

## **Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 7 pm  
In Person at 408 Wembley Drive and Via Google Meet

### **Attendance**

Steffany Bourque, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Rebecca Coughlin, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Ashley Vickman, Parent, Walden Public School; Jessica Montgomery, Parent, Walden Public School; Sandra Bond, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Deanna Hardy, Parent, Charles C. McLean Public School; Kelly Rodriguez, OSSTF representative; Julie Cuss, Parent, R.H. Murray Public School; Kylee MacCormack, Parent, C.R. Judd Public School; Susan Cousineau, Principal, C.R. Judd Public School; Trustee Alex McCauley; Coleen Eberlein, Elementary Principal representative/Principal of Jean Hanson Public School; Rachel Booker, Vice-Principal of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Ashleigh Conley, Principal of Adamsdale Public School; Leslie Mantle, Senior Administrator of School Support Services; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Call to Order: 7 pm

### **1. Welcome**

Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2. Self-Introductions**

Online and in person participants introduced themselves.

### **3. Presentations: Parents Reaching Out Grants - School Success Stories**

#### **Adamsdale Public School**

Principal Ashleigh Conley provided an overview of the Amazing Race Math Night. The school created an awareness of the math curriculum, provided examples on how to practise math at home, and made math fun while increasing parent involvement.

#### **Jean Hanson Public School**

Principal Coleen Eberlein said Jean Hanson Public School held monthly family nights to build relationships between school and parents, and parents with parents. Events

included a games night and a parent social and student dance party. Principal Eberlein also shared a video of the warm welcome her students receive each and every day.

### **C.R. Judd Public School**

School Council Chair Kylee MacCormack highlighted C.R. Judd's Spring into Reading event with Indigenous storytelling, local authors, activity stations, family resources, and an evening book fair.

### **Chelmsford Valley District Composite School**

Vice-Principal Rachel Booker said Chelmsford Valley District Composite School held a Family Math Night for Kindergarten to Grade 8. Families received resources to continue the learning at home.

## **4. Discussion based on presentation**

Parents/guardians were invited to ask questions at the end of each presentation. They appreciated the sharing of ideas for future PRO grant applications.

## **5. Approval of Agenda**

*"That the agenda for the meeting on December 3, 2024 be approved."*

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Seconded by: Rebecca Coughlin, Lansdowne Public School

Carried

## **6. Approval of Minutes**

*"That the minutes of the meeting held on May 7, 2024 be approved."*

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Seconded by: Steffany Bourque, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Carried

*"That the minutes of the AGM held on October 15, 2024 be approved."*

Moved by: Rebecca Coughlin, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Carried

## **Business Arising from the Minutes of May 7, 2024**

The following motion was presented and approved  
under item # 5 Planning for PIC meetings 2024-2025

*“That all parents present vote on the topics proposed for the next school year.”*

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Seconded by: Jennifer Dalton, Adamsdale Public School

Carried

According to the Education Act Reg. 612/00 s.42

*“When a parent involvement committee votes on a matter, only parent members and community representative members are entitled to vote.”*

According to s.34(1):

Parent members shall be appointed or elected to a parent involvement committee under section 33, in accordance with the by-laws of the committee.

According to s.33:

Composition of the parent involvement committee

The number of parent members specified in the by-laws of the committee

As stated in the Terms of Reference, the membership of the Parent Involvement Committee reflects the diversity of the Rainbow District School Board and its community.

Ten Parent/Guardian members are elected from the School Council representatives.

The composition of the membership includes:

Parent Members:

Espanola, 1 representative

Manitoulin, 1 representative

Sudbury, 8 representatives

And 1 School Council Community Member

The following **motion to rescind the above motion** was subsequently presented:

*“According to Section 42 of the Education Act Regulation 612/00, which states that ‘only parent members and community representative members are entitled to vote’ when a parent involvement committee votes on a matter, that the motion ‘That all parents present vote on the topics proposed for the next school year,’ moved and seconded on May 7, 2024, be rescinded.”*

Moved by: Rebecca Coughlin, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Carried

Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle indicated that the PIC Terms of Reference for Rainbow District School Board will be reviewed with the duly elected Chair.

