

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MEETING SUMMARY**

The committee met on February 23, 2015 and reports as follows.

**ATTENDANCE**

Present: Denise Durnan and Elizabeth Ward (Committee Co-chairpersons), Rhonda Brough, Karen Gleason, Kelly Holy, Aaron Huizinga, Carolyn McColl, Mary-Ann Meagher, Annette Simpson, Jim Treen, and Marie Visser.

Also Present: Trustee Shirley Patterson, and J. Malfara, Communication Officer – School Liasion.

Regrets: Trustee Sarah Bobka, W.R. (Rusty) Hick (Director of Education) and John Vickers

**Parent Involvement Funds Update**

G. Kidd reviewed the committee's current budget. The committee has received \$10,377.00 from the Ministry of Education for the school year (based on a base amount of \$5,000, plus a per pupil amount). The committee also reviewed unspent allocations from the previous term that, balanced with commitments to date, reflects \$11,899.16 in remaining available committee funds for the year.

**2015 Annual Parent Conference**

J. Malfara reviewed with the committee programming and feedback from the most recent conferences as part of initial planning for the fall 2015 annual parent conference. Taking place in October, 2015, this conference rotates location by region each year, and provides workshop opportunities for parents on issues of common concern in education. This year's conference will take place in the Northumberland region, and the committee held a wide-ranging discussion reviewing topics of consistent interest for parents. There was general agreement to follow-up last year's successful conference with a continued focus on the broad theme of Healthy Children, including youth mental health supports, and the valuable networking that this conference provides for parents.

There was discussion and consideration of possible keynote speakers for this year's conference, with consideration of author and parenting expert Anne Douglas. Further information on scheduling and availability is being gathered prior to a final decision, with opportunities to attend a presentation by Ms. Douglas in the near future to be shared with the committee. The committee also discussed possible workshop subjects with further discussion expected at the next meeting.

### Parent Survey Review

In May of 2013, the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) offered parents/guardians the opportunity to participate in an online survey regarding parent involvement activities. The committee reviewed and discussed this most recent survey, provided input on updating some of the questions for currency and preparation for re-issue later this year.

### Parents Reaching Out Grant – KPR Learning Bags

G. Kidd provided a brief update on the committee's continued plan to submit a provincial Parents Reaching Out Grant application in support of funding the purchase of KPR Learning Bags for use by volunteers and parents within school communities.

Denise Durnan and Elizabeth Ward  
Co-chairpersons