

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Board Room  
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2024 MAY 06  
6:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robin Cawlishaw  
Ellen Chambers (Virtual)  
Dawn-Marie Francis  
Shannon Jessiman  
Lorraine Mashongoane  
Sherri-Lynne Pharand  
Laura Prodanyk  
Michelle Riemer

George Saarinen  
Fred Van Elburg

**RESOURCE:**

Judy Hill, Executive Assistant  
Jamie Smith, Communications Supervisor

**MEMBERS ABSENT, WITH REGRET:**

Tara Ingram  
Jena Samakese  
Chelsea Siver  
Morning Star Tom

**GUESTS:**

AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education  
Craig Murphy, STSTB Consortium Manager  
Ian Roulston, Transportation Officer

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

Co-chair Cawlishaw called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

Co-chair Cawlishaw 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.

5. Confirmation of Minutes – March 4, 2024

The minutes of March 4, 2024 were approved by consensus.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Board Improvement Plan

AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education, provided a handout of the condensed version of the plan and provided an overview. The Board is required by the Ministry to provide a plan to the system. Questions from the group were addressed.

8. Transportation Presentation

Craig Murphy, STSTB Consortium Manager, and Ian Roulston, Transportation Officer, shared a power point presentation on the Wayfinders program. The Wayfinders program teaches elementary students in Grades 5 and 6 to be capable and confident walkers and is a leadership opportunity for students. Participating students would wear a C2 safety vest and walk a preferred route to school. The only expectations are to set a responsible example, model safe walking procedures and be welcoming of other students who may choose to walk along with them. These students would receive thorough street safety training and be given an understanding of safety around traffic, crossing a street, anti-bullying awareness and basic first aid training. Questions from the group were addressed.

9. Budget

Director Pharand thanked the group for their submission to trustees. Director Pharand shared that the Parent Involvement Committee will be receiving funding for the purpose of working with school councils to encourage student attendance. Questions from the group were addressed.

10. Meeting Summary for the Winter Parent Engagement Session

Director Pharand shared the document outlining the results of the January 2024 meeting between the Inclusive Education Priorities and Engagement Branch of the Ministry of Education who hosted virtual meetings with Parent Involvement Committee chairs and co-chairs and school board parent engagement leads.

11. Miiniwewinan: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Report

Report deferred to next meeting.

12. Special Education Advisory Committee Report

Report deferred to next meeting.

13. Director's Report

Director Pharand shared a list of the reports to the Board since the last meeting. The Board is undertaking a French Immersion review to ensure the program is relevant. Director Pharand updated the group on the cell phone ban that will be implemented in schools in September. Students in K-Grade 6 will be required to put phones away for the day unless they are required for a lesson. Students in Grades 7-12 can have phones on them, but they must be off. Phones can be used between classes and at lunch. If a student is caught using their phone in class, the phone will be confiscated until the end of the day. Consequences will be put in place for students breaking the rules. A new Suicide Prevention/Intervention and Postvention Protocol has been developed and will be posted on the Board website. Megan Semeniuk, Mental Health Lead, will be invited to a future meeting to share the protocol.

14. Next Meeting

Monday, September 9, 2024.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.