

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Board Room
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2025 MAY 12
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Laura Prodanyk
Tara Ingram
Terry Godick

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair
George Saarinen
Michelle Riemer, Vice-Chair

MEMBERS ABSENT, WITH REGRET:

Carla Mulholland
Brittany Kennedy
Lorraine Mashongoane

Dawn-Marie Francis
Ellen Chambers

RESOURCE PRESENT:

Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education
Jamie Smith, Communications Supervisor
Fred Van Elburg, Teacher
Christine Jones, Executive Assistant
Kali Bernst, Principal of Indigenous Education
Jasmine Sgambelluri, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Resource Teacher

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

Michelle Riemer, Vice Chair, welcomed the following guests:

- Kali Bernst, Principal of Indigenous Education; and
- Jasmine Sgambelluri, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Resource Teacher.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

Michelle Riemer, Vice Chair, 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 – May 12, 2025**

The agenda of May 12, 2025, was approved by consensus.

5. Election of Parent Involvement Committee Chair

Director Pharand called for nominations for chair of the Parent Involvement Committee. Robin Cawlishaw, School Council Representative, self-nominated. Director Pharand called for further nominations. As no further nominations were forthcoming, Robin Cawlishaw was acclaimed as chair of the Parent Involvement Committee.

Moved by George Saarinen and seconded by Laura Prodanyk. Carried.

6. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2025

The minutes of March 3, 2025, were approved by consensus.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

7.1 Ministry letter supporting Student Transportation

Director Pharand confirmed the letter to the Ministry of Education was emailed on April 28, 2025. All members were emailed a electronic copy from Christine Jones, Executive Assistant, for their information.

8. New Business

8.1 Indigenous Education Report

Kali Bernst, Principal of Indigenous Education and Jasmine Sgambelluri, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Resource Teacher, presented their report, with all questions were addressed.

8.2 Communications Update

Jamie Smith, Communications Supervisor, provided the following update:

- a successful Creative Moment Jamboree event was held on May 1, 2025, at the Fort William Gardens;
- Ontario wide crossing guard celebration;
- National Indigenous Day on June 21, 2025; and
- a speaker event, Jake Ernst, brought by PIC on May 14, 2025, at Hammarskjold High School, starting at 6:30 p.m.

8.3 Miinewewinan: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Report

No representation confirmed from Miinewewinan Indigenous Education Advisory Committee and therefore deferred to next meeting.

8.4 Special Education Advisory Committee Report

Tara Ingram, SEAC Representative, reminded the Easter Seals week is May 25-May 30, 2025 with the celebration of red shirt day on May 28, 2025.

8.5 Director's Report

Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education, presented the following board report:

- Nor'wester View Public School students Grade 4-Grade 8 are presenting a musical "We will Rock You";
- a new hockey program called Edge is set to launch at LPS in the 2025/26 school year;
- a visit to the Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute's culinary class was attended by trustees, the Superintendent of Business, and the Director, to experience firsthand the skills and techniques students have been learning in class;
- a visit to Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute for the Grade 10 students Earth Day Celebration that is aimed at inspiring environmental awareness and encouraging interest in the Environment Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program; and
- a new student trustee will be declared, as our current student trustee Morgann De Franceschi, will be finishing her term this June 2025.

All questions were answered.

9. Other Business

Michelle Riemer, Vice-Chair, reminded the committee of Crossing Guard appreciation week in June.

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, shared that the Equity and Inclusion Committee is in need of a PIC representative. The committees' next meeting is June 11, 2025, starting at 9:00 am.

10. Next Meeting Date:

Meeting date of October 6, 2025.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.