

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Board Room
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2023 JAN 16
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robin Cawlishaw
Ellen Chambers
Tara Ingram
Chitra Jacob (virtual)
Shannon Jessiman
Sherri-Lynne Pharand
Laura Prodanyk

Stephanie Rea
Rae-Ann Rees
Jena Samakese (virtual)
Fred Van Elburg

RESOURCE:

Judy Hill, Executive Assistant

MEMBERS ABSENT, WITH REGRET:

Serena Essex
George Saarinen

GUESTS:

AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education (virtual)
Jane Lower Superintendent of Education (virtual)
Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education
Alexa Sagutcheway, Indigenous Student Trustee
Megan Semeniuk, Mental Health Lead

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

Chair Rees called the meeting to order and welcomed Tara Ingram, new SEAC representative on the Parent Involvement Committee, Superintendents Keene, Lower and Probizanski, and Megan Semeniuk, Mental Health Lead.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

Chair Rees acknowledged the lands and traditional territory.

3. **Disclosures of Conflict of Interest**

There were no disclosures of conflict of interest.

4. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus with the following change:

Item 7.5 New e-Learning Requirements for Graduation be received first on the agenda.

5. Confirmation of Minutes – November 21, 2022

The minutes were approved by consensus.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. New e-Learning Requirements for Graduation

Superintendent of Education, Jane Lower, provided a power point presentation on the requirements. Every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year will be required to earn two online eLearning credits to graduate. The exception to this is for students who were in Grade 9 during the province-wide school closure from April 2021 to June 2021. One secondary school credit that was completed at this time may be counted towards the graduation requirement. This cohort of students will only require one additional eLearning credit. Parents who wish to opt out or exempt their child from the online graduation requirement must complete the Lakehead Public Schools eLearning Student Opt-Out form. Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

- the parent or guardian of the secondary student;
- students who are 18 years of age or older; and
- students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control.

Questions from the group were addressed.

8. 7060 Staff Training and Professional Development Policy & Procedures

Superintendent Keene presented the policy for feedback. Questions from the group were addressed.

9. 6010 Emergency Evacuation and Emergency School Closure Policy & Procedures

Superintendent Probizanski presented the policy for feedback. Questions from the group were addressed.

10. Mental Health Update

Megan Semeniuk, Mental Health Lead, shared a power point presentation on:

- Mental Health Promotion;
- School Mental Health Ontario Caregiver Specific Resources;
- Training and Initiatives;
- Community Collaborations;
- Thunder Bay District Health Unit Initiatives;
- SNAP Program;
- Community Tables;
- Social Work Services; and
- School Mental Health Data Capture (September 2022 to the present).

Questions from the group were addressed. Director Pharand thanked Megan for her very informative presentation.

11. Parent Involvement Committee/Mental Health Symposium Planning

There was discussion on the logistics of the event. Fred Van Elburg and Shannon Jessiman will develop a survey to be shared with parents on whether they would like an in-person or virtual event, what they would be interested in, etc. Survey will go out to all families.

12. Special Education Advisory Committee Report

Tara Ingram, SEAC representative, reported on the following:

- January 11, 2023 meeting was held at Vance Chapman Public School;
- presentation from George Jeffries Children' Centre on Entry into School Program and Smart Start Hub Program;
- Board-wide special education review; and
- Upcoming SSP conference April 28, 2023.

13. Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Report

Deferred to next meeting.

14. Director's Report

Director Pharand reported on the following:

Reports to the Board included:

- International Education;
- Human Rights, Equity and Inclusive Education;
- EQAO Report;
- Director's Action Plan;
- Health & Safety Semi Annual Report;
- Policy Reviews: Information/Communication Technology Use and Electronic Monitoring, Use of Personal Vehicle, Access to System Programs and Library Resource Centre; and

- Work From Home Practice.

Director Pharand provided information on the upcoming Kindergarten Registration Night being held at Ecole Elsie MacGill Public School and Secondary Information Evenings.

15. Other Business

There was no other business.

16. Next Meeting Date

Monday, March 6, 2023.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.