

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.