

**Parent Involvement Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at 7 pm**  
**Rainbow District School Board**  
**Board Office – 69 Young Street - Sudbury**

**Attendance:**

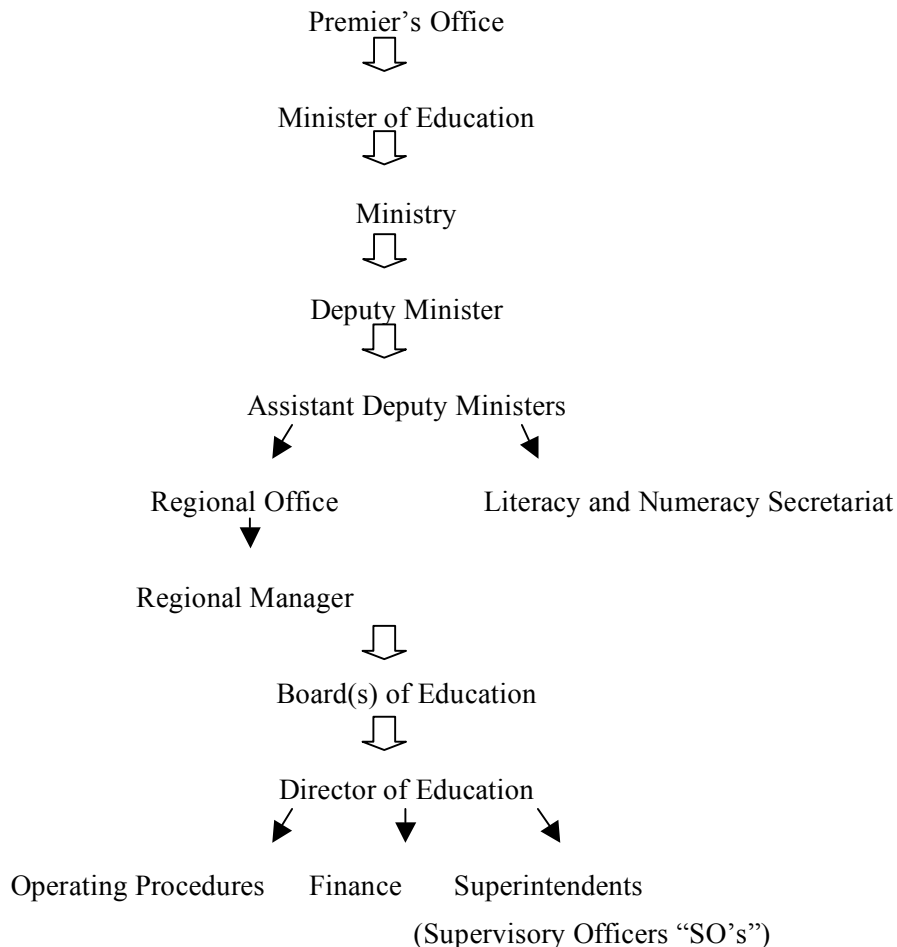
PIC Executive: Leo Bisson, David Muldoon and Stephanie Cooke  
RDSB: Trustee Ruth Ward, Trustee Jeanna Miller, Trustee Gord Santala, Superintendent Norm Blaseg, Nicole Charette, Chantal Lacroix, and Barb Blasutti  
Guests: Jean Hanson, Director of Education, Rainbow District School Board  
Parent Reps: Julie Xilon Princess Anne P.S., Tonya Marcotte Queen Elizabeth II P.S., and Sharina Appanna Lo-Ellen Park S.S.

**1. Welcome:** Leo Bisson

- Self Introductions

**2. Governance:** Jean Hanson, Director of Education, Rainbow District School Board

- Parent Involvement Committee - a forum for School Council members to provide input/network.



- At one time, Trustees had the authority to raise taxes locally for education.
- Now, the Province determines the education funding allocation for school boards.
- The Ministry of Education governs how school boards are formed and how they operate.
- Elected Trustees set policies for Rainbow District School Board.
- The need for policies may come from RDSB Trustees or the Ministry.
- Policies of the RDSB are high level “statements of belief”.
- The Policy and Finance reviews policies and determines whether to send them on to the Board for vote, or back to staff for further work.
- The Policy and Finance Committee also ensure that finances of the Board are properly handled in keeping with legislation.
- Some funding provided to School Boards is restricted to specific areas or envelopes. Some is used at the discretion of the Board.
- The Chair of the Board is elected annually among the RDSB Trustees.
- RDSB currently has a Superintendent of Business and Superintendents of Schools with varying portfolios - Special Education, Program, Human Resources, Managing Information for Student Achievement and First Nations, Métis and Inuit education.
- Directives are received from the Ministry and given to the appropriate Supervisory Officer.
- The Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning, reports to the Director.
- The Board’s vision, mission, values and priorities are listed in “Towards Tomorrow Together” and the Guide for Students and Parents distributed at the beginning of the school year.
- Towards Tomorrow Together is the Strategic Board Improvement Plan.
- The Strategic Board Improvement Plan is updated annually and drives the budget process.
- All budget submissions are considered in the context of the Board’s priorities (ie. does it support the Board’s Strategic Board Improvement Plan?)
- Principals work with their staff to develop School Improvement Plans in keeping with the Strategic Board Improvement Plan
- School Improvement Plans are submitted to the Board office by September 30th.
- Legislation requires that school councils be elected.
- School Councils work in an advisory capacity with schools.

### **3. New Business:** Leo Bisson

- Agenda approved with amendment
- Motion to approve Minutes from June 12, 2007 meeting: Jeanna Miller, seconded by Chantal Lacroix
- Minutes approved
- An invitation will be sent to all School Councils for presentations at PIC meetings
- Motion was put forth regarding a Treasurer for the Parent Involvement Committee
- Budget Report is due October 15, 2007
- It was discussed and Norm Blaseg agreed to provide a financial report at every meeting indicating source of funding and where monies have been dispersed.

### **4. Communications Report:** Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning, Nicole Charette

- A video was produced with the funds received through the PRO Grant.
- Handouts will be sent home every month throughout the school year, highlighting different strategies for teaching children to read.
- Video will be made available online within the next couple of weeks.
- 10 Chapters are highlighted on the video which is approximately 12 minutes.
- Each Principal has been given two copies of video.
- PRO Grant is again available for Schools and School Boards
- Application is due October 19. If you have any ideas please email Nicole soon. Ministry guidelines for

the grant are very specific. Application for grant must fall within these guidelines for consideration.

- Provincial Parent Board has been announced.
- A debate will be held on September 25 at Confederation Secondary School with the Nickel Belt Candidates in the upcoming Provincial election.
- Students will participate in a mock vote following the debate
- Students are now in the new Valley View Public School. The grand opening will be set for the spring.

## **7. Next Meeting Date**

- Tuesday, October 9, 2007
- Topic: Finance
- Motion to Adjourn: Dave Muldoon, seconded by Chantal Lacroix