

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE
Monday, March 4, 2024
Board Room – Jim McCuaig Education Centre

Sherri-Lynne Pharand
Director of Education

Celsea Siver
Chair

AGENDA
6:30 P.M.

	<u>Resource Person</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions	C. Siver	
2. Land Acknowledgement	C. Siver	
3. Disclosure of Conflict-of-Interest	C. Siver	
4. Approval of the Agenda	C. Siver	
5. Confirmation of Minutes – November 20, 2023	C. Siver	1-4
6. Business Arising from the Minutes	C. Siver	
7. New Business		
7.1 2024-2025 Budget	S. Ryyanen	
7.2 Skilled Trades Presentation	R. Drcar	
7.3 PIC Budget Deputation	C. Siver	5-6
7.4 PIC Representative on Equity and Inclusive Education Committee	C. Siver	Verbal
7.5 OPSBA 2024 Awards Program	C. Siver	7-8
7.6 Miiniwewinan: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Report	M. Tom	Verbal
7.7 Special Education Advisory Committee Report	T. Ingram	Verbal
8. Director's Report	S. Pharand	Verbal
9. Other Business		
10. Next Meeting Date: Monday, May 6, 2024		
11. Adjournment		

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Board Room
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2023 NOV 20
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robin Cawlishaw
Ellen Chambers
Tara Ingram
Shannon Jessiman
Lorraine Mashongoane
Sherri-Lynne Pharand
Laura Prodanyk
George Saarinen

Jena Samakese
Chelsea Siver
Fred Van Elburg

RESOURCE:

Judy Hill, Executive Assistant
Stephanie Rea, Communications Officer

MEMBERS ABSENT, WITH REGRET:

Ahmed Bediwy
Morning Star Tom

GUESTS:

AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education

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

Director Pharand called the meeting to order and welcomed new members, Chelsea Siver and Lorraine Mashongoane. Introductions were made around the table.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

Director Pharand acknowledged the lands and traditional territory.

3. **Disclosures of Conflict of Interest**

There were no disclosures of conflict of interest.

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

Director Pharand called for nominations for chair of the Parent Involvement Committee. Chelsea Siver, parent member, self-nominated. Director Pharand called for further nominations. As no further nominations were forthcoming, Chelsea Siver was acclaimed as chair of the Parent Involvement Committee.

5. Election of Parent Involvement Committee Vice-Chair

Chair Siver called for nominations for vice-chair of the Parent Involvement Committee. Robin Cawlishaw, parent member, self-nominated. Chair Siver called for further nominations. As no further nominations were forthcoming, Robin Cawlishaw was acclaimed as vice-chair of the Parent Involvement Committee.

6. Confirmation of Minutes – May 1, 2023 and September 11, 2023

The minutes of May 1, 2023 and September 11, 2023 were approved by consensus.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. Parent Involvement Committee By-Laws

Director Pharand presented the proposed changes as were noted in the document. By consensus, the changes were approved as highlighted.

9. Parent Involvement Committee Event Update

Shannon Jessiman, principal representative, provided an update. Plans are in the works to bring Karl Suban as guest speaker on January 18, 2024. There will be four sessions: secondary students in the morning, Grade 8 students in the afternoon, Lakehead Public Schools leaders after school and an evening session for parents. There will also be a hybrid model. The event will be hosted at Westgate CVI. Lorraine Mashongoane offered to look after child care.

10. Math Achievement Action Plan

AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education, provided a power point presentation and overview of this initiative funded by the Ministry of Education to improve student achievement in mathematics.

11. Summer Learning Programs

Fred Van Elburg, Coordinator, provided an overview of the elementary summer camps. Two Hundred and forty students participated. Funding was provided by the Council of Directors of Education. Camps were held at Claude Garton Public School, Kingsway Park Public School, St. James Public School, Sherbrooke Public School, and McKellar Park Central Public School. All camps were well attended.

12. Blanket Exercise

Director Pharand reported that the Board Development Committee would like to do the blanket exercise and invite school councils, Miiniwewinan: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee, Special Education Advisory Committee, and the Parent Involvement Committee to participate. They would like to request funding from PIC for this activity--\$500 to a maximum of \$1,000. There was consensus from the committee to support this. It is anticipated to do this late February or March.

13. Kindergarten Registration Evening

Stephane Rea, Communications Officer, provided an update on Kindergarten Registration evening. The event will be held on January 15, 2024, at Ecole Elsie MacGill Public School. This will be a drop in event and there will be information booths for community partners and organizations.

14. Parent Involvement Committee Representative on School Year Calendar Committee

Director Pharand asked for a Parent Involvement Committee member to sit on the School Year Calendar Committee. The committee meets once in December and once in January. Lorraine Mashongoane volunteered to be the PIC representative.

15. Miiniwewinan: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) and Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Funding for 2023-2024

The Parent Involvement Committee agreed, by consensus, to fund Miiniwewinan: IEAC and SEAC \$2,000.00 each for the purpose of parent engagement. Letters will be sent to AEAC and SEAC chairs advising of this decision and requesting a final report by the end of August 2024.

