

**Parent Involvement Committee Meeting  
Minutes  
Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016  
Board Office**

**Attendance**

**Sudbury site:**

Jessica Joy, Parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Queen Elizabeth and Lansdowne Public School; Cheryl Ewin, Parent, Valley View Public School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Barrydowne College; Susan Cousineau, Principal, Redwood Acres Public School; Judy Noble, Superintendent; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Chantal Belanger, Nurse, Sudbury & District Health Unit; Adam Pitre, Parent, Larchwood Public School; Erum Iqbal, Parent, Ernie Checkeris Public School; Tonya Marcotte, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Dahnja Schoengen, Parent, Levack Public School.

**Manitoulin Site:**

N/A

**Espanola Site:** Dan Koziar, Vice-Principal, A.B. Ellis Public School; Jennifer Tilston, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School

**Regrets:** Karla Allen, Parent, Lasalle Secondary School / Northeastern Elementary School; Tammy Bergeron, Parent, Levack Public School; David Douglass, Teacher, Algonquin Public School; Tara Labranche-Brosseau, Parent, Queen Elizabeth II Public School and Lansdowne Public School; Andrea MacInnes, Parent, Larchwood Public School; Martin Lee, Parent, Alexander Public School; Jason Innis, Parent, Alexander Public School; Alison Bujold, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Tern Bate, Parent, Ernie Checkeris Public School; Bob Clement, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School

**1. Call to Order:** 7 pm

**2. Welcome:** Superintendent Judy Noble

Superintendent Judy Noble welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited PIC members to introduce themselves.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

*Motion: "That the agenda be approved, as presented."*

Moved by: Tonya Marcotte, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Queen Elizabeth and Lansdowne Public School

**Carried**

#### **4. Approval of the Minutes of the PIC Meeting held on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

*Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held on April 5, 2016 be approved, as presented."*

Moved by: Tonya Marcotte, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Queen Elizabeth and Lansdowne Public School

#### **5. Presentations**

##### **Year in Review and Going Forward – Director of Education Norm Blaseg**

Rainbow District School Board is comprised of 35 elementary schools, 9 secondary schools, the Board Office, and other schools/programs. Between 2014 and 2015, the actual enrolment in the Board's elementary schools declined by 98 students. Enrolment decreased by 121 students at the secondary level. As such, the Board needs to respond to the challenges in order to remain viable.

The JK Orientation Nights play a key role in ensuring the Board's viability. Each new child who enrolls with the board has the potential of generating funds for the next 14 years. It is important that parents be ambassadors for the Board and its schools to maintain and grow enrolment.

The Board places teachers in schools based on enrolment projections. Principals use historical data, family information, and feedback from JK Orientation nights to estimate what the enrolment will be for the upcoming school year.

The Ministry of Education provides funding for schools, primarily based on enrolment. Excess pupil space is defined as the number of empty seats in a school or its on-the-ground capacity less enrolment.

There was a discussion regarding possible school consolidations. Consolidations reduce excess pupil space and increase programs that can be offered at the combined school. We need to remember that it is not about bricks and mortar, it is about people.

Director Blaseg also spoke about EQAO results and pass rates. He noted that there was no data for 2015-2016 due to the work to rule, with the exception of the OSSLT.

#### **6. Brainstorming for 2016-2017 Topics**

Members presented topics of interest for the 2016-2017 meetings, including:

- Outdoor Exploration and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classrooms
- Technology in the Classrooms
- Equity in Schools, Character Education and Human Trafficking
- Engaging Parents and Engaging Students in the Community
- Well Being
- Mindfulness Practices
- Native Studies, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom, and Parents with Learning Disabilities
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education
- STEM (Science Technology Education and Math)

- Digital Citizenship
- Internet Safety, School Security, and Building High Self Expectations

The Themes/Topics for the 2016-2017 School Year are as follows:

- Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Annual AGM –Internet Safety, Human Trafficking and Digital Citizenship
- Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 – GAFE
- Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Diversity
- Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Mindfulness (*an alternative date for this meeting will be considered as this is Valentine’s Day*) Alternative date is Tuesday, February 28, 2016.
- Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning
- Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 – Planning Meeting for 2017-2018 School Year

## 7. Other

Judy Noble reminded parents of the Provincial PIC meeting taking place on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at the Holiday Inn on Regent Street from 8:30 am to 4 pm. She asked parents to attend this important event.

### PRO Grant 2016-2017

*Motion: “That the Rainbow District School Board Parent Involvement Committee apply for a Parents Reaching Out Regional Grant to host an engaging speaker on resiliency and well-being.”*

Moved by: Jessica Joy, R.L. Beattie Public School

Seconded by: Cheryl Ewin, Valley View Public School

**Carried**

## 8. Communications Report

### Music Monday

Rainbow Schools celebrated Music Monday on May 2, 2016, the world’s largest single event dedicated to raising awareness for music education.

### Education Week

Rainbow Schools marked Education Week from May 2 to 6, 2016. This year’s theme is Achieving Excellence: Promoting Well-Being. A list of activities is available on the Board website.

### Kindergarten orientation for children starting school

All Rainbow Schools will offer Kindergarten orientation sessions for children starting school this fall as well as their parents/guardians. Parents who have not registered their children still have time to do so and can reserve their spot for Kindergarten orientation by calling their nearest Rainbow School. Registrations for September 2016 will also be accepted at the Kindergarten sessions.

At the orientation sessions, families will have an opportunity to connect with Kindergarten teachers, early childhood educators, school personnel and staff from community agencies. They will also meet other children starting school this fall. Check the Board website for dates and times.

