



PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
5:30 p.m. – TEAMS virtual meeting
Chair: Lisa Mooney
MINUTES

PRESENT: Lisa Mooney, Joy Janzen, Kelly McNeil, Melissa Lofquist, Susan Jovanovic, Stacia Heaton
Amanda Moore, Amber Hughes

REGRETS: Pauline Dawson

GUEST: Superintendent, John Dickson

SUPERINTENDENT: Simon Hancox

TRUSTEES: Nancy Beamer, Doug Newton

ADMINISTRATION: Fred Louws, Tracy Leemet

RECORDING SECRETARY: Elisha von Wuthenau

WELCOME

Meeting was called to order. Superintendent Hancox welcomed everyone and read the Land Acknowledgement.

APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBER

Amber Hughes was voted in as a new member of PIC.

Moved by Joy Janzen

Seconded by Susan Jovanovic

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Melissa Lofquist

Seconded by Joy Janzen

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

STUDENT CENSUS PRESENTATION

Superintendent, John Dickson provided an explanation and presentation regarding the upcoming Student Census that will be issued to all DSBN students in the next few months.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

none

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Hancox shared the following:

- Ministry of Education stated today that DSBN will resume classes on February 8, 2021.
- Messaging regarding return to in-school classes will be sent to all families. This will include the changes issued by Public Health, which include mandatory masks for students in grades 1-3, masks to be worn outside unless social distancing can be ensured, enhanced screening for staff and secondary students.
- While still in the adaptive model, Secondary schools have removed MSIP and study periods from the class scheduling for the second semester. This will allow for a 20 percent increase of instructional time.

- Issuing of report cards has been delayed until February 18th for students attending in-school.
- Virtual Kindergarten Open Houses have happened, and online registration has also begun. Virtual tours are available on school and board websites.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Lisa Mooney shared the following:

- The response to the PIC Speaker Series has been great. The feedback has been very good. Feedback provided states that people were pleased and found the presentations by Anne Murray and Ann Douglas to have been beneficial and helpful.
- The School Council policy is up for review. The decision was made to add *“The DSBN believes that all parents should have equal access to contribute to School Councils and the Parent Involvement Committee and every effort should be made to remove any barriers for parents to participate.”*

TRUSTEE UPDATE

Trustee Doug Newton shared the following:

- The New West Niagara Secondary School is expected to open in September 2022. This state-of-the art school will offer the latest facilities, including a greenhouse, synthetic field and 8 lane racing track. The school will provide a range of industry-standard technology equipment for programs such as construction, culinary, cosmetology and others. There are also plans, upon ministry approval, to include a 750-seat performing arts theatre in the construction.
- The DSBN has recently purchased land in Niagara Falls. The DSBN hopes to build a new elementary school, to address growth in Niagara Falls, to offset the student population at Kate S. Durdan, and anticipated growth in the neighbourhood.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Simon Hancox presented 3 options for potential speakers in the PIC Speaker Series.

- Cassandra Muileboom offers a story-based presentation to addresses the 5 A's of anti-racism parenting.
- Equity Connections offers a panel presentation that will focus on a five-phase process to building effective allyship as a parent. To assist parents to identify and interrupt bias, stereotypes and problematic racist behaviours.
- Natasha Parent offers a webinar presentation entitled “Should I be worried about screen time?”. She provides parents with a better understanding of why teens use technology and why this may be important for them in the time of Covid-19.

The committee decided to offer all three speakers in the PIC Speaker Series. It was agreed that the needs in the DSBN community are diverse and each person is looking for different supports and information.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Joy Janzen

Seconded by Kelly McNeil

“That the Parent Involvement Committee meeting adjourn.”

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 6:30p.m.

Next meeting – April 07, 2021
Location – TEAMS virtual meeting