

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 3, 2018
Rainbow District School Board Centre for Education
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury

Attendance

Sudbury site:

Natasha Delaney, parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Stacy Paajanen, parent, Lively District Secondary School; Karry Strelezki, parent, Lively District Secondary School; Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools; Shannon Boland, parent, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Sara Pidgeon, ETFO representative; Sherri Conley, teacher, Princess Anne Public School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Barrydowne College; Denis Plouffe, parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Bernadette Rémillard, parent, Lansdowne Public School; Richard Eberhardt, parent, Walden Public School and Kim Nadeau, public health nurse, Public Health Sudbury & Districts.

Espanola Site:

Nil

Manitoulin Site:

Alicia McGraw, parent, Little Current Public School; Christy Case, Principal, Little Current Public School and Heather Pennie, Vice-Principal, Little Current Public School.

1. Call to Order: 7 pm

2. Welcome: Chair Richard Eberhardt welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited PIC members to introduce themselves.

3. Presentation:

MyBlueprint, by Karen Burgess, Coordinator - Innovation in Learning

MyBlueprint is a web-based tool for students in Grades 7 to 12. All students should have a clear plan for their studies and future career. MyBlueprint helps students chart pathways, map post-secondary choices and explore careers. This online tool supports students in their learning and life plans through surveys, portfolios and goal setting. Through the online tools, students get to know who they are and what they want to be when they graduate from secondary school. Students can streamline information on occupations using filters like Sudbury only. The presentation included videos showing students using and talking about the benefits of MyBlueprint. Karen Burgess showed parents a number of screen captures of MyBlueprint. Parents can send an email to request access to their child's account. Students have 24/7 access to MyBlueprint. Students can also talk to Guidance Counsellors.

4. Approval of the Agenda

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

Moved by: Denis Plouffe, parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School
Seconded by Natasha Delaney, parent, Jean Hanson Public School

Carried

Judy Noble indicated that she reached out to secondary schools regarding the sharing of prom dresses. This initiative is co-ordinated at the school level. There is no need to duplicate this effort at the board level. For this reason, this suggestion was not added to the agenda.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the PIC Meeting held on February 27, 2018

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2018 be approved, as presented."

Moved by: Bernadette Rémillard, parent, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: by Natasha Delaney, parent, Jean Hanson Public School

Carried

6. For Parents By Parents Conference on Saturday, April 28, 2018

The organizing committee for the conference met prior to the PIC meeting. Richard Eberhardt shared that the conference will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 10 am to 2 pm at Lockerby Composite School. Dr. Greg Wells will deliver the keynote address on eat, sleep, move, think. Following the keynote address, participants will have the opportunity to take part in two of the following workshops – Growth Mindset: Building resiliency in children; Mental Health: Supporting wellness; Equity and Inclusion: Transgender 101; and Internet Safety: What parents need to know. He invited PIC members to share the information and encourage parents/guardians to attend. Registration will be through Eventbrite. While the event is open to the public, it is primarily for Rainbow Schools. There was a discussion about how we may engage parents in Espanola and Manitoulin. All parents are invited to attend in person. It was suggested that PIC consider the possibility of offering busing if there were sufficient interest.

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

Accomplished speaker and author, Dr. Greg Wells, will be in Sudbury on Saturday, April 28, 2018 to headline a conference for parents by parents. Eat. Sleep. Move. Think. Everyone is invited to come explore The Ripple Effect and its impact on the brain.

School Year Calendar for 2018-2019 is now online.

Rainbow District School Board hosted its annual Science Fair on March 8th. A total of 41 projects were selected for the Sudbury Regional Science Fair to be held at Laurentian University on April 7th and 8th.

Grade 10 students will write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. We remind all Grade 10 students to be at school on April 10th prepared to write the test. The OSSLT is a graduation requirement administered by EQAO.

Staff and students in Rainbow Schools will wear pink on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 to mark Day of Pink, the International Day against bullying, discrimination, homophobia and transphobia in schools and communities. It's part of Rainbow District School Board's ongoing efforts to build community and promote inclusion.

