

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – April 6, 2023

Roll Call:

Members:	Staff:
S. Bradley, Co-Chair and 2SLGTBQIA+ Focus Group V. Wood, Co-Chair and Sydenham HS S. Coleman, Amherst Island PS G. Monajemi Amherstview PS M. Foster, J.R Henderson PS R. Richer, Odessa PS V. Venditti, Polson Park PS G. Elliott, Member-at-large	A. McDonnel, Superintendent P. Gollogly, Assoc. Superintendent Y. Abdulkareem, Human Rights and Equity Advisor
Trustees:	
B. Godkin M. Joy	
Guests:	Recorder:
C. Walters Gray, KFL&A Public Health	E. Smith, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Bradley called the meeting to order at 6pm.

Co-Chair Bradley welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided the Acknowledgement of Territory. “We recognize that The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land.”

2. Adoption of Agenda

Adopted.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest declared.

4. Approval of Minutes

February 2023 minutes were approved by consensus.

5. Delegation/Presentation

Yusuf Abdulkareem, Human Rights and Equity Advisor with LDSB, delivered a presentation on “*Introduction to Human Rights and Equity*”. Yusuf answered some questions and indicated that the presentation will be shared with PIC Co-Chair for further distribution to PIC members. Co-Chair Bradley thanked Yusuf Abdulkareem for the presentation and invited any questions.

6. Reports for Information

6.1 Co-Chairs Update

Co-Chair Bradley informed that School Council bylaws template will be distributed to School Councils. Ministry of Education had parent engagement session in late February 2023, where School Mental Health Ontario delivered a presentation which was broad overview of promotion, prevention and different resources; information communicated during the presentation will be shared with PIC members via email by Co-Chair Bradley.

Co-Chair Bradley informed that Special Education Advisory Committee has one open position for a member-at-large, application letter is due by April 12, 2023 at 4:00pm, and it should be sent to Scot Gillam, Supt. of Education, Learning for All and Indigenous Education.

Co-Chair Bradley highlighted that Kingston Pride Parade is happening on June 17, 2023, at 2:00pm. Napanee Pride is on June 3, 2023, and the details are still forthcoming. Both parades have information available on their websites.

Reminder that PRO-grant money has to be spent by May 18 and final report submitted to the Board by May 26, 2023.

6.2 Trustee Update

Trustee Godkin gave overview that budget is in main focus. He attended regional Ontario School Boards Association (OPSBA) meeting. Boards are preparing preliminary budgets.

Trustee Godkin provided general information on multi-year accessibility plan.

Trustee Godkin recognized that the new information released about student attending Grade 9, 10 and then going into the trades/apprenticeships has raised number of questions. He will raise those questions with the Board on our behalf. Assoc. Supt. Gollogly clarified that it is still policy vision with consultation, they are looking at having a mandatory technological course requirement for graduation.

Trustees Godkin and Hutcheon will be attending Labour Relations in Toronto from OPSBA at the end of April 2023.

Trustee Godkin expressed appreciation to those parents who reached out to him on what could have been done better about autism awareness. He went on to encourage all members to communicate ideas they may have with Trustees. He further reminded that any requests from schools for volunteering recognition, or similar, can be sent to Trustees, but correspondence should be also copied to LDSB Communications.

Trustee Godkin shared a wonderful experience he had visiting Central Public School where grades 7 and 8 worked in teams over a four-day period, like community planning on how they could incorporate transitional housing, growing food on roofs and similar. He further informed of his visit to a new school in Stittsville.

6.3 Board Update

Associate Superintendent Gollogly wished Ramadan Mubarak, Happy Passover, and Happy Easter. She further informed on calendar survey results. Survey closed on February 21, 2023, with 5,300 responses received. Sixty-four percent of the respondents were parents/guardians/caregivers, 20% were staff, and 9% were students. Results were also received from Trustees, community agencies and daycare partners. Calendar Option 1 was selected by 64% respondents. Option 2 received 36% support. These results were similar to the results of the surveys conducted by both Hastings and Prince Edward and Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic school boards.

