



**Parent Involvement Committee Minutes  
Education Centre  
May 22, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ralph Hill, Trustee; Heather Campbell, Director of Education; Angela Mainville, Community Representative, Seven Generations Education Institute; Kari-Lynn Beckett, Elementary Teacher Representative; Angela Siemens, Community Representative, Zaagi-idiwin Aboriginal Headstart Program; Leslie Danielson, Fort Frances High School Council Representative; John Fuhrer, Donald Young School Council Representative; Lonna Oster, J.W. Walker School Council; Jana Riches, Robert Moore School Council Representative; Kendall Olsen, Principal Representative

**REGRETS:** Elaine Fischer, Community Representative, Northwestern Health Unit; Debbie Spence, Rainy River School Council Representative; Kirsty Sinclair, School Council Representative, Fort Frances High School; Mellisa Gallagher, North Star Community School Council Representative;

**ABSENT:** Gary Edwards, Sturgeon Creek Alternative Program School Council Representative; Kari Larson, Riverview School Council Representative; Shauna Leigh Carlson, Robert Moore School Council Representative; Alicia Gattoni, Crossroads School Council Representative

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Nancy Taggart, Recording Secretary

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Angela Siemens at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as circulated.

**3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

There was no disclosure of conflict of interest.

**4. Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the January 31, 2018 were approved by consensus.

**5. New Business**

a) Presentation: High School Pathways

Michelle Mosbeck, Principal at Rainy River High School, reviewed the draft *Pathways Planning for Grade 7-12* resource. It was created as an accessible resource and easy for students and parents/guardians to understand, as well as to ignite curiosity in various career paths. It was noted that there will also be a webpage where this information will be available online. Feedback is being sought from various Board Committees and student groups before it is



finalized.

The Committee provided positive feedback and suggestions.

b) PRO Grant 2018-19 Application

Director of Education, Heather Campbell, explained that the Ministry of Education has enhanced the focus of the PRO Grant to support the province's Equity Action Plan as outlined in the report included in the agenda package.

The Committee read the survey results from the Family Math/Arts Events that have been held this year.

The Committee agreed to apply for the PRO Grant funding for 2018-19. Committee members agreed to distribute draft letters to community partners requesting support, with a deadline of June 1, 2018 for receiving the support letters.

Letters will be given to the following organizations:

- Northwestern Health Unit – Jana Riches/Elaine Fischer
- United Native Friendship Centre – Angela Siemens
- Seven Generations Education Institute – Angela Mainville
- Fort Frances Tribal Area Health Services – Lonna Oster
- Atikokan Friendship Centre – Mellisa Gallagher

Heather Campbell will contact Confederation College, Northern Community Development Services, Kenora-Rainy River Child & Family Services and Gizhewaadiziwin Health Access Centre.

Following discussion regarding ideas for future Family Nights, the Committee came up with the theme *Steaming Ahead on Healthy Pathways* for the 2018-19 PRO Grant.

Heather will draft the online PRO Grant application using data from the Board EQAO Math scores, statistics on the need for wellness/mental health resources and will also highlight the *Pathways Planning for Grade 7-12* resource. The draft application will be sent to the Committee requesting feedback prior to the application deadline of June 5, 2018.

c) Letter from Laura Mills, Superintendent of Business Re: Budget Preparation

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, reviewed the letter from Laura Mills, Superintendent of Business, which listed 2017-18 Budget Requests and the Budget Action that was taken. The Committee provided feedback on budget priorities for 2018-19 as follows:

- Continuing support for field trips
- Continuing to expand the counselling program, especially to younger students;



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- Bringing in speakers on mental health and addictions;
- Providing training to staff on mental health literacy and drug awareness;
- Supporting students in developing healthy lifestyles, focusing on physical, mental, social and cognitive well-being;
- Continuing to provide leadership opportunities for students, especially students in Grades 6 to 8 (e.g., partnering to offer after-school programming such as the Babysitters course).

The Director of Education will draft a letter which will be emailed to the Co-Chairs for review and signatures prior to being submitted to the Superintendent of Business.

## 6. School Council/Organization Updates

Committee members were asked to provide updates from their School Councils or organizations.

- Lonna Oster reported the following events happening at J.W. Walker School:
  - Family Math/Arts Night was held on April 24<sup>th</sup> and was well attended with a good variety of activities offered.
  - A pancake breakfast was held on May 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - A Music/Arts Festival Highlights assembly was held.
  - Grade 3 to 6 students will attend a Pow wow at Mitaanjigamiing First Nation on June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- John Fuhrer reported on the Family Math/Arts Night held at Donald Young School on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 60 families attended and enjoyed activities such as beading, looming, arts, technology and recycling. Community partners included the Northwestern Health Unit and drummers from a local first nation.
- Jana Riches shared that Robert Moore School put on a successful musical of "Beauty and The Beast".

## 7. Director's Update

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, reported as follows:

- Dr. Greg Wells presented at the Be Wise Be Well Student Conference on May 15 and to Principals on May 16.
- Kindergarten Play Dates and Family Math/Arts Events are being held.
- Annual awards nominations are being received for Community Partner, Volunteer, Employee and Bus Driver.
- Fountains in schools are being replaced with water bottle filling stations.
- Heather Campbell and Al McManaman met with New Gold regarding pathways for students in mining. New Gold cannot accommodate coop placements for students under the age of 18, but they have hired students following graduation.
- The Board has been approved to offer an Environment Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) at Rainy River High School in 2018-19. This is in addition to a Manufacturing SHSM and Hospitality and Tourism SHSM at Atikokan High School and at Fort Frances High School

**Heather Campbell**  
Director of Education



**Dianne McCormack**  
Chair

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Entrepreneurship, Health and Wellness and Manufacturing SHSMs are offered.

**8. Next Meeting**

A Doodle Poll will be sent out with possible dates for the next meeting to be held in September. Once it is determined which date will provide quorum, a confirmation email will be sent for the date.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.