

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 5, 2017
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. – Oakridge Public School
Chair: Lisa Mooney
MINUTES

PRESENT: Lisa Mooney, Alex Bradnam, Jim Burnison, Chris Seabrook, Jennifer Coote, Pauline Dawson, Joy Janzen, Charlotte Powell, Stacia Heaton, Fran Cerminara, Melissa Rypstra
REGRETS: Kelly McNeil, Cheryl Podetz
SUPERINTENDENT: Marian Reimer Friesen
TRUSTEES: Lora Campbell, Helga Campbell
ADMINISTRATION: Robin Lakeit, Tracy Leemet
RECORDING SECRETARY: Karen Sawatsky

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting was called to order. Superintendent Marian Reimer Friesen welcomed everyone and thanked Laurene Klassen, principal of Oakridge Public School, for hosting our April PIC meeting. Laurene toured the committee through the newly renovated and accessible Admin wing and kindergarten room.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Stacia Heaton

Seconded by Pauline Dawson

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Charlotte Powell

Seconded by Laura Campbell

“That the Minutes of the Parent Involvement Committee meeting of February 1, 2017, be approved.”

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Marian shared the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement Mid Year Update document with the PIC. The information is summarized into six categories which include our math and literacy focus, data-based decision making, career and life planning, student voice, achievement and well-being and collaborative instructional leadership. In each area, special initiatives and progress toward our goals were highlighted and linked to the Strategic Plan recognizing that everyone matters as individuals, learners and part of the community.

- The Committee discussed the upcoming PIC Conference to be held on November 1, 2017 at Eden High School. Feedback from the 2016 Conference, as well as new DSBN initiatives, were used to determine possible session topics which will be finalized at our May meeting.

- Dr. Stan Kutcher will be visiting DSBN in May, and speaking to parents at AN Myer SS (Monday, May 1st from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.) and Laura Secord SS (Tuesday, May 2nd from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.). These evenings are free of charge and include refreshments, with childcare being offered at Laura Secord’s event. Guests can register for these events on either schools’ website. PIC will encourage School Council chairs to promote this event and will have a table at the Community Carousel as a way to demonstrate support and Mental Health awareness.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Lisa Mooney reported the following:

- Chair Lisa Mooney, Superintendent Marian Reimer Friesen, along with five School Council chairs, attended the Ministry’s PIC Symposium on April 1st in London, attending a variety of sessions.
- Our School Council Chair networking session that took place at Orchard Park PS on Wednesday, March 22nd, was debriefed, noting that the feedback survey was very positive.
- A reminder for the committee to review the set of Policies on the DSBN website that are up for review from April 10 – June 2. The committee will discuss these at our May meeting in order to provide feedback.

TRUSTEE UPDATE

Trustee Helga Campbell shared the following:

- At the Tuesday, March 28th Board Meeting, DSBN Trustees concluded the West Niagara Accommodation Review by approving the construction of a new secondary school. The build will result in the closures of Grimsby Secondary (GSS), Beamsville District (BDSS), and South Lincoln High School (SLHS). The yet-to-be-named school is contingent on Ministry approval and funding. Assuming approval is granted in a timely fashion, the school will open in September, 2020.
- Trustees also voted to change elementary technology program delivery in the DSBN, by moving to a more integrated program in which students will have opportunity to explore design and technology throughout their elementary years. Hands on experiential learning, using programs such as Makerspace and Genius Hour, will allow students to use their technology skills to create solutions to open-ended problems. This change is an enhancement to programming for students in all elementary grades, as more students will have access to technology learning. Funds currently allocated for the D & T program and transportation can be used for the purchase of resources and teacher training.
- Trustees were very appreciative of the feedback provided by parents and PIC for the group of policies open for review this past month. Feedback was incorporated into the newly revised policies. Trustee Campbell also highlighted ways in which Student Voice and the Strategic Plan were used to enhance DSBN policies.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Pauline Dawson

Seconded by Charlotte Powell

“That the Parent Involvement Committee meeting adjourn.”

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

Next meeting – May 3rd, 2017
St. John’s Outdoor Adventure Campus