

**Parent Involvement Committee Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, April 4, 2017
Board Office**

Attendance

Sudbury site:

Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Jason Innis, Parent, Alexander Public School; Karry Strelzki, Parent, Lively District Secondary School; Stacey Paajanen, Parent, Lively District Secondary School; Kelly Lemieux, Parent, Valley View Public School; Jamie Roque, Parent, Pinecrest Public School; Sara Pidgen, ETFO representative; Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Heather Downey, Vice-Principal, Sudbury Secondary School; and Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Barrydowne College.

Espanola Site:

Trustee Bob Clement; Dan Koziar, Vice-Principal, A.B. Ellis Public School; Jennifer Tilston, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School

Manitoulin Site:

N/A

1. Call to Order: 7 pm

2. Welcome: Vice-Chair Natasha Delaney

PIC Chair Dahnja Schoengen sent her regrets. Vice-Chair Natasha Delaney welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited PIC members to introduce themselves.

**3. Presentation on 21st Century Learning
by Ron Hodkinson, Principal, Cyril Varney Public School**

Principal Ron Hodkinson indicated that Cyril Varney Public School has been transformed into a 21st century school. Desks have been replaced with sofas, custom-designed tables and cozy seating areas. The entire school is infused with technology, from iPads, to Chromebooks, to Smartboards, to green screens, to Apple TVs.

21st century learning is an innovative approach to education that fosters collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity and co-operation. The space, technology and tools are designed to nurture and support these critical skills. All students have their own website as an online portfolio of their work as they progress from grade to grade.

Cyril Varney Public School runs a YouTube Channel called The Varney View. Students produce, write, host and edit the segments. They plan, organize and contact individuals and organizations to come in to be interviewed. A news set, with proper lighting, boom microphones and a teleprompter, provides a real-life experience.

In the MakerSpace, students come in and work on various projects. It's a think tank for creating ideas and bringing them to life. Students are woodworking, sewing, crocheting, coding, programming motherboards and working on robotics. The school also acquired a laser cutter, which has proven to be quite popular. Students use AutoCAD to design. Cyril Varney Public School makes use of social media to share its daily activities, including Facebook, Twitter and Storify.

In the future, Cyril Varney Public School plans to purchase more Chromebooks and iPads, expand 21st century professional learning, and make greater use of student technology in the classroom (ie. turn on your devices). Bingo has proven to be a successful way to raise funds to invest in technology.

Parents had an opportunity to ask questions throughout the presentation. They expressed an interest in having more 21st century teaching and learning classrooms throughout the Board. Superintendent Noble indicated that the Board continues to invest in professional learning to support teachers with implementation.

4. Approval of the Agenda

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

Moved by: Kelly Lemieux, Valley View Public School

Seconded by: Heather Downey, Sudbury Secondary School

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes of the PIC Meeting held on February 28, 2017

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held on February 28, 2017 be approved, as presented."

Moved by: Denis Plouffe, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Seconded by: Jason Innis, Alexander Public School

Carried

6. Communications Report

Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor of Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning delivered the communications report.

Students from Rainbow Schools will relive an important part of Canada's history when they attend the ceremony commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge on Sunday, April 9, 2017. Students will also visit the new Vimy Visitor Education Centre near the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France. A total of 42 students from Lasalle Secondary School, Lockerby Composite School and Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School are participating in the educational excursion. Their visit to Europe began on Monday, April 3, 2017 with a tour of London and will end on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 with a tour of Amsterdam.

Rainbow District School Board's sixth International Dinner and Silent Auction in support of the Joan Mantle Music Trust will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2017 at 6 pm at the ParkSide Older Adult Centre, 140 Durham Street, in Sudbury. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of new musical instruments and equipment in Rainbow Schools. The menu will feature a wide variety of foods that represent Sudbury's multicultural heritage. Musical entertainment will showcase talented students from Rainbow secondary schools, featuring an all-Canadian program in celebration of our nation's 150th anniversary. For tickets, visit rainbowschools.ca

Confederation Secondary School wants the community to be part of a conversation on mental health. The school will host a guest speaker from Jack.org on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 7 pm and all parents/guardians and students (ages 14 and up) are welcome to attend. The free presentation will increase knowledge of mental health, including signs of distress and resources for help; equip adult audiences with tools to engage young people in conversations around their mental health; decrease silence and stigma around mental health in communities; and inspire audiences to become leaders for change in their communities. This event is sponsored by a Parents Reaching Out Grant from the Ministry of Education's Parent Engagement Office.

