

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Board Room  
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2025 OCT 6  
6:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Laura Prodanyk  
Tara Ingram  
Terry Godick  
Dawn-Marie Francis

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair  
George Saarinen (virtual)  
Ellen Chambers  
Michelle Riemer, Vice-Chair

**MEMBERS ABSENT, WITH REGRET:**

Carla Mulholland  
Brittany Kennedy

Terry Godick  
Lorraine Mashongoane

**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 and Program  
Kathleen Andrews, Student Success Lead

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

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, welcomed the following guests:

- Kali Bernst, Principal of Indigenous Education and Program; and
- Kathleen Andrews, Student Success Lead.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

Robin Cawlishaw, 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 – October 6, 2025**

The agenda of October 6, 2025, was approved by consensus.

5. Delegations/Presentations

5.1 2025 Summer Learning

Kali Bernst, Principal of Indigenous Education and Program, and Kathleen Andrews, Student Success Lead, presented the highlights of Lakehead District School Boards 2025 Summer Learning Programs. Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education, thanked Kali Bernst and Kathleen Andrews and their team for their support of another successful summer for student learning.

6. Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2025

The minutes of May 12, 2025, were approved by consensus.

7. New Business

7.1 Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Recruitment

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, shared the recruitment for PIC started in the summer and we continue to source and fill the open positions. Members are asked to share with those in their network and have them go to the boards website for applications, or have them contact Christine Jones, Executive Assistant.

7.2 Miiniwewinan: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Funding Report

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, shared that the Miiniwewinan (IEAC) Funding report is included in their package for review.

7.3 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Funding Report

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, shared that the SEAC Funding report is included in their package for review.

7.4 Miinewewinan (IEAC) Report

No representative, deferred to next meeting.

7.5 Special Education Advisory Committee Report

Tara Ingram, SEAC Representative, reminded the Easter Seals week is May 25-30, 2026, with the celebration of red shirt day on May 28, 2026.

7.6 Jamie Smith, Communications Supervisor, shared the following:

- student attendance video is posted on our board website;
- they attended a 24 unique media opportunities;
- Nor'wester View Public School had their summer tree planting event;
- a successful Bruce Nugent Annual Golf Tournament;
- this years orange shirt in support of Truth and Reconciliation Day, was designed by a St. James Public School;
- Ogden Community Public School, had a visit from Terry Fox's brother;

- starting October 10, 2025, 99 The Bay radio, will host Joe Newhouse, Activities Director, to discuss LDSB high school sports; and
- an announcement is coming soon for LDSB's retro merchandise store, with all donations supporting Lakehead Public School Foundation.

#### 7.7 2025/2026 Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Schedule

Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, shared the PIC 2025/26 meeting schedule and was approved by consensus

#### 7.8 Director's Report

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

- Trustee's expressed their appreciation of the PIC letter sent to the Ministry on behalf of the committee;
- the following Character Awards were given out since May;
  - Owen Weiss, Special Olympics volunteer;
  - Branden Robb, Janae Grafham & Natalie Hache (HEAL-Healthy Eating, Active Living);
  - Ogden Community Public School hockey team;
- OPSBA Achievement Awards were given to Mike Judge, Joe Gaudreau, Elliot Cromarty & Malcome Sutherland. **ACTION:** Christine Jones, Executive Assistant, will send out the requirements for a trustee character award;
- Trustee's are sending a letter to their local MPP, and members are asked to email Christine Jones, if they would be interested in supporting this type of letter from PIC;
- the unfortunate events of the recent childcare tragedy in Southern Ontario, has resulted in barriers required to be installed in front of school areas with child care;
- members were asked if they would be interested in a speaking opportunity for parents on *Student Resilience*. **ACTION:** Christine Jones, Executive Assistant, will add to next PIC agenda;
- future presentations suggested from the committee; TVO, EQAO results;
- new programs include Anishinaabee Language Revitalization;
- French immersion program, suggestion received was researching East Coast Mi'Kmaq language program, as they have changed modern songs into Ojibway language;
- the 25-26 Order of Policies for review was provided as a handout to members and consensus was to have the 8080 School Council Policy presented;
- **ACTION:** Christine Jones, Executive Assistant, will send out the strategic plan that shows the work that is needed to be completed.

All questions were answered.

### 8. Other Business

- #### 8.1 Michelle Riemer, Vice-Chair, shared the Crossing Guard appreciation week is in June.

8.2 Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, reviewed the PIC correspondence that was distributed during the month of September 2025.

8.3 Robin Cawlishaw, Chair, shared that the Equity and Inclusive Education Committee is in need of a PIC representative. The committees' next meeting is October 22, 2025, starting at 9:00 am.

9. Next Meeting Date:

Meeting date of November 17, 2025.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.