

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 7 pm
Via Google Meet

Attendance

Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Ashley Malley, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School; Shannon Ketchabaw, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Bridget Erwin, Parent, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Meredith Coulis, ETFO representative; Nadia Berardelli, Principal, Markstay Public School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Espanola High School; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Doreen Dewar, Trustee; Judy Kosmerly, Trustee; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Call to Order: 7 pm

1. Welcome

Vice-Chair Bernadette Rémillard chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Chair Natasha Delaney joined the meeting shortly thereafter.

2. Approval of the agenda

"That the agenda for the meeting of May 10, 2022 be approved."

Moved by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Seconded by: Sheila James, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Carried

3. Approval of Minutes

"That the minutes of the meeting on April 12, 2022 be approved."

Moved by: Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Espanola High School

Seconded by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Carried

4. Brainstorming for 2022-2023

Lesley Fisher shared the input gathered from a Google survey regarding possible topics/speakers for the 2022-2023 school year, including the Annual General Meeting.

Superintendent Fisher reviewed the proposed dates of PIC meetings in 2022-2023 and noted that they did not conflict with Board meetings or Strategic Planning meetings. She indicated that PIC meetings are held from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Superintendent Fisher shared a possible presentation for the AGM and asked for feedback.

Feedback was positive.

Superintendent Fisher reviewed the survey topics, in no particular order, and suggested other topics that may be of interest to PIC.

Superintendent Fisher invited Committee members to share more topics as well.

The following topics were proposed - Grade 9 math and destreaming; early reading; inclusion; parent portal; school climate survey and student census; What is PIC?; online graduation requirement with opt-out provision; elementary science curriculum; cyber safety; PRO grants; pre-school transition; and community partners.

PIC members voted on the topics for the 2022-2023 school year, as follows:

October 18, 2022:	Parenting Through The Storm with Ann Douglas
December 13, 2022:	Destreaming
January 17, 2023:	Inclusion
February 28, 2023:	Parent/Guardian Portal
April 11, 2023:	Student Census Data
May 9, 2023:	Planning for the 2023-2024 school year

5. Communications Report

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

Free to Be Me Conference

Rainbow District School Board will host a two-day symposium aimed at creating and enhancing school-based supports for students who are lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual, questioning and two-spirited (LGTBQ2S) as well as students with friends and family members in these communities. Since its inception in 2009, Embrace Diversity: Free to Be Me has expanded to include poverty, race, culture and disabilities. The conference will take place at Cambrian College on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 for Grades 9 to 12 and Thursday, May 19, 2022 for Grades 7 and 8.

Kindergarten Orientation / Registration Sessions

In-person Kindergarten Orientation sessions continue throughout May for children starting school this fall and their parents/guardians. Families will have an opportunity to connect with Kindergarten teachers, early childhood educators and school personnel. They will also meet other children starting school. There is still time to register.

Challenge Meet and Track and Field

Rainbow District School Board will host its Challenge Meet at the Laurentian University Track on June 9th from 10 am to 2 pm. (The rain date is June 10th). Track and field meets will also resume

in June.

In-person graduations

Elementary and secondary schools are busy preparing for in-person graduations. Some will be held at the schools, while others will be held at community locations. Either way, graduations are the most wonderful time of the year. If you have a child graduating, congratulations!

Shad Canada

Four students from Rainbow Schools have been accepted into the prestigious Shad Canada program this summer. Grade 10 student Grace Martin of Lockerby Composite School, Grade 10 student Kate Rantala of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, Grade 11 student Edward Xiong of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, and Grade 11 student Jocelyn Kuntsi of Manitoulin Secondary School. They will join secondary students from across Canada to explore the exciting world of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) and Entrepreneurship.

Kids Caring for Kids

After a two-year hiatus, staff and students at Lockerby Composite School resumed their long-standing tradition of caring and raised \$15,000 through school events for the Pediatric Oncology Program of the Northeast Cancer Centre at Health Sciences North. The school plans to resume its popular door-to-door fundraising campaign in the community this October.

Student Census Update

Consultations have been occurring throughout the school year to finalize the questions for the Student Census that will take place in the fall of 2022. A Steering Committee has been established to review input and guide the process. Participation will be voluntary. Staff members are currently working on communications to build awareness and understanding for the Census, the first of its kind in Rainbow Schools. The Census will gather identity and demographic information. Results will be presented in aggregate form only for groups of students to determine patterns and trends to inform decision making on programs and services to support success for all students. The Census has been mandated by the Ministry of Education.

6. School Announcements

Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School highlighted a number of initiatives including community clean up, ISP class growing plants, the ViewDance competition, students and staff wearing red in honour of missing Indigenous women; students participating in the Learn to Lead Conference; and the May 13th Spring Concert in the Sheridan Auditorium.

Bridget Erwin of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary school said organization for the in-person prom and graduation is going well. Grade 12 DELF exams were completed. The PRO Grant presentation on diversity and inclusion will take place on May 24th. The school also collected donations for Ukrainian families in Sudbury.

Ashley Malley of Redwood Acres Public School said there were a lot of activities taking place at the school from Easter egg hunts, to a fun fair, field trips, butterfly garden, and growing food from seeds. She mentioned the school's Breakfast Club. Ashley Malley indicated she is also involved with the Adamsdale School Council where amazing things are happening. She indicated that the community feel of schools is great to see.

Natasha Delaney of Jean Hanson Public School said the school was hosting its second vaccination clinic.

Denis Plouffe of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School said he welcomed the opportunity to hear Frank DeAngelis and Kevin Cameron speak. The presentations were hosted by the Violence Threat Risk Assessment Steering Committee. Denis Plouffe talked about the stresses and strains on parents/guardians to meet all of the demands in a challenging time. He focused on the importance of mental health and well-being for children and adults.

7. Adjournment

"That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Annual General Meeting

Topic: Parenting Through The Storm with Ann Douglas