### **Help Central Manitoulin get an outdoor classroom**

Central Manitoulin Public School is calling on all citizens to “vote, vote, vote” so they have a chance to win an outdoor learning classroom through the CST Inspired Minds Learning Project. Prizes are awarded based on a combination of popular online voting and a judging panel. The Top 20 vote getting ideas move on to the judging round. Projects are judged on innovation, impact and viability.

Voting takes place from May 2 to May 16, 2016 at the following links:

<http://www.learningproject.cst.org/ideas/963facebook.com/centralmanitoulinps>

### **Franco-Rainbow Lip Sync Contest**

Close to 400 French Immersion and Core French students in Rainbow Schools will take center stage to participate in the Franco-Rainbow competition. The lip sync contest with French songs will take place on Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at Valley View Public School.

### **Stand Up, Speak Out Conference**

Stand Up! Speak Out! is the theme of the 2016 Students Leading Students Conference being presented by the Rainbow District School Board Student Senate on Wednesday, May 4 and Thursday, May 5, 2016. The conference will take place from 9 am to 3:30 pm at the Cambrian College Student Centre. Guest speakers include medical doctor and life coach, Dr. Susan Biali, and human potential and leadership expert, Randy Taylor. Both speakers will share their experience with success, personal growth, and how to strive for a better future. The conference will bring together approximately 100 students from Rainbow secondary schools.

### **A.B. Ellis Public School hosts Terry Fox Run on May 5th**

A 33-year long tradition in the Espanola community returns on Thursday, May 5, 2016 when the students and staff from A.B. Ellis Public School host their annual Terry Fox Run at 11:30 am. The A.B. Ellis Terry Fox Run has yielded \$392,298.85 in research dollars over the past 33 years.

### **Sudbury Regional Heritage Fair**

Students in Rainbow Schools will participate in the 19th Annual Sudbury Regional Heritage Fair on Wednesday, May 18 and Thursday, May 19 in the Alumni Hall at Laurentian University. Through the years, student presentations have been as varied as the number of participants, drawing on a wide range of creative project formats, including dramatic and musical presentations, videos, posters, maps, essays, and 3-D displays, often with props and costumes.

### **Sudbury Secondary School honours Joe Drago on May 22**

On Sunday, May 22 at 2 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium of Sudbury Secondary School, the spotlight shines brightly on Joe Drago, founding Principal of the school's Performing Arts Program. Audience members who attend the Variety Show celebrating the Program's 30th Anniversary Reunion will share a special moment with Drago as he takes to the stage for the naming of the Joe Drago Arts Hallway.

## **Entrepreneurship Fair**

Rainbow District School Board will host the annual Entrepreneurship Fair at R.L. Beattie Public School in the gymnasium on Thursday, June 9, 2016. Some 45 innovative businesses will be on display while students from Rainbow Schools sell their products and services. A panel of judges will evaluate the displays to select the winners for Best Business Plan, Best Service, Best Product and Best Presentation. Participants will vote amongst themselves to select the winner of the Young Entrepreneur Award. The awards ceremony will take place at 1:30 pm.

## **Manitoulin Secondary School receives technology grant from CIM**

Manitoulin Secondary School has received a \$1,600 grant from the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) Sudbury Branch to purchase small engines and various tools for the school's technology classrooms.

Copies of the book "176 Ways to Involve Parents – Practical Strategies for Partnering with Families" by Betty Boulton were available at the meeting.

## **9. School Announcements**

Susan Cousineau, Redwood Acres PS – Follow the school's Facebook page to keep up to date on all the upcoming events at the school.

Dahnja Schoengen, Levack PS – The grade 7 and 8 students will be holding their Entrepreneurship Fair. The school is participating in the spring clean up. Students are fundraising for end of year school trips. Little Caesar Pizza kits is just one of the fundraising ventures.

Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Barrydowne College – From June 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup>, student artwork will be displayed at the Cambrian College Art show.

Denis Plouffe, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School – Students are creating Terrariums for Mother's Day. The school will be holding a BBQ to raise money and awareness for Autism.

Dan Koziar, A.B. Ellis PS - The school has a full schedule for Education Week. Today was Music Monday. Tomorrow is STEM Day. Thursday the school will hold their 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Terry Fox Walk. (The school has raised over \$400,000 over the last 33 years at this event). To cap off the week, Friday will be family literacy day.

Adam Pitre, Larchwood PS – The school will be holding their sixth annual talent show. The kindergarten students have begun planting seeds for the garden. The school will be holding their first ever Fun Fair.

Tonya Marcotte, Lansdowne PS – The FNMI club held its wellness day, and it was a great success. The keynote speaker was a former Olympic Boxer. In June, the school will be holding its annual Pow Wow.

Bernadette Rémillard, Queen Elizabeth PS – Students in Grades 4 to 6 went to the ARC Climbing Centre thanks to the students at Algonquin PS who covered the cost of the trip. Crosstown

cancelled their upcoming Test Drive event. Better Beginnings Better Futures will be holding a Mother's Day luncheon on Sunday at the school. The school has purchased additional chrome books for classroom use.

Jessica Joy, R.L. Beattie PS – Students in JK through Grade 4 participated in reading towns in an attempt to break a world record for the most people reading the same book at the same time. The school continues to prepare for the transfer of the Grade 7 and 8 students to the new wing at Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School. Students are very excited about the move. On June 4<sup>th</sup>, the school will be holding its annual Fun Fair. The students have begun a Chess Club.

**10. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.**

*Motion: "That the meeting be adjourned."*

Moved by: Tonya Marcotte, Lansdowne Public School

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday, October 18, 2016**

**Sudbury Secondary School, 154 College Street**

**Topic: Annual General Meeting of School Councils**