

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

The committee met on November 12, 2018 and reports as follows.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Danielle Magvas (Committee Co-chairperson), Trustee Sarah Bobka, Teira Brown, Cathy Galbraith, Kim Leger Carolyn McColl, Tanya Ogden, Corry O'Toole, Annette Simpson and Elizabeth Ward.

Also Present: Jennifer Leclerc (Director of Education), Jack Nigro (Superintendent of Education) and Greg Kidd (Senior Manager – Corporate Affairs).

Regrets: James Grieve, Aaron Huizinga, Marie Visser

Review of Role of Committee and Election of Chairperson

Director of Education J. Leclerc, G. Kidd and committee members reviewed the role of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), its activities, and the committee's mandate as established by Board policy and within the provincial Parent Engagement Policy and the Education Act.

It was noted that, in accordance with Board policy and provincial directives, the committee also has community representatives for the current term. After a public call for interested persons in this volunteer position, Marie Visser (Clarington), Elizabeth Ward (Northumberland) and Annette Simpson (Peterborough) were noted as representatives for the new term.

Parent Involvement Funds and Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant Updates

G. Kidd reviewed the committee's current budget. The committee has received \$10,439.00 from the Ministry of Education for the current term (based on a base amount of \$5,000, plus a per pupil amount) combined with \$15,677.00 in carry-over funding. After reviewing commitments to date, the committee has \$16,344.31 in remaining available committee funds for the year.

J. Leclerc and G. Kidd also reviewed with the committee that Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants for the 2018-19 school year are currently still being reviewed provincially.

Every Student Matters Census

Jack Nigro, Superintendent of Education, reported that, as part of a pilot project with the support of the Ministry of Education, the Board will be conducting its first ever **Every Student Matters Census** in February/March 2019 to better understand the needs of students and school communities.

Specifically, the census information will be used to:

- address any barriers to student achievement and success,
- establish effective programs, and
- allocate resources according to student needs.

This public consultation will collect identity based data to ensure that systemic barriers faced by marginalized students and staff are recognized and addressed equitably. Superintendent Nigro further explained the benefit of the data collection and analysis, survey categories, and necessary steps and analysis for achievement and opportunities for certain groups of students.

The census consists of approximately 25 questions about wellbeing, family structure, gender, sexuality, religion, ethnicity, race, languages, nationality, disability and socio-economics, is confidential, and will only be reported in a summarized way, to provide understanding of school communities' needs.

2018 Annual Parent Conference

The group discussed the most recent Parent Conference that was held on Saturday, October 20, at Bowmanville High School.

The theme for this year's conference was Mental Health, Math & Modern Learning, with Dr. Greg Wells as the keynote speaker. This year's conference had an expanded platform of overall wellness. For the first time, workshops also were offered that parents and children could participate in together, including learning supports in areas such as mathematics and literacy, as well as information sharing around modern learning environments and technology tools.

General discussion by the group included positive feedback with respect to the keynote speaker, and workshops that were offered. Extended discussion focused on the significant percentage of registrants who failed to attend, and the very low workshop participants as a result. Further discussion is planned at future meetings to explore future considerations for the event, including possibly scheduling every second year, or changing the format to include only a sponsored keynote speaker.

Aaron Huizinga and Danielle Magvas
(Committee Co-chairpersons)