

**Parent Involvement Committee Annual General Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 6 pm
Sudbury Secondary School – Sheridan Auditorium
with video link to
Manitoulin Secondary School**

Attendance

Sudbury site:

Doreen Dewar, Chair, Rainbow District School Board; Judy Hunda, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Judy Kosmerly, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Kerrie St. Jean, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Norm Blaseg, Director of Education; Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools; Michèle Smethurst, Executive Assistant; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Dave Kitching, Assistant Manager of Information Services; Michael McKelvey, Information Services; Colleen McDonald, Principal of Special Education Programs and Services; Lesley Fisher, Principal of Program; Kim Boulanger, Principal, Churchill Public School; Jennifer Harvey, Principal, Lansdowne Public School; Coleen Eberlein, Vice-Principal, Queen Elizabeth Public School; Melanie Bertrand, Vice-Principal, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Tricia Hatfield, Parent, Cyril Varney Public School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Allison Andlar, Parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Denise Sheppard, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Angie Vachon, Parent, Valley View Public School; Bridget Erwin, Parent, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Tara Labranche-Brosseau, Parent, Queen Elizabeth and Lansdowne Public Schools; Nav Mehta, parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Greg Mumford, Parent, Walden Public School; Stacy Paajanen, Parent, Lively District Secondary School; Kara Farrell-Menard and Laura Young, Queen Elizabeth Public School; Cherie Daniels, Parent, Markstay Public School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; and Kim Nadeau, Public Health Sudbury & Districts.

Manitoulin Secondary School site:

Margaret Stringer, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Jamie Mohamed, Principal, Manitoulin Secondary School; Christy Case, Principal, Little Current Public School; Shelley Tamura, Vice-Principal, Little Current Public School; Dawn Dawson, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Dawn Noble McCann, Teacher, Manitoulin Secondary School; Suzanne White, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Carrie Spry, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; and Karen McGraw, Educational Assistant, Manitoulin Secondary School

Call to order 6 pm

1. Welcome from Superintendent of Schools Judy Noble

Superintendent Judy Noble welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting. She reviewed the agenda for the evening and introduced members of the 2018-2019 PIC Executive. Superintendent Noble also introduced administrators, teachers and Trustees who participated in PIC. She acknowledged all of the parents who attended PIC meetings and thanked them for their interest and support.

The purpose of the Parent Involvement Committee is to give School Councils an opportunity to network, to share ideas, to provide input and to learn from Board and community guest speakers.

2. Greetings from Board Chair Doreen Dewar

Board Chair Doreen Dewar delivered greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees. She introduced fellow Trustees of the Board. Chair Dewar welcomed parents, staff and the trustee who joined the AGM via video conference from Manitoulin Secondary School. Chair Dewar thanked all PIC members for their contribution and commended Stacy Paajanen, Chair, and Natasha Delaney, Vice-Chair, for their leadership. Chair Dewar extended a sincere thank you to parents/guardians involved in School Councils as well as the Parent Involvement Committee. She also acknowledged parents/guardians who have expressed an interest in PIC going forward and thanked them for answering the call to serve.

Chair Dewar told a story of a boy, the wind and a kite. Each thought they were responsible for flying the kite. The boy said it was he, as he built the kite, the wind said without it blowing, the kite would never fly and the kite's tail said it offered stability without which the kite would come crashing to the ground. The moral of the story is that each member of the team plays a role in moving projects forward and meeting goals.

She concluded by saying when supportive parents, caring educators and active community members work together – everyone benefits. She commended all members of PIC for working with us in our shared goal of inspiring success for all students so they, like the kite, will soar to new heights.

3. Greetings from Director of Education Norm Blaseg

Director Blaseg welcomed everyone to the first Parent Involvement Committee meeting of the 2019-2020 school year. He stated that we are proud of our successes and continue to set high expectations that will challenge students to dig deeper, expand their knowledge and make connections to the world around them.

Director Blaseg highlighted some key initiatives that have taken place in Rainbow Schools, including summer learning programs, summer school, Indigenous summer school and Kindergarten Camp. Mental health and overall student wellness continue to be a priority. The Mental Health Strategic Plan, which was adopted by the Board last year, guides our work in this area. He also talked about the *Parents as Partners: Learning at Home* series. This monthly newsletter for students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 offers tips and activities for families to engage in learning together.

In closing, Director Blaseg stated that he is extremely proud of the accomplishments and successes inside and outside of our classrooms. What also makes Rainbow Schools great places to be are the wonderful parents and guardians who support what we do in school, at home and in the community.

He thanked all parents/guardians who participate in School Councils calling them VIPs, very important partners in education. He wished School Councils a great school year.

4. 2019-2020 Election of PIC Membership

Superintendent Judy Noble explained that at the AGM, a slate of up to 10 candidates is approved for the PIC Executive. According to the Terms of Reference for PIC, the membership includes one representative from each of the Espanola and Manitoulin Island areas, and eight representatives from the Sudbury area. This year, there were no nominations from Espanola. A slate of seven candidates was presented for PIC, one of which was not in attendance. All nominees in attendance were acclaimed and will take part in the PIC Executive for the 2019-2020 school year.

Superintendent Noble presented the members of the PIC Executive as follows:

Tricia Hatfield, Cyril Varney Public School
Denise Sheppard, Manitoulin Secondary School
Angelina Kasunich, Lockerby Composite School
Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School
Allison Andler, R.L. Beattie Public School
Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Superintendent Noble introduced this year's non-parent PIC members:

Judy Kosmerly and Kerrie St. Jean (Trustees)
Judy Noble (Superintendent of Schools)
Nicole Charette (Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications)
Kristina Rivard Gobbo (Principal)
Dan Koziar (Principal)
Melanie Bertrand (Vice-Principal)
Sara Pidgen (Elementary Teacher)

5. Meeting dates for 2019-2020

Superintendent Judy Noble reviewed the schedule of PIC meetings for the remainder of the school year:

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7 pm
Topic: E-Learning and the Google Classroom

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 7 pm
Topic: Autism and Special Needs Supports

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7 pm
Topic: Financial Literacy

Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 7 pm
Topic: Specialist High Skills Major - Red Seal

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 7 pm
Topic: Planning Meeting for the 2020-2021 school year

Judy Noble thanked everyone for attending. Participants were invited to stay for a screening of the award-winning documentary "*Screenagers – Growing up in the Digital Age*". The screening was followed by a discussion with Moderator Markus Schwabe, Host of CBC Sudbury's Morning North. The panel included the Mental Health Lead for Rainbow Schools, a representative from Public Health, and a technology expert from Laurentian University.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 - 7 pm
Rainbow District School Board Centre for Education
Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
Topic: E-Learning and the Google Classroom