## **7. Slate of Officers and Election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary**

The following parents/guardians were acclaimed to the Parent Involvement Committee at the Annual General Meeting held on October 15, 2024 and constitute the voting members for the 2024-2025 school year.

Melissa Gladu	Northeastern Elementary School
Ashley Hurley	Alexander Public School
Ashley Vickman	Walden Public School
Natasha Delaney	Jean Hanson Public School
Stacy Paajanen	Lively District Secondary School
Kylee MacCormack	C.R. Judd Public School
Rebecca Coughlin	Lansdowne Public School
Steffany Bourque	Chelmsford Valley District Composite School
Deanna Hardy	Charles C. McLean Public School (Manitoulin Representative)
	(Espanola Representative)

There was no parent/guardian present from Espanola.  
The position remains vacant.

## **Election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary**

Prior to the meeting, Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle invited the PIC members to indicate their interest in serving in a leadership role.

Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle indicated that Melissa Gladu had expressed an interest in continuing to serve as Chair.

After calling for any other nominations for Chair, the following motion was presented:

*“That Melissa Gladu be acclaimed Chair of PIC for 2024-2025.”*

Moved by: Steffany Bourque, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Seconded by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Carried

After calling for nominations for Vice-Chair, the following motion was presented:

*“That Steffany Bourque be acclaimed Vice-Chair of PIC for 2024-2025.”*

Moved by: Kylee MacCormick, C.R. Judd Public School

Seconded by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Carried

After calling for nominations for Secretary, the following motion was presented:

*“That Nicole Charette continues as Secretary of PIC for 2024-2025.”*

Moved by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Seconded by: Rebecca Coughlin, Lansdowne Public School

Carried

**At this point, Melissa Gladu chaired the meeting.**

## **8. Review of School Council PRO Grant applications**

A total of 18 Parents Reaching Out Grant applications were received and reviewed for the 2024-2025 school year. These grants enable schools to work with School Councils on projects that engage families in their children’s learning. The goal is to increase parent engagement. Twelve projects met the PRO Grant criteria aligned to Board priorities. The total budget is \$22,500.

PIC Chair Melissa Gladu reviewed the applications that met the criteria and highlighted the Board priorities being addressed by the proposed projects.

Motion:

*“That PRO Grant Applications for 2024-2025, in the total amount of \$22,500, be approved for the following schools:*

*Larchwood Public School  
Queen Elizabeth II Public School  
Markstay Public School  
R.H. Murray Public School  
Chelmsford Valley District Composite School  
Assiginack Public School  
Little Current Public School  
Jean Hanson Public School  
Central Manitoulin Public School  
C.R. Judd Public School  
S. Geiger Public School  
Walden Public School”*

Moved by: Rebecca Coughlin, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Carried

## **9. Communications Report**

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

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to Information Nights at all Rainbow secondary schools from now until February. Upcoming Information Nights include:

- Confederation Secondary School on Thursday, December 5th at 6 pm
- Lasalle Secondary School on Thursday, December 5th at 6:30 pm
- Sudbury Secondary School on Wednesday, December 11th at 6 pm

A full list of schools, dates and times is available on the board website. French Immersion students can continue in the French Immersion Program at the secondary level.

This month, Rainbow District School Board invites staff and students to bring litterless lunches to school. Students are being challenged to decrease waste and divert textiles from landfills using the five R's - reduce, reuse, repurpose, repair and recycle.

Secondary students from Rainbow Schools will test their business acumen at an Accounting Case Study Competition on Thursday, December 5, 2024. The event, hosted by Freelandt

Caldwell Reilly LLP, will take place from 9 am to 1:30 pm at the Northbury Hotel and Conference Centre. For the competition, some 36 business-savvy students in Grades 10 to 12 from Rainbow Schools and Sudbury Catholic Schools will compete in teams of four. Students will be given a judging rubric and case study, and will have 90 minutes to develop a solution.

