

PIC Meeting:

Attendance: Crystal Bevins-Leblanc, Sherry McCauley, Jim Jodoin, Joy Morning, Jennifer Kehoe, Constance Carriere-Prill, Scot Gillam, Chelsea, Rena Petrick, Virginia Venditti, Julia Bielawski, Shayla Bradley, Samantha M, Stephanie Gratto, Robin Hutcheon, Jen Foster, Judith Brown, Bob Godkin, Kim T, Kerri, Garrett Elliott, Christine Innocente

Welcome and land acknowledgement: Scot Gillam.

Resources for families: the FAQ is important, can we be sure PIC members and council chairs have this link. Scot says there are many conference calls with Dr. Moore and Queen's University to work out signage and info for families.

Scot says information is coming for families with respect to opting in/out in elementary and secondary. Jennifer Kehoe says parents have asked if they can opt for half-day learning? Jennifer thinks there should be more variables included in the in/out option for families. Scot says there are staffing challenges if students are weaving in and out of the class but there will be more survey information coming this week for families.

Crystal thinks more consulting should come from the parent/guardian community. List of priorities for board consideration:

- Online learning: this is a big area of focus and more information will be coming. Remote learning is being taken very seriously considering all students might be working remotely if the region has to shut down again. Is online learning board specific, or is it specific instruction from the Ministry? Scot says both. We have to account for our own uniqueness while following Ministry guidelines.
- Kim T says online students need to maintain their connection to their school/class/peers. Scot says there are logistic challenges to teaching in class and also providing robust online lessons from the same teacher.
- Jennifer asks if any teachers have done training over the summer to upgrade online skills. Scot isn't sure how many did, but there are 3 PA days at the start of the school year where it's likely that a portion of those days will be dedicate to remote learning.
- Jennifer asks if LDSB considered outdoor learning spaces? Scot says nothing official but KFL&A conversations reinforce that outdoors is better than indoors. Administrators will take the lead here and some schools might have options.
- Will extra-curriculars still be running? With additional PPE and safety protocols in place, yes.
- Is there room for a parent to be involved in SEAC planning? Bob says there aren't any meetings planned soon. Robin thinks the parent role has been filled for SEAC. Scot recommends all families email their concerns directly to Superintendent McDonnell or send them to Scot and he will make sure she gets them.
- Moving from remote to class and back will not be fluid.
- How will attendance be taken? Will students be part of a class if they have to stay home? Scot says more information on this will come, but the board recognizes the needs of families working with their individual teachers/administrators. If families sign up for class and don't show up it's likely the principal will be having a conversation. Constance adds that families are dealing with all kinds of personal choices around the health and safety of them and their extended families, and important to keep this in mind.
- Jennifer asks how the survey will be sent to families. Scot says there are multiple ways of communicating and principals will be working on that.
- Jim asks how the board will react to a positive case in a class. Scot says we will take our lead from public health and will follow protocols that will be shared on Wednesday. Scot says if there is a positive case, depending on where it is and who they've been in contact with, it will be Dr. Moore who tells the school what do to. The board's job is to minimize the cohorts as much as possible to keep students safe. Dr. Moore has said their team can come to the school and respond with testing on the spot if necessary.

- Will teachers and students take part in pre-screening prior to entry to the school/class?
- Jim asks about public health messaging around masks vs ministry messaging. Scot says to tune in Wednesday for an update on that.
- Kim asks about parents not wanting to test their kids. Scot says that's part of public education around signs and symptoms. We will be relying on public health to monitor and educate families and staff. There's a very good screening check list that will be shared widely through the community.
- Jim asks why the hybrid model wasn't used. Scot says overwhelmingly our parents were not in favour of the hybrid, plus it was a Ministry directive.

Official position regarding Ministry's directive:

- Crystal asks if PIC is interested in taking a position and writing a letter to the Ministry or board of trustees. Garrett recommends waiting until learning about the LDSB plans announced on Wednesday before writing a letter.
- Crystal asks if PIC is interested in writing a letter to the trustees asking them to a similar motion that Toronto District School Board made: telling the Ministry we can't operate safely under the guidelines without funding to support smaller class sizes. The PIC group does not object to a letter to trustees.

Supporting PACs & Engaging School Communities - Plan of Action

- Garrett asks if School Councils will evolve to virtual meetings. Scot says the Ministry has been very clear that we need parent and community support.
- Jennifer says the rural voice is missing from the PIC table. Scot says he will be sending out information to school councils to welcome and encourage PIC activity.
- Garrett asks if there will an instruction manual or playbook for school councils to hold virtual meetings. Scot says that is a good idea to offer tech support and best practices. It's important that principals and families use technology that they are comfortable with and that work.
- Crystal asks if it's possible to call a PIC election and call an election sooner than November to give her some support? Scot says we can revisit the bylaws.
- Adjourned.

Next meeting: August 13th. Scot won't be able to attend but encourages us to write down questions and submit them to him.

Christine Innocente – Sir JAM

Jennifer Kehoe – Molly Brant

Jim Jodoin – Rideau Public

Stephanie Grotto – Storrington

Virginia Venditti – Polson Park

Shayla Bradley – Sir JAM

Kim Therriault – Welborne

Jen Foster – Frontenac Secondary and Acadie

Sherry McCauley – Welborne

Kerri Amey – Welborne

Constance Carrier-Prill – Frontenac & LCVI

Rena Patrick – Vanier

Crystal Bevens-Leblanc – Frontenac

Chelsea Pilgrim – Welborne

Julia B – Welborne