For the alternative calendar option that included a fall break and was not in consideration for 2023-2024, 53% of respondents supported the model and 47% were not supportive. For the alternative calendar, the results were as follows: Parents/Guardians 48% supportive, Staff 63% supportive, and for Students 59% were supportive.

The results of the survey were reviewed by LDSB's School Year Calendar Committee and the other co-terminus school boards. Based on the results, all three Boards will be recommending that the Trustees approve Calendar Option 1 for the 2023-24 School Year.

The LDSB is currently seeking to fill a vacancy for a member-at-large appointment to its Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). SEAC is responsible for making recommendations to the Board on matters related to the provision of Special Education programs and services for exceptional students. If you are interested in volunteering on this committee please forward a

letter of interest to Superintendent Scot Gillam by April 12, 2023, by 4:00 p.m. You may email or mail/hand deliver your interest to the LDSB Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Ave., Kingston ON K7M 0G2.

On April 19th, we will be having a GSA day at the Faculty of Education, with keynote speaker Martin Boyce Stonewall Riot Activities and Dr. Lee Arrington. This will be an opportunity for our 2SLGBTQ+ students and their allies to gather, collaborate and create.

6.4 KFL&A Update

C. Walters Grey, RN, provided an update on behalf of KFL&A:

Respiratory season update (KFL&A) for Feb. 5 to Feb. 11

This is the last seasonal update report for the rest of the year as there have been very little change with the respiratory activity since the last report (Jan 22-Jan 28)

- COVID-19 activity remains slightly elevated and stable, with ongoing fluctuations within the indicators.
- Local respiratory activity- multiplex testing from KHSC and LACGH indicate a 7.1% percent positivity for rhinovirus/enterovirus. Percent positivity for each of influenza A, RSV, parainfluenza, human coronavirus and human metapneumovirus are below 5%.
- Viral respiratory mapper- Overall, both respiratory-related emergency department activity and pneumonia and ILI-related (Influenza Like Illness) admissions are stable and below pre-pandemic seasonal levels, while admissions are similar to pre-pandemic levels.

Grade 7/8 immunization clinics

- The school health team is out doing the second round of vaccine clinics for kids in grade 7/8. The consent forms that were handed in at the beginning of the school year will be the same consent form used for this round of immunizations, therefore, parents do not need to sign another consent form.
- Schools will send out a reminder to parents when their vaccine clinic is coming up.

6.5 Indigenous Education Advisory Council (IEAC) – none at this time.

6.6 2SLGTBQIA+ Focus Group – none at this time.

7. Reports for action - None at this time.

8. Unfinished Business - None at this time.

9. New Business

9.1 Discussion about rising youth violence within KFL&A community.

Co-Chair Bradley informed that there was a request to talk about rising youth violence within KFL&A community.

Assoc. Supt. Gollogly noted that there is rising violence in the community and not just within schools. Some steps that LDSB has been taking is having Kingston Police visit schools and speak to administrators about what hate crimes are, what can we do and how we can help prevention; one

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such presentation was also done for PIC in February. Furthermore, Assoc. Supt. Gollogly informed of a meeting on this topic that took place week prior with high schools, some elementary schools, Catholic School Board, Probation, Youth Diversion and the Police. The purpose of the meeting was to start brainstorming some ideas of what we, as a community, can do to help our community be safer. LDSB is making sure that our staff are aware and trained. She also recognized that communication is key. Assoc. Supt. Gollogly also pointed out that that students are reporting their concerns through available tools and by approaching administrators, which allows timely intervention. Co-Chair Bradley reiterated that students have reporting tools at their disposal such as Human Rights reporting tool, Safe and Caring schools, as well as that students should be encouraged to have that conversation with somebody. Tools are available on Limestone DSB website and QR codes in schools.

10. Correspondence

11. Next Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 6:00pm.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.