



**Parent Involvement Committee Minutes  
MS Teams Virtual Meeting  
April 26, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Heather Campbell, Director of Education; Carla Magisano, Trustee; Cindy Homer, Robert Moore School Council Representative; Lonna Oster, Fort Frances High School Council Representative; Alexa Wideman, Mine Centre School Council Representative; Chantal Seguin, Sturgeon Creek School Council Representative; Sharla MacKinnon, Principal Representative; Kari-Lynn Beckett, Elementary Teacher Representative; LaDawn Schmidt, J.W. Walker School Council Representative; Reta Dykstra, Sturgeon Creek Alternative Program School Council Representative; Maria Fuhrer, Donald Young School Council Representative; Nancy Pitura, Atikokan K-12 Council Representative

**REGRETS:** Ross Donaldson, Crossroads School Council Representative; Angela Siemens, Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board; Elaine Fischer, Community Representative, Northwestern Health Unit; Nadine Gerula, Rainy River K-12 Council Representative

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

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Cindy Homer, Co-Chair, at 6:30 p.m. Introductions were made.

**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 March 25, 2021 were approved by consensus.

**5. Unfinished Business**

a) 2021-22 Budget Input

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, summarized the budget feedback from the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- Professional development and resources for elementary educators in the areas of financial literacy and coding



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- Reduction of student ride times

Director Campbell asked the Committee for additional input and the following suggestions were made:

- Provide in person senior level science courses within all high schools
- Prioritize the teaching of keyboarding in elementary grades
- Provide additional supports for Speech Language Programming

Director of Education, Heather Campbell, will draft a letter on behalf of the Parent Involvement Committee for the Co-Chairs to review/revise and sign.

b) PRO Grant Update

Director of Education, Heather Campbell, provided an update on the Parents Reaching Out Grant options. After some discussion, a third option was decided upon: interested school councils will proceed with the Make a Meal at Home kits if school council members could assemble kits at home and then find a way to distribute them, specific to their area.

School councils are reminded to submit recipes to the Director's Office, if different from the vegetable soup recipe, and the connections to math tip sheet will be copied at the Education Centre for inclusion in the kits.

Positive feedback on the revised tip sheet was offered and a couple revisions were noted. Heather Campbell, Director of Education, will send out a memo with this information to principals and school councils, this week.

As well, Heather Campbell shared the financial literacy letters to parents/guardians created by Tanya Kroocmo, RRDSB Numeracy Coordinator. These were well-received, with the Committee suggesting that letters be converted to tip sheets and that all grade levels be combined into one resource that is sent to parents via SeeSaw and Edsby.

## 6. Director's Update

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, reported as follows:

- Now that all students are back to remote learning, approximately 220 rocket hubs/tethering devices have been distributed to date.
- Students at Fort Frances High School and several elementary classrooms are participating in the *do your :bit* challenge, a micro-bit digital coding challenge. The *do your :bit* challenge adds social purpose to digital learning and allows students to apply their digital skills to real world solutions. This year's challenge focuses on Health and Well-being, and Climate Action.
- School Support Services will be sending out a memo to schools, offering support to classroom

**Heather Campbell**  
Director of Education



**Raymond Roy**  
Chair

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teachers on options to reorganize their classroom schedules now that we are all learning remotely. Several Committee members commented about students now spending longer times in front of screens.

- Tracey Idle, Mental Health Lead, is presenting throughout the District on grade appropriate mentally healthy school sessions.
- Director Campbell belongs to the Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy Provincial Working Group. A draft policy framework is being developed provincially for school boards to implement, in order to raise awareness of this issue, offer critical intervention tools to protect at-risk youth, as well as dedicate supports for victims and survivors.

Committee members posed questions and provided comments in follow-up to the Director's Update.

#### 7. **Next Meeting**

An email will be sent out with possible dates for the next meeting to be held in late May or early June.

#### 8. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.