur
Ian MacRae

Julie Morin
Shaun Peirce
Laura Prodanyk
Trudy Tuchenhagen
Laura Walker

RESOURCE:

Judy Hill, Executive Assistant
Bruce Nugent, Communications Officer

MEMBERS ABSENT, WITH REGRET:

Michael Otway
Fred Van Elburg

GUESTS:

Keira Essex, Indigenous Student Trustee

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

Director MacRae called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Director MacRae welcomed Trustee Tuchenhagen, trustee representative, and Keira Essex, Indigenous Student Trustee.

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 that Ellen Chambers was re-elected as chair of the Board and Trudy Tuchengagen as vice chair at the Annual Meeting on December 3, 2019. Reports to the Board since the last PIC meeting included a report on Lakehead Public Schools International and a number of policy reviews. Director MacRae provided an update on the current labour situation regarding elementary and secondary teachers.

6. Confirmation of Minutes – November 18, 2019

The minutes were confirmed by consensus.

7. 2020-2021 School Year Calendar

Robin Cawlishaw, the Parent Involvement Committee representative on the School Year Calendar Committee, presented two options for the start date of the 2020-2021 school year. Option 1 had a start date of September 8, 2020 and Option 2 had a start date of August 31, 2020. By consensus, the group agreed to recommend Option 1. Robin will share this feedback with the School Year Calendar Committee.

8. Kindergarten Information Evening & Video

Bruce Nugent, Communications Officer, reported that the Kindergarten information evening will be held Monday, January 27, 2020 at the Valhalla Inn at 7:00 p.m. School open houses will be held on Thursday, January 30, 2020 with the exception of Valley Central Public School which will be held Wednesday, January 29, 2020. The new Kindergarten video was previewed by the group and will be shown at the Kindergarten information evening.

9. PIC Representatives at Kindergarten Information Evening

Bruce Nugent, Communications Officer, asked for volunteers for Kindergarten Information Evening. Laura Walker put her name forward to volunteer.

10. Transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9 Video Update

Bruce Nugent, Communications Officer, provided an update on the video being produced. This video will address any concerns that Grade 8 students and their families may have about entering Grade 9. There will also be an additional 12 mini videos that will provide information on topics such as co-curricular, IB program, Advanced Placement, volunteer hours, to name a few. Bruce will share the video at the March 2, 2020 PIC meeting.

11. PIC/SEAC Event

PIC and SEAC would like to do a combined event. A number of ideas were discussed. There will be further discussion at the March 2, 2020 meeting.

12. OPSBA 2020 Awards Program

Individuals may nominate non-teaching staff, volunteers, parents and community partners for their contribution to the overall well-being of the school(s) or community(s). This information has been shared with school council chairs as well. Completed nomination forms are due to Michelle Tavares in the Office of the Director Michelle.Tavares@lakeheadschoools.ca no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, 2020.

13. Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (AEAC) Report

Serena Essex reported on the following from the last AEAC meeting:

- Nathaniel Moses of the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre, along with two students from Kingsway Park Public School, opened the December meeting drumming the Parent Song for the committee;
- presentation by Kali Bernst, Principal of Algonquin Avenue Public School and Jessica Lauzon, Aboriginal Achievement Tutor at Algonquin Avenue Public School on the Aboriginal Achievement Program; and
- farewell to Superintendent of Education and Co-Chair of AEAC, Sherri-Lynne Pharand.

14. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report

Deferred to the March 2, 2020 meeting.

15. Other Business

Director MacRae provided a handout on the OHRC Right to Read Public Inquiry. They are seeking input from public school students, parents and educators about the experiences of students who have or may have reading disabilities. Input can be shared via email legal@ohrc.on.ca, (416) 314-4547 or 1-800-387-9080.

16. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.