



**Parent Involvement Committee Minutes
Microsoft Teams/Education Centre
January 17, 2024 – 6:30pm**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Campbell, Director of Education; Sarah Creed, Trustee; Helena Guertin, JW Walker School Council Representative; Carly Miller, Community Representative, Northwestern Health Unit; Robin Holden, Nestor Falls School Council Representative; Joelle Katona, Robert Moore School Council Representative; Brooke Caul, Northern Lakes K-12 School Council Representative; Lonna Oster, Fort Frances High School Council Representative; Benita Retief, Donald Young School Council Representative alternate; Katie Mowe, Crossroads School Council Representative; Tanis Tom, Rainy River K-12 School Council Representative; Sherri Hay, Elementary Teacher Representative.

STAFF: Mia Sexton, Recording Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Graham, Trustee

REGRETS: Alexa Wideman, Mine Centre School Council Representative; Krista Brusven, Riverview/McCrossen School Council Representative;

ABSENT: Stevie-Lee Kaemingh, Donald Young School Council Representative; Shannon King, Fort Frances High School/Seven Generations Institute, Community Representative.

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Helena Guertin called the Parent Involvement Committee meeting to order at 6:30pm CST. Director Campbell welcomed Committee members, and Committee member introductions were completed.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the November 20, 2023, Parent Involvement Committee meeting was approved by consensus.

5. Unfinished Business

a) Election of Co-Chair (2023-2025 Term)

Director Campbell summarized the responsibilities of a Co-Chair and opened the floor for nominations for the Co-Chair position of the Parent Involvement Committee. Brooke Caul self-

nominated and was appointed Co-Chair for a two-year term, joining Helena Guertin, Co-Chair, who is on the second year of her term.

b) PIC Newsletter Winter 2024

Feedback was invited for the PIC Winter Newsletter. Some minor grammar errors were noted, and the newsletter was approved by the Committee. The newsletter will be corrected and sent on Monday next week.

6. **New Business**

a) NWHU School Update

Carly Miller, Health Educator, provided an update on NWHU initiatives. Highlights included:

- NWHU's regular programs and services have resumed , such as the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program for all K-8 schools in the region, which aims to it's to provide two servings of fresh fruit and vegetables every day to elementary school students during the week.
- NWHU have attended Welcome to Kindergarten events held by schools, providing information on packing healthy school lunches and dental health.
- Public health nurses are starting to return to schools again to provide vaccination clinics for secondary school students. Parents can access the consent form online.
- Canada has a new Suicide Crisis Hotline and people across Canada can now call or text 9-8-8, a three digit number for suicide prevention that is available in English and French 24/7, 365 days per year and available to any person living in Canada.

b) Emergency Communications

Director Campbell provided an update on the RRDSB emergency response and emergency communications concerning what happened at Fort Frances high school last week. Committee members were invited to provide feedback on what general information parents need and what key messages can be provided to give them peace of mind about their children's safety in the schools.

7. **Correspondence**

a) Policies for Stakeholder Consultation

Committee members were provided with the policy that is currently out for stakeholder review and were asked to forward any feedback to Marni McDonald by Monday, January 29, 2024.. All feedback will be brought to the attention of the Policy Committee.

8. **Next Meeting**

Mia Sexton will send out a poll with possible meeting dates for the week of March 25-29, 2024.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm CST.