



REPORT

Parent Involvement Committee

§ *Minutes of the Parent Involvement Committee meeting April 3, 2014.*



Parent Involvement Committee Minutes
Education Centre
April 3, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Gabrielle Langlais, Rainy River High School Council; Steve Sinclair, Sturgeon Creek Alternative School Council; Dianne McCormack, Trustee; Heather Campbell, Director of Education; Kirsty Sinclair, Sturgeon Creek Alternative Program Council; Toey Bone, Robert Moore School Council; Leslie Danielson, J.W. Walker School Council; Janice Gagne, Community Representative, Kenora-Rainy River Child & Family Services; Sharla MacKinnon, Elementary Teacher Representative; Char Bliss, Parent, J.W. Walker School Council

REGRETS: Rhonda Spuzak, J.W. Walker School Council; Kendall Olsen, Principal, Sturgeon Creek School/SCAP/NFS; Bridget McGinnis, Crossroads School – Parent; Lonna Oster, Community Representative, Northwestern Health Unit, North Words; Jennifer Learning, North Star Community School Council; Owen Johnston, Secondary Teacher, Fort Frances High School; Tara Jerry, Crossroads School - Parent

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Sandra Ward, Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Leslie Danielson at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Toey Bone and seconded by Gabrielle Langlais to approve the agenda. All were in favour.

3. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

There was no disclosure of conflict of interest.

4. **Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the February 27, 2014 meeting were reviewed and no changes were noted. The minutes were approved as distributed.

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

a) **Review draft response to Laura Mills, Superintendent of Business, regarding 2014-15 Budget feedback**

It was noted that the School Board is required to ask for input from the Parent Involvement Committee.



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The letter to Laura Mills was reviewed and no changes were noted. The Co-Chair will sign the letter on behalf of the Committee and it will be sent to Laura Mills.

b) EQAO/Parent Forum May 10, 2014

The poster from EQAO was reviewed. The poster has been sent to principals to include with the next school newsletter. The poster has also been sent to neighboring school boards. It was suggested that the Synre Voice system be used to advertise the Forum. The Chairperson of Robert Moore's School Council will speak to Heather Latter, Staff Writer for the Fort Frances Times, and have her write an article about the upcoming EQAO Forum.

The Director of Education will find out if there is a way to register if someone does not have access on-line.

EQAO will pay metrage regardless of where attendees live.

With respect to the charter bus from Atikokan to Fort Frances there was not sufficient interest in a bus charter.

c) Family Math Night Plan

Budget requests from school councils were reviewed by the Committee.

There was discussion regarding the discrepancies in amounts from school to school.

The following decisions were made regarding budget allocation from the PRO Grant funding, for each school hosting a Family Math Night:

- \$925 will be spent on group advertising as this is the best way to utilize the advertising allocation.
- \$2,775 is the total 15% of the Parents Reaching Out Grant that can be used toward refreshment costs. This will be divided by the number of students and each school will receive the amount per student times the number of students in the school.
- \$2,790 (not including tax and shipping) will be allocated to purchase 1,000 key chain folding tote bags. These will be distributed to all the schools.
- Each school will be allocated \$50 for child care, except Mine Centre and Crossroads since their Math Nights will take place during the day.
- Release time for staff will not be funded by the PRO Grant. The Director of Education will request that school build this into their PLC budget and incorporate it with existing PLC activities.
- The remainder of the funds will be divided by the number of students and each school will receive the amount per student times the number of students in the school to use for workshop materials, door prizes and printing costs.



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- \$1,000 will be allocated from the Parent Involvement Committee Board budget to cover transportation costs for parents if needed, as well as transportation costs for the staff from Student Support Services that will help out at the Family Math Night.
- The Director of Education will revise the budget overview spreadsheet and distribute to the Parent Involvement Committee members. A memo will be sent to each School Council Chair and the school principal to inform them of their allocation.

Suggested items for workshop materials could include dice, card games, dry erase boards, and lego packs. Ideas for door prizes were the Bedtime Math Books shared with the Committee, and games from Betty's and Walmart.

School Councils and principals could choose to use some of their own funds to top up areas if they wish.

PIC Symposium

Leslie Danielson would like to attend and will let the Director of Education know her availability. The Director will also check with Bridget McGinnis to find out if she is available to attend. No one else in attendance was able to attend should the Co-Chairs not be available. Once availability is confirmed, travel arrangements will be made.

Review draft PIC newsletter for approval

The draft newsletter was reviewed. A few minor formatting changes were noted and some web site links will be added. A description of what Dr. Lynda Colgan will present at the EQAO Forum will be included on the back of the EQAO poster that will be attached to the PIC Newsletter. The newsletter will be revised and printed as soon as possible in order to get the information regarding the EQAO Forum and Family Math Nights to parents in a timely manner.

6. New Business

PRO Grant Program 2014-2015

The Director of Education will send a draft of the PRO Grant application to Sharla MacKinnon, Kirsty Sinclair and Leslie Danielson for input. Deadline for submission is Friday May 16, 2014.

7. Director's Update

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, reported as follows:

- The Bus Driver of the Year and Volunteer of the Year Award applications are available on the Board website. Applications should be sent to Kathie Zatulsky by April 30th.
- There will be a Student Symposium on LGBTQ – Straight Alliance school based programs at the Rendezvous on May 7, 2014. The invitation included our own high schools as well as

Heather Campbell
Director of Education



Michael Lewis
Chair

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schools from other Boards. There will be two speakers in the morning and representatives from Egale Canada.

- April 9th is the International Day of Pink. Communities across the world unite to celebrate diversity and raise awareness to stop bullying. The School Board will be launching a new on line bullying tool for reporting. Each school's web page will have an icon to assist in this reporting.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be June 5, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Education Centre.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.