16. Draft Parent Involvement Committee 2023-2024 Meeting Schedule

Director Pharand referred to the proposed 2023-2024 meeting schedule included in the package. The meeting schedule was approved by consensus.

17. Special Education Advisory Committee Report

Tara Ingram, SEAC representative, reported on the following:

- Operational Plan discussion;
- Spec. Ed. Summer Camps;
- Spec. Ed. Scholarship - \$200.00/school/student and a plaque for the special needs student;
- Dr. Mushquash speech at the SEAC event – message was on screen time;
- 2023-2024 Work Plan;
- Math Achievement Action Plan presentation;
- Annual report; and
- Trustee update.

18. Miiniwewinan: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Report

Defer to next meeting.

19. Director's Report

Director Pharand reported on the following:

Reports to the Board included several policy reviews and reports on:

- Summer Learning Programs K-12;
- Job Skills Program;
- Adult Education;
- Student Achievement – Director Pharand provided an overview of the Literacy & Numeracy results for Grades 3 and 6;
- 2023-2024 Director's Acton Plan; and
- Math Achievement Acton Plan.

20. Other Business

There was no other business.

21. Next Meeting Date

Monday, March 4, 2024.

22. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Jim McCuaig Education Centre
2135 Sills Street Thunder Bay ON P7E 5T2
Telephone (807) 625-5131 Fax (807) 622-0961

March 24, 2023

Mr. Scottie Wemigwans, Chair
Budget Committee
Lakehead District School Board
2135 Sills Street
THUNDER BAY, ON P7E 5T2

Dear Chair:

The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) welcomes the opportunity to provide input into the budget process. Over the years, as volunteers, we have witnessed the passion many of the Lakehead Public Schools (LPS) staff and teachers have for the well-being of our children. Parents at PIC would like to mention that it is a privilege to volunteer beside our Board staff and teachers and the pride we have for our Board. We know our parent voice is important to the Board and appreciate the continued support.

The Parent Involvement Committee is an advisory group that supports student achievement and well-being by encouraging parents to be involved in their child's learning. Following Ontario's Parent Engagement Policy, PIC encourages and supports parent involvement by offering a range of opportunities for parent learning, networking and involvement. We also know that families come with different backgrounds and needs. The Parent Involvement Committee works with the Special Education Advisory Committee and the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee by supporting their committee initiatives to involve parents.

We all know parent involvement is vital to a child's learning. Parent communication and engagement is still the main goal for PIC. This will be facilitated by working on a continued awareness campaign of PIC and school councils by offering training/lecture opportunities, with a focus on the importance of parent engagement. The Parent Involvement Committee will host an event for parents on April 19, 2023.

The Parent Involvement Committee also supports an inclusive learning environment and supports the plans of the mental health team. Mental health, well-being and inclusion are top issues for families. With cutbacks, and this unprecedented time we are living in, parents understand that Lakehead Public Schools needs to be creative to make sure all student needs are met, and PIC believes quality of schools begins with a student's well-being and that leads to academic achievement. For these reasons, PIC supports a budget that continues to support student's mental health, well-being, and parent engagement.

Your Children Our Students The Future
www.lakeheadschoools.ca

The Parent Involvement Committee's top priorities to enhance student success are:

1. Support of student and staff mental health and well-being by supporting school wellness champions and other mental health initiatives as determined by LPS.
2. Continued support for effective parent/guardian communication and engagement via multiple communication tools/technology such as, but not limited to, social media, websites, and apps.
3. Support parent/guardian engagement and inter-school communication by working towards the reintroduction (or continuation) of the Council of School Council Chairs.
4. Reintroduction or continuation of the attendance campaign "I'm Here".

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rae-Ann Rees, Chair
Parent involvement Committee

OPSBA 2024 Awards Program

2024

BACKGROUND

OPSBA Achievement Award

The OPSBA Achievement Award was created to recognize the outstanding contributions of non-teaching staff, parents, volunteers and community partners involved in education in the member boards. This award provides an opportunity to raise awareness and promote the importance of celebrating excellence and the necessity of recognizing the work of all members of the education community.

Recipients of the Achievement Award may be considered for the provincial OPSBA Award of Excellence.

Criteria

Outstanding, exemplary and/or unique contributions to the overall well-being of the school(s) or community(s) through in-school, board-wide, extra-curricular and/or volunteer work contributions.

Who can be nominated?



Non-teaching staff
Volunteers
Parents
Community Partners

Submission

Please include a 1-2 page biography of how your nominee meets the criteria for this award along with the attached nomination form to:

Kelly Stewart Doromko
Executive Secretary
Office of the Director
Jim McCuaig Education Centre
2135 Sills Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5T2
Tel: (807)625-5213
kelly_stewartdoromko@lakeheadschoools.ca

No later than 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 25, 2024.

NOMINATION

Name of Award	OPSBA Achievement Award		
Name of Candidate	_____		
Position/Title	_____		
Address	_____		
Telephone	_____	Email	_____
Nominated by	_____		
Title of Nominator	_____		
Address	_____		
Telephone	_____	Email	_____

Please include a 1-2 page biography of how your nominee meets the criteria for this award to:

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Office of the Director
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No later than 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 25, 2024.