



We're Putting Wellness First



We're Turning Innovation into Action



We're Committed to Collaboration

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2019

Attendees: E. Sund, Glenburnie; N. Richardson, KCVI; N. Jones & V. Venditti, Polson Park; N. Paul, WJ Holsgrove; C. Innocente, Sir John A; S. Decker, Welborne; C. Bevans-Leblanc, FSS; J. Jodoin, Rideau; J. Kehoe, Molly Brant; M. Boyce, Harrowsmith; J. Foster, JR Henderson; S. Islam, LCVI; P. Evans, RG Sinclair; D. Sager, Sydenham PS; D. Viau & J. Bauder & A. Williams, Prince Charles; N. Gowdy, SHS;

- 1. Approval of Agenda – approved**
- 2. Associate Superintendent of Safe & Caring Schools Scot Gillam welcomed everyone to the meeting.**
- 3. Associate Superintendent of Safe & Caring Schools Update (Mr. Scot Gillam)**

Associate Superintendent Gillam reviewed the PIC Foundational Statement found in the PIC Bylaws:

The Director of Education, together with the staff members and Trustees of Limestone District School Board, believes that relationships between schools and their communities can be enhanced through the establishment of local school councils and the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). The PIC serves as an ongoing mechanism for effective communication and consultation among system leaders, school communities, the Board, and the Ministry of Education. The purpose of the Parent Involvement Committee is to support, encourage, and enhance parent engagement at the board level in order to improve student achievement and wellbeing.

Associate Superintendent Gillam then reviewed the PIC Mandate, also taken from the PIC Bylaws:

The Parent Involvement Committee shall achieve its purpose by:

- a) providing information and advice on parent engagement to the Board;
- b) communicating with and supporting school councils of schools and parents/guardians of students of the Board; and
- c) undertaking activities to help parents of pupils of the Board support their children's learning at home and at school.

a) Board Updates

Associate Superintendent Gillam provided PIC with updates on the following items: Summer programming, Federal Elections in schools, EQAO data, KSS update, Women in the Trades event (Oct. 21st), Terry Fox Walk/Run, United Way campaign, Orange Shirt Day, Rowan's Law, NP2 project and the Safe Spaces Symposium.

Associate Superintendent Gillam then provided more detailed updates on the requested information items:

b) Financial Training for New Treasurers

New Treasurers to School Council or treasurers looking for a refresh can contact Scot directly for training opportunities

c) Staffing Update

Associate Superintendent Gillam provided PIC with an update on staffing levels after the recent Ministry of Education announcements. This information was shared with Trustees at a recent Board meeting and the details can be found in Board documents on the website.

d) Labour Update

Associate Superintendent informed PIC that an announcement would be made by Friday regarding the CUPE strike notice for Monday, October 7th.

e) Pro Grants

Associate Superintendent informed PIC that LDSB did receive a Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant for the 2019/20 school year. However, this year's PRO Grant was significantly reduced in comparison with other year's PRO Grants, and that no formal mechanism was provided to determine which school or what projects would be supported. PIC will discuss options and provide recommendations on how to move forward with PRO Grants for this school year at the November PIC meeting.

f) Cashless Schools

Associate Superintendent provided PIC with an update on the Cashless Schools rollout, identifying schools in the next two years of implementation. Currently, the NDSS Family of Schools is in operation and some of the Granite Ridge Family. Bayridge is scheduled for this Fall and the Frontenac/Ernestown Family of schools are scheduled for the Spring of 2020. PIC was reminded that this is a multi-year roll out plan.

g) Snow Days

Associate Superintendent Gillam reported that no formal talks had occurred with respect to academic programming if prolonged cancellations due to inclement weather. Once these discussions occur, Gillam will bring that information back to PIC.

h) Safe Schools Update

Associate Superintendent Scot Gillam updated PIC on the new Emergency Procedure posters and binders being provided to each school in Limestone. Scot also discussed the location of site maps and general posters at each office. Scot reviewed the messaging to Principals to

ensure that safety plans have accounted for different transition times during the day, etc. A survey of outdoor messaging systems has been initiated and a follow up discussion will occur.

4. Health Unit Update (Associate Superintendent Gillam provided the information)

Information was shared with PIC via an email on the following topics: Ready for Kindergarten Resource, Vaping Presentations, Active Pass for Grades 5 and 9, Cannabis Kit, Technology Literature Review, and the Over 18 documentary

5. Discussion Items – Co Chair Sabena Islam

Sabena thanked past Co-Chair Nicki Gowdy for her service this past year and encouraged other PIC members to consider running for Co-Chair this year.

Vendor Insurance

Associate Superintendent Gillam explained the need for vendors at a craft or holiday sale to have Third Party Liability Insurance to protect the Council and the Board. Having their own insurance is not sufficient. If a vendor can not provide proof of that insurance, they are able to purchase insurance through Limestone and OSBIE at a cost of \$10 per table. If food is being sold, the cost is \$25 per table.

Walk Ins

Information was shared with PIC about the October 10 Walks Ins being organized. The link was shared and a discussion ensued about having a conversation with both Admin and the School Council to see if interest, and the best way to proceed.

Other Topics

Co-chair Sabena Islam then lead a discussion on a variety of topics including but not limited to; food at PIC meetings, childcare or child minding at PIC meetings, FOI information, Website or Facebook messaging, and School Messenger. It was decided that light fare will be offered at the November meeting to support parents that attend directly after work. Parents will be asked to RSVP with their intention to eat or not. A few extra portions will be ordered for those that attend but could not RSVP. Child minding will be provided at the November meeting. Other information items will be followed up at future meetings.

Meeting dates

- Nov 7, 2019 – PIC Co-chair Election & Regular PIC
- Feb. 13, 2020
- Spring 2020 – Parent/Community Event or Meeting - date TBD
- May 9, 2020

The meeting was adjourned at approx. 8:15 pm.