Rainbow District School Board is once again participating in the Edgar Burton Food Drive. Staff and students will work together to collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations to assist area food banks.

This is the time of the year when schools host festive events. Sudbury Secondary School's young musicians and vocalists will spread holiday cheer at Merry Melodies, a magical evening of music on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 7 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium. Admission is by donation, with all proceeds going towards the Joan Mantle Music Trust.

Lasalle Secondary School is proud to present Student Bonanza One Act Extravaganza! featuring three entirely student written and created one-act shows. Presentations will take place on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 12:30 pm for older adults 60 and over as well as Friday, December 13, 2024 and Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 7 pm at the Lasalle Secondary School Black Box Theatre.

Looking ahead to the new year...

Kindergarten Information Nights will take place in mid-January.

English Program: Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 5:30 pm

French Immersion: Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 5:30 pm

Schools offering both English and French Immersion will host one Information Night on Thursday, January 16, 2025.

To enrol, children must be four years of age by the end of the calendar year.

Just a reminder that the Board website features resources for parents/guardians, including information from the Ministry of Education. We also post all news on the board website.

On behalf of the board, we wish all parents/guardians and students a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to working with families in the new year.

## **10. School Announcements**

Steffany Bourque of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School highlighted sporting events, festive events, and fundraising for the Grade 7 and 8 ski trip. She said the community is very supportive of the school and students. She thanked all donors for their generosity.

Rebecca Coughlin of Lansdowne Public School said the school is moving in the right direction in literacy and numeracy as noted in the EQAO results. She highlighted a number of school initiatives including Dare to Care, fundraising, field trips, hot lunches, festive events and the Sudbury Secondary School feast for Grade 7 and 8 students.

Kylee MacCormick of C.R. Judd Public School said the school is looking for more volunteers for its breakfast program. The school held a successful Selfie with Santa event with proceeds going towards the breakfast program. C.R. Judd participated in volleyball championships. She also spoke about a movie night for families, festive events and fundraisers for the food bank.

Coleen Eberlein, Principal of Jean Hanson Public School, said the school has a fully inclusive play structure for students. The smiles are phenomenal as students enjoy the outdoors. A grand opening is planned for the spring.

Sandra Bond of Manitoulin Secondary School said the school is a very busy place with robotics, plays and sports. She said parents are very grateful to the community for its generous contribution to the annual Awards Night in December which honours student success.

Ashley Vickman of Walden Public School said school playground improvements are ongoing. Fundraising has also been successful, including the Fresh from the Farm initiative and the food drive. Jessica Montgomery said project kindness and the giving tree were an incredible experience.

Julie Cuss of R.H. Murray Public School focused on hands-on learning and outdoor activities. She highlighted an annual tradition - the evening concert outdoors which features music, hot chocolate and lights, creating a warm and welcoming setting. The school hosts its book fair at the same time. She also highlighted a partnership with Spirit North.

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School thanked the mental health team for supporting the school during the loss of a much loved member of the staff. She talked about the food drive, chili fest, concerts by divisions, school-wide tournaments, and upcoming fundraisers to support the Grade 7 and 8 trip.

Chair Gladu thanked parents for engaging, sharing and building community. She also said to take time to recharge and take care of yourself during the winter break.



Chair Gladu reviewed the upcoming meeting dates and topics.

January 28, 2025:	Safe Schools
February 25, 2025:	Mental Health (Part 1)
April 15, 2025:	Mental Health (Part 2)
May 13, 2025:	Planning for the 2025-2026 school year

She thanked all parents/guardians and staff for joining us.

**Adjournment at 8:56 pm**

*"That the meeting be adjourned."*

Moved by: Kylee MacCormick, C.R. Judd Public School

Seconded by: Steffany Bourque, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Carried

**Next meeting:**

**Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 7 pm**

**In Person at 408 Wembley Drive and Via Google Meet**

**Topic: Safe Schools**