

**Parent Involvement Committee Annual General Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 6 pm
Via Google Meet**

Attendance

Sudbury site:

Doreen Dewar, Chair, Rainbow District School Board; Dena Morrison, Vice-Chair, Rainbow District School Board; Judy Kosmerly, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Anita Gibson, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Bruce Bourget, Director of Education; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Allison Andlar, Parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Sara Kitlar-Pothier, Parent, Churchill Public School; Noni Perritt, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Denise Sheppard, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Amanda Fyke, Parent, Walden Public School; Ashley Malley, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School; Jessica Sauvé, Parent, Markstay Public School; Erica Jenkins, Parent, Westmount Avenue Public School; Tricia Hatfield, Parent, Cyril Varney Public School; Shelley Tamura, Principal, Central Manitoulin Public School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Espanola High School; Nadia Berardelli, Principal, Markstay Public School; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Michael McKelvey, Information Services.

Call to order 6 pm

1. Welcome from Superintendent of Schools Lesley Fisher

Superintendent Lesley Fisher welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

She reviewed the agenda for the evening and introduced members of the 2020-2021 PIC Executive. Superintendent Fisher 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.

She also review the topics covered during the 2020-2021 School Year:

October 20, 2020:	Education in the Era of COVID-19
December 1, 2020:	Recovery and Resilience
January 5, 2021:	Financial Literacy
February 23, 2021:	Specialist High Skills Major - Red Seal
May 11, 2021:	Planning Meeting for the 2021-2022
June 2, 2021:	Safe Schools and Violence Threat Risk Assessment

2. Greetings from Board Chair Doreen Dewar

Board Chair Doreen Dewar extended a warm welcome to parents, guardians, and staff who were joining the meeting online. She delivered greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Chair Dewar thanked parents/guardians for volunteering to serve and commended them for their contribution. In the school community, School Councils provide wonderful opportunities for parents and guardians to support their child's education and the education of all children. At the Board level, the Parent Involvement Committee brings members of School Councils together to network, share ideas and provide input.

Chair Dewar commended Allison Andlar, Chair, and Stacy Paajanen, 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 indicated that educational partners will have an opportunity to provide input into the Board's five-year strategic plan this fall. Director of Education, Bruce Bourget, will lead the consultations. She encouraged parents/guardians to participate. She thanked parents/guardians for their patience, understanding and support throughout the pandemic, saying you have demonstrated tremendous resiliency which is a life skill we continue to nurture in our students.

Chair Dewar told the story of individual rocks that had gone into a tumbler and came out a lot differently because they worked together to create something special.... something they could not have achieved on their own. She acknowledged that this is the beauty of teamwork. Like polished stones, parents and guardians, caring educators and active community members are partners in education working together for student success.

3. Greetings from Director of Education Bruce Bourget

Director of Education Bruce Bourget welcomed everyone to the first Parent Involvement Committee meeting of the 2021-2022 school year. He began by acknowledging parents and guardians for their ongoing support. As Director of Education, he indicated that it is an honour to work on behalf of children and all students in Rainbow Schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin.

The process of renewing the Board's five-year strategic plan is underway. The document, called Strategic Directions, defines the vision, mission, values and priorities of the Board and its schools. It's an important document because it outlines who we are, what we do, what we value and what we want to achieve.... together.

The Board is seeking input from its many stakeholders, including parents and guardians. Director Bourget invited parents/guardians to attend an upcoming consultation session to provide input - What do you think the Board's priorities should be? How might we further support mental health and well-being, student success and achievement, equity and inclusion, and Truth and Reconciliation? Director Bourget said putting priorities into focus will ensure the Board allocates resources on what matters the most.

Director Bourget said the Board is thrilled to re-open its schools with health and safety protocols. Whether children are learning in person or online, the pandemic has certainly called on all of us to adapt. Resiliency is an important life skill and he is very pleased that Dr. Michael Ungar is the featured speaker this evening. Dr. Ungar is a leading authority on the topic and a great story-teller.

4. 2021-2022 Election of PIC Membership

Superintendent Fisher 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.

Prior to the meeting, nominees were invited from all schools.

Superintendent Fisher presented the slate of nominees, as follows:

Sara Kitlar-Pothier – Churchill Public School
Tricia Hatfield – Cyril Varney Public School
Natasha Delaney – Jean Hanson Public School
Noni Perritt – Lansdowne Public School
Denise Sheppard – Manitoulin Secondary School
Melissa Gladu – Northeastern Elementary School

Ashley Malley – Redwood Acres Public School
Chalene Sutherland – S. Geiger Public School
Amanda Fyke – Walden Public School
Erica Jenkins – Westmount Avenue Public School

She noted that the representatives for Northeastern and S. Geiger were not in attendance at the AGM. Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School was added to the slate for the PIC Executive.

The PIC Executive was acclaimed as follows:

Sara Kitlar-Pothier – Churchill Public School
Tricia Hatfield – Cyril Varney Public School
Natasha Delaney – Jean Hanson Public School
Noni Perritt – Lansdowne Public School
Denise Sheppard – Manitoulin Secondary School
Ashley Malley – Redwood Acres Public School
Bernadette Rémillard – Sudbury Secondary School
Amanda Fyke – Walden Public School
Erica Jenkins – Westmount Avenue Public School

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

Judy Kosmerly (Trustee)
Lesley Fisher (Superintendent of Schools)
Nicole Charette (Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications)
Kristina Rivard-Gobbo (Principal)
Nadia Berardelli (Principal)
Sheila James (Vice-Principal)
Sherri Conley (Elementary Teacher)

5. Meeting dates for 2021-2022

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

October 19, 2021: Nurturing Resilience with Dr. Michael Ungar
December 14, 2021: Effective School Councils
January 4, 2022: Mental Health Strategic Plan
February 8, 2022: Equity and Inclusion/Census/Survey Results
April 12, 2022: Outdoor Classrooms
May 10, 2022: Planning for the 2022-2023 school year

Superintendent Fisher thanked everyone for attending the Annual General Meeting. Participants were invited to stay for a presentation on nurturing resilience through strong family, school and community connections with Dr. Michael Ungar.

Dr. Michael Ungar is a Family Therapist and Professor of Social Work at Dalhousie University where he holds the Canada Research Chair in Child, Family and Community Resilience. His research on resilience around the world and across cultures has made him one of the best-known scholars in the field. He the author of 17 books for parents, educators, mental health professionals, and employers, including his most recent work Change Your World: The Science of Resilience and the True Path to Success, a book for adults experiencing stress at work and at home, Working with Children and Youth with Complex Needs: 20 Skills to Build Resilience, a book for counselors, and I Still Love You: Nine Things Troubled Kids Need from their

Parents, a guide for parents seeking to build their children's resilience. His blog, Nurturing Resilience, can be read on Psychology Today's website.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 - 7 pm

Via Google Meet

Topic: Strategic Directions and Effective School Councils

Official