

**Parent Involvement Committee Annual General Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6 pm
Sudbury Secondary School Library
with Google links to
Espanola High School and Manitoulin Secondary School**

Call to order 6 pm

Attendance

Sudbury: Bob Clement, Chair, Rainbow District School Board; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Kathy Wachnuk, Superintendent of Schools; Maureen McNamara, Superintendent of Schools; Bruce Bourget, Director of Education; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Ashley Vickman, Parent, Walden Public School; Alisha Basaraba, Parent, Algonquin Road Public School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Jennifer Dalton, Parent, Adamsdale Public School; Tiiija Luttrell, Parent, Larchwood Public School; Meredith Coulas, ETFO rep; Heather Downey, Principal, Sudbury Secondary School; Coleen Eberlein, Principal, Jean Hanson Public School; Katrina Nadeau, Vice-Principal, Redwood Acres Public School; Laurie-Ann Lielkalns, Principal, Barrydowne College; and Sara Bau, Parent, Algonquin Road Public School

Espanola: Melanie Manitowabi, Parent, Kenjewin Teg; Lui Kong, Parent, Espanola High School; Cynthia Townsend, Parent, Espanola High School; and Chris Lewis, Parent, Espanola High School

Manitoulin: Robyn Charbonneau, Parent, Little Current Public School; Janet McCarville, Parent, Assiginack Public School; Holly Hoy, Parent, Assiginack Public School; Joanna Rosenbaum, Parent, Central Manitoulin Public School; Stacy Pfeifer, Parent, Charles C. McLean Public School; Candi Kaiser, Parent, Lakeview/Central Manitoulin Public School; Deanna Hardy, Parent, Charles C. McLean Public School; Emily Weber, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Brandy Smith, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Christine McNaughton, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Sandra Bond, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Shanah Pitawanakwat, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School and Valerie Bailey, Manitoulin Secondary School

1. Welcome from Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle

Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting. Administrators at each site - Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin - read a land acknowledgement. She reviewed the agenda for the evening and introduced members of the 2022-2023 PIC Executive. She also introduced the 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.

2. Greetings from Board Chair Bob Clement

Chair Clement extended a warm welcome to everyone in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin. He indicated that School Councils are among the many ways we build connections between the school and the home and thanked parents/guardians for being involved in their child's school and their child's education.

"What did we do to help our children through school?" he asked. "We were always there." We attended school events, we joined school committees, we went to basketball games and concerts, we set time aside at home for reading, homework and projects. We were actively involved in our children's education - at school and at home. Children demand our time, our attention and our energy. Chair Clement said "being there" just like you are "here" this evening is an important part of being a parent.

He added that sending kids off to school is not the end, it's just the beginning. We want parents to know what's happening at their child's school. We want parents to ask their children what they are learning and how they are doing, and to practice skills - like reading, writing and math - at home. Just like practice makes perfect, parental involvement improves student achievement.

Chair Clement acknowledged Shannon Ketchabaw of A.B. Ellis Public School and Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School for serving as Chair and Vice-Chair of PIC over the last school year. He also acknowledged the parents/guardians who put their names forward to be on PIC in this school year, and thanked them for answering the call to serve.

3. Greetings from Director of Education Bruce Bourget

Director Bourget thanked parents/guardians for attending the PIC AGM. He said their presence sends a strong message - you value education – and that goes a long way in contributing to our shared purpose.... *Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.*

He said it is an honour for him to work on behalf of children and all of the students that we serve in Rainbow Schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island. Director Bourget said he visits schools on a regular basis and is always inspired by what he sees in our classrooms - especially in reading, writing and math which are the foundation for all learning.

Rainbow District School Board has a terrific team of trustees, school administrators, and educators supporting student success. He thanked parents/guardians for reinforcing what the school is doing at home. Reading with your child daily, for example, helps to increase fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

The first goal since the beginning of the school year, he said, has been to build positive connections with students and create supportive school communities in warm and welcoming environments. When students feel safe and supported, and when they have allies by their side in the form of trusted friends and caring adults, they develop a strong sense of belonging at school.

When parents/guardians have high expectations for their children's education, this encourages students to trust in their abilities. Students who believe in themselves develop a growth mindset. They approach learning with a positive attitude and are willing to persevere to master a skill.

4. Meeting dates and topics for 2022-2023

Senior Administrator Mantle reviewed the topics explored during the 2022-2023 school year:

October 18, 2022:	Parenting Through The Storm with author Ann Douglas
December 13, 2022:	De-streaming
January 17, 2023:	Inclusion
February 28, 2023:	Technology and Digital Citizenship
April 11, 2023:	Dare to Care Bullying Prevention Program
May 9, 2023:	Planning Meeting for the 2023-2024 school year

5. 2023-2024 Election of PIC Membership

Senior Administrator Mantle 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, schools were invited to send nominations.

Senior Administrator Mantle presented the slate of nominees, as follows:

Shannon Ketchabaw	A.B. Ellis Public School
Sara Ball and Alisha Basarabe	Algonquin Road Public School
Jessica Newell-Tremblay	Copper Cliff Public School
Tiija Luttrell	Larchwood Public School
Ashley Vickman	Walden Public School
Angelina Kasunich and Debbie Sokoloskie	Lockerby Composite School
Jennifer Dalton	Adamsdale Public School
Natasha Delaney	Jean Hanson Public School

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said she had also asked that her name be put forward.

Only members in attendance may be considered for the PIC Executive at the AGM.

The PIC Executive for 2023-2024 was acclaimed as follows:

Sara Ball and Alisha Basarabe	Algonquin Road Public School
Tiija Luttrell	Larchwood Public School
Ashley Vickman	Walden Public School
Jennifer Dalton	Adamsdale Public School
Natasha Delaney	Jean Hanson Public School
Melissa Gladu	Northeastern Elementary School

Prospective PIC Executive members will be considered at the December 12, 2023 meeting. The Committee requires two more representatives from Sudbury and one each from Espanola and Manitoulin Island.

Senior Administrator Mantle introduced this year's non-parent PIC members:

Leslie Mantle (Senior Administrator of School Support Services)
Nicole Charette (Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning)
Laurie-Ann Lielkalns (Secondary Principal)
Coleen Eberlein (Elementary Principal)
Sheila James (Secondary Vice-Principal)
Katrina Nadeau (Elementary Vice-Principal)
Meredith Coulas (Elementary Teacher)

6. Meeting dates for 2023-2024

Senior Administrator Mantle reviewed the schedule of PIC meetings for 2023-2024, noting that the topics of meetings may be subject to change:

October 17, 2023:	The Power of Connection: Helping our Students Thrive Through Challenging Times
December 12, 2023:	Social Media and Cyber Safety
January 30, 2024:	Parents Reaching Out Grants - School Success Stories
February 27, 2024:	Student Census (tentative)
April 9, 2024:	Parent Portal (tentative)
May 7, 2024:	Planning for the 2024-2025 school year

Senior Administrator Mantle thanked everyone for attending the Annual General Meeting.

Participants were invited to join speaker Dr. Jean Clinton in the Auditorium at Sudbury Secondary School.
Topic: The Power of Connection: Helping our Students Thrive Through Challenging Times

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 - 7 pm
In Person in the Boardroom at 408 Wembley Drive in Sudbury and Via Google Meet
Topic: Parents Reaching Out Grants - School Success Stories