Heather Campbell
Director of Education



Raymond Roy Chair

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Parent Involvement Committee Minutes MS Teams Virtual Meeting October 29, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Campbell, Director of Education; David Loewen, Trustee; Lonna Oster, Fort Frances High School Council Representative; Ross Donaldson, Crossroads School Council Representative; Cindy Homer, Robert Moore School Council Representative; Kari-Lynn Beckett, Elementary Teacher Representative; LaDawn Schmidt, J.W. Walker School Council Representative; Sharla MacKinnon, Principal Representative; Mellisa Gallagher, Atikokan High School Council Representative

REGRETS: Lorraine Gauthier-Stromberg, North Star Community School Council Representative; Reta Dykstra, Sturgeon Creek Alternative Program School Council Representative; Elaine Fischer, Community Representative, Northwestern Health Unit; Angela Siemens, Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Taggart, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Sue Boshey, Mine Centre School Council Representative; Andrea McNabb, Sturgeon Creek School Council Representative

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mellisa Gallagher, Co-Chair, at 6:32 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 May 4, 2020 were approved by consensus.

5. Unfinished Business

a) PRO Grant Report

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, provided a report and shared highlights of the Promoting Wellness parent engagement project. Committee members provided feedback on the Dr. Greg Wells presentations.

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b) School Council Handbook Update

The Director of Education, Heather Campbell, provided an update on the progress to the update of the School Council Handbook. Heather Campbell will share the revised handbook with the Committee at the next meeting.

6. New Business

a) 2019-2020 Draft Annual Report

The draft Annual Report was reviewed by the Committee members and a few additions were suggested. The report will be finalized and presented to Trustees at the regular Board meeting on November 3, 2020.

b) Draft Fall 2020 PIC Newsletter

The Committee reviewed the draft newsletter and it was noted that an informational item about the Grade 3 and 6 assessments not taking place this year, as well as a reminder that KRRCFS counselling sessions are available to students, should be added. These changes will be made and the newsletter will be distributed electronically with some print copies for each school.

7. Director's Update

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, reported as follows:

- Director of Education, Heather Campbell, recognized the efforts to help and encourage students during the pandemic.
- Two models of learning are being offered with in-person and remote learning for students, which has meant most occasional teachers have been hired. There is a lack of supply teachers locally and across the province which is making it difficult to cover teacher absences.
- Kim Kirk, Indigenous Education Leader, has arranged for Elders, Senators and Knowledge Keepers to participate in virtual classroom visits.
- Mental health clinicians from Kenora-Rainy River Child and Family Services are available to students for in-person and virtual counselling.
- The Northwestern Health Unit has been very supportive in accommodating the continued offering of student programs such as Outers.
- Three PD Days have taken place earlier in the school year and the fourth PD Day is happening tomorrow with a focus on equity, inclusion and human rights, as well as elementary numeracy.
- We recently participated in a survey from the Ministry of Education on readiness to pivot to complete virtual learning. Director of Education, Heather Campbell, recognized the IT Department for working to place the Board in a position to pivot, if necessary.



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8. Correspondence

a) Annual School Council Reports for 2019-2020

Annual Reports from all the School Councils were included in the package for Committee members. Representatives gave an overview of their School Council's 2019-20 activities.

9. Next Meeting

A Doodle Poll will be sent out with possible dates for the next meeting to be held in late November.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.