Grade 7 and 8 students in Rainbow Schools will participate in the Math, Science and Technology Olympics on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at Science North in Sudbury.

Brenda and Jamie Arrowsmith, a mother/son duo who are well known musicians and music educators, have been selected as the 2018 recipients of the Joan Mantle Music Trust Community Award. The awards will be presented at the International dinner and Silent Auction in support of the Trust on Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 6 pm at the ParkSide Older Adult Centre in Sudbury. The evening will mark the 10th anniversary of the Joan Mantle Music Trust, which has raised more than \$220,000 since its inception.

Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School will host an interactive workshop about the connection between emotions and learning on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7 pm.

Guest speaker, Angie DeMarco of the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury, will discuss the association between a student's ability to self-regulate while learning in a structured educational environment.

Innovative projects are being implemented in Rainbow Schools thanks to funding provided through the Ministry of Education's Student Voice strategy. Rainbow Schools will share a total of \$16,930 in SpeakUp Project grants in the 2017-2018 school year.

8. School Announcements

Shannon Boland of Lo-Ellen Park secondary school indicated that students had a successful trip to Ecuador.

ETFO representative Sara Pidgen reminded parents about the presentation by parenting expert Barbara Colorosso on April 16, 2018 at Cambrian College at 6 pm. ETFO will host a public forum with keynote speaker Annie Kidder of People for Education. The Building Better Schools Community Forum will take place at the Lexington Hotel on Brady Street on Wednesday, May 23, 2018 from 6 pm to 8 pm.

Bernadette Rémillard of Lansdowne Public School indicated that students are involved in many activities from a basketball tournament to student led conferences to Heritage Fair, to the Big Crunch healthy eating challenge to the planning of a Grade 8 trip to Canada's Wonderland, including fundraising. Queen Elizabeth Public School is also hosting a number of events. Students are engaged in coding as part of 21st Century learning. School Council raised funds to present an award or membership at the end of the school year to reward a Grade 6 student for their great work.

Natasha Delaney of Jean Hanson Public School spoke on behalf of Autism Ontario. As the President, she thanked Lockerby Composite School for providing space for the Sudbury chapter. She also talked about the autism celebration at the Caruso Club on April 4, 2018.

Stacy Paajanen and Karry Strelezki of Lively District Secondary School talked about an upcoming presentation made possible with a Parents Reaching Out grant. The School Council from Lively District Secondary School will host information sessions aimed at empowering parents on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. This free event will take place in the school gym from 6:30 pm to 9 pm. Doors open at 6 pm. The information sessions will explore a number of topics – life/school balance, excessive screen time, lack of sleep, overscheduling, teens and drugs, informed consent, and online safety. Parents/guardians will also be introduced to the Google Classroom platform. The parents also praised the school for ongoing success in athletics and academics.

Denis Plouffe announced that Chelmsford Valley District Composite School will host its second annual benefit concert in support of autism on Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 12 pm to 6 pm in the school parking lot. He also highlighted other school events – greenhouse plant sales, a health and wellness conference, launch of sports teams and the most successful fundraising dance ever. Parents are anxious to see plans for the revitalized school.

Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal of Barrydowne College, said 22 students are on track to graduate. The school is open until 7 pm on Tuesdays for students who work during the day. On Friday, May 11th from 10 am to 1:30 pm, students from Barrydowne College will create original works of art at St. Andrew the Apostle Church with ministers, priests and representatives of the Northeast Ministerial Association. Completed art will be auctioned off on Saturday, May 12, 2018 at 3 pm. Proceeds will benefit the art program at Barrydowne College, and the young artists to help support their talents. A special thank you to Gerry Loughheed Jr., who has generously volunteered to be the auctioneer for the event.

9. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Motion: "That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Denis Plouffe, parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Centre for Education 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury

Topic: Planning Meeting for the 2018-2019 school year