



**Parent Involvement Committee Minutes
Education Centre
June 1, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ralph Hill, Trustee; Heather Campbell, Director of Education; Kendall Olsen, Principal Representative; Alicia Gattoni, Co-Chair, Crossroads School Council Representative; Mellisa Gallagher, North Star Community School Council Representative (Skype); Kirsty Sinclair, School Council Representative, Sturgeon Creek Alternative Program Council; Angela Siemens, Co-Chair, Community Representative, Zaagi-idiwin Aboriginal Headstart Program; Leslie Danielson, Fort Frances High School Council Representative; Elaine Fischer, Robert Moore School Council Representative; Debbie Spence, Riverview School Council Representative

REGRETS: John Fuhrer, Donald Young School Council Representative; Lonna Oster, Community Representative, Northwestern Health Unit, North Words and J.W. Walker School Council Representative; Angela Mainville, Community Representative, Seven Generations Education Institute; Kasey Beaushene, Nestor Falls School Council Representative; Kari-Lynn Beckett, Elementary Teacher Representative

STAFF: Nancy Taggart, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Alicia Gattoni, Co-Chair at 6:31 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

There was no disclosure of conflict of interest.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the April 19, 2017 meeting were reviewed, and no changes were noted. A motion was made by Leslie Danielson and seconded by Debbie Spence to approve the minutes as distributed.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Approval to Amend By-Laws

The Director of Education provided a quick overview of the work done by the Bylaw Subcommittee. A motion was made by Debbie Spence and seconded by Leslie Danielson to



MAIN OFFICE : 522 SECOND ST. E., FORT FRANCES, ON, P9A 1N4 Telephone: (807) 274-9855 FAX (807) 274-5078 Toll Free 1-800-214-1753

approve the amended By-laws. All in attendance were in favour. The amendment to the By-laws was approved. Heather Campbell thanked the Subcommittee for all their work in revising the Bylaws.

b) PIC Symposium Update

Angela Siemens, PIC Co-Chair and Anna Fotheringham, Atikokan High School Council member, attended the Eighth Annual Parent Involvement Committee Symposium on April 29. Angela Siemens provided an overview of the symposium. There were three key note speakers, George Drazenovich, Mental Health Lead for Superior-Greystone DSB; presenters from the Northwestern Health Unit and Thunder Bay Health Unit; as well as Kathleen Gould-Lundy, York University. It was noted that all the speakers were very engaging and the symposium was enjoyable.

6. **New Business**

a) PRO Grant Program Application 2017-2018

The Director of Education began by explaining that the application deadline was extended to June 15 and an area of focus was added to support equitable access to postsecondary education by providing parents with information on the revised Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). The Subcommittee met twice to review the parameters of the application, identify possible community partners and to draft the grant application.

The Subcommittee identified goals to support school councils to enhance parent engagement through Family Arts (and/or Math) Nights. To date, ten letters of support have been received from community partners.

The Committee was asked for suggestions or additions for the grant application. A suggestion was made to explore having a speaker like Kathleen Gould-Lundy at some of the Family Nights, as well this may be an opportunity to partner with Kids & Company or Tour de Fort to use some of their performers.

Heather Campbell will remind Principals of the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) School Council grant application deadline of June 15.

b) Discussion Re: Recruitment Sub-committee

The Director of Education explained the need to try to expand the membership. A subcommittee to look at recruitment was struck consisting of Leslie Danielson, Kirsty Sinclair, Kendall Olsen, Debbie Spence, Mellisa Gallagher, Alicia Gattoni and Heather Campbell.



7. Director's Update

Heather Campbell, Director of Education, reported as follows:

- Feedback on the Strategic Plan was received and the new Plan will go to the Board for approval on June 6.
- The 2017-18 budget process is almost complete with 131 stakeholders providing feedback through the online survey.
- Rural and Remote Education stakeholder feedback is due by June 9.
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-ontarios-rural-education-strategy>.
- The Ministry of Education is providing \$22 million in special education funding to Northern Ontario school boards.
- Shannon Robinson, Northwestern Health Unit, is submitting a grant to promote parent engagement and the Board has provided a letter of support for this grant application.
- The Staff Well-Being Initiative was rolled out in March. This consisted of the following areas being promoted:
 - Employee Family Assistance Program
 - Wellness incentive of \$100
 - Wellness webpage
- Sarah Irwin-Gardner, Mental Health Leader, has accepted a job in Toronto and the Board will be looking to fill this position.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9. 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.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.