A number of students in Grades 7 to 12 from Rainbow Schools will participate in the Sudbury Regional Science Fair being held in the Alumni Hall at Laurentian University on Saturday, April 8 and Sunday, April 9, 2017. The students won the honour of competing at the regional level following the Rainbow District School Board annual Science Fair held at Lockerby Composite School on Thursday, March 9, 2017. Sudbury Regional Science Fair projects will be selected for the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Regina, Saskatchewan from May 18 to 20, 2017.

Staff and students in Rainbow Schools will wear pink on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 to mark Day of Pink, the International Day against bullying, discrimination, homophobia, transphobia and transmisogyny in schools and communities. It's part of Rainbow District School Board's ongoing efforts to build community and promote inclusion.

Rainbow Schools will celebrate Earth Day on April 22, 2017.
Concours Franco-Rainbow will be Wednesday, April 26, 2017.
Music Monday will take place on Monday, May 1, 2017.
Education Week will take place May 1 to 5, 2017.
Visit rainbowschools.ca for details.

7. School Announcements

Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School – Blacklight tickets are now on sale.

Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Barrydowne College – Barrydowne College will have its largest group of graduates to date, with more than 100 students on track to earn an Ontario Secondary School diploma.

Heather Downey, Sudbury Secondary School – Students are engaged in collaborative enquiries. Auditions/registrations for incoming Grade 9 students is underway. It's production time, with a number of events in drama, dance and music. It's also a busy time for spring sports.

Kelly Lemieux, Valley View Public School – The school raised \$4,500 from a winter raffle. The fun fair will take place on April 27, 2017. Tulips planted in celebration of Canada's 150th birthday will soon be in full bloom.

Denis Plouffe, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School – CVDCS will host a craft show on April 15, 2017 to raise funds to revitalize the sports program, particularly the football team. A health wellness fair will take place on April 26, 2017. There will be a plant sale in the school greenhouse in May. An autism event is being planned to bring awareness to the community. The school will host a ride program with Belanger Ford as a fundraiser.

Jamie Roque, Pinecrest Public School – This is the final year for Pinecrest Public School as Grade 7 and 8 students will be in Confederation Secondary School this fall. The fun fair was a fun day for students in the school. A grade 7 and 8 movie, spearheaded by teacher Scott Zoldy, will be showcased at Cineplex. The

school will soon host a book fair and students will participate in the Science Fair and Heritage Fair. Sports and music teams have won a number of top honours.

Karry Strelezki and Stacey Paajanen, Lively District Secondary School – Grade 7 and 8 students hosted a movie festival with popcorn. Students earned impressive honours in music and sports. There will be a 60th anniversary reunion for LDSS the July 1st weekend, celebrating Canada's 150th birthday.

Sara Pidgen, Princess Anne Public School – Princess Anne Public School raised the flag for autism awareness on April 3, 2017. The school hosted an early Pink Day on April 5, 2017, welcoming Mayor Brian Bigger as well as a guest speaker.

Jason Innis, Alexander Public School – Alexander Public School surveyed parents last fall and will do so again to obtain feedback on what the School Council should invest in. Coding and technology were highlighted. Alexander Public School will host a yard sale on May 27, 2017. Students are also participating in track and field.

Dan Koziar, A.B. Ellis Public School - A student at A.B. Ellis Public School won the Northeast Division in the Legion Public Speaking Competition. The school hosted a successful Entrepreneurship Fair and day for the community. The school raises close to \$8,000 annually for the Terry Fox Run. A.B. Ellis will host a spring talent show in May.

8. New business

Natasha Delaney provided an update on events for Autism Ontario, including a successful fundraiser at Boston Pizza on April 7, 2017, the raising of the flag at City Hall, and a presentation at Adamsdale Public School. The Annual General Meeting for the local chapter of Autism Ontario will take place on May 17, 2017 at 6 pm at The Workplace, 1191 Lansing Avenue, Unit 1 (behind Food Basics on Lasalle.)

Natasha Delaney indicated that the Our Children Our Future Champions for Children luncheon will be held on April 26, 2017.

PIC members were reminded of the opportunity to attend the PIC Symposium being presented by the Ministry of Education in Sudbury on Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 9 am to 4 pm.

PIC members discussed possible topics for a Parents Reaching Out Regional Grant for 2017-2018. PIC members suggested a Saturday workshop featuring speakers on mental health (including supports), diversity (to build awareness and foster acceptance among parents) and 21st century learning (including how to track student activity online). The deadline for applications is May 25, 2017.

9. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Motion: "That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Denis Plouffe, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Board Office

Topic: Planning meeting for the 2017-2018 school year