

LAMBTON KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

January 10, 2011

Sarnia and Chatham Regional Education Centres (Video Conference)

Present: Jim Costello, Director of Education; Jane Bryce, Vice-Chair; Nikki Chateauf, Colonel Cameron; Marian Redford, Gregory Drive; Kelly Steeves, King George (S); Lianne McDowell, McNaughton; Tim Houle, North Lambton S.S.; Lynn LeFaive, Sarnia Collegiate Institute (SCITS); Dan Chauvin, CKSS.

Regrets: Shelley MacDonald, Harwich Raleigh; Carmen McGregor, Chair; Kathy Gabriel, Lansdowne; Sue Fraser

Welcome and Introductions – Lynn LeFaive

- Lynn welcomed everyone to meeting.
- Minutes from November 8, 2010 were reviewed and approved.

Business Arising from the Meeting of November 8, 2010

- Director Costello indicated the Board Policy, referenced on page two of the minutes, around systematic removal of books that are inappropriate or offensive will be reviewed later on the agenda.

2011-2012 School Year Calendar – Superintendent of Education, Joy Badder

- The Board is recommending the proposed School Calendar be modified. The 2011 Christmas break would be Monday, December 26, 2011 to Friday, January 6, 2012 as opposed to Monday, December 19, 2011 to Friday, December 30, 2011.
- The Board is seeking input on the proposed changes. The draft calendar will be posted on the Board's website on January 11. Input and/or comments are to be submitted by the end of January.
- Notice was provided that some PA Days will fall on Mondays rather than most on Fridays for the next school year.

April 14 School Council Workshop – Planning

- Jim will follow up with Sue Fraser to confirm arrangements for the April 14 Workshop.
- The workshop will be held at the Oaks Inn in Wallaceburg.
- Light refreshments will be served as opposed to a dinner.
- Annie Kidder's presentation will be approximately 90 minutes.
- Details will be shared with Principals to include in their upcoming school newsletters/bulletins.
- Each school will be asked to send four participants. The focus audience will be parents from the school; however if a school is unable to fill the four parent spots, staff will be invited to attend. Principals in conjunction with School Councils will be asked to confirm the attendance of four representatives from each site.

Director's Update – Jim Costello
Pupil Accommodation for Petrolia

- French Immersion is currently offered at both Hillcrest and Queen Elizabeth II Schools in Petrolia.
- Option 1 is a boundary change to convert Hillcrest to a JK-8 regular program facility and Queen Elizabeth II a dual track JK-8 regular program and French Immersion School.
- Option 2 is a reorganization of program delivery to offer JK-8 French Immersion in a single track model at Hillcrest School with Queen Elizabeth II offering regular JK-8 program.
- Two community consultation sessions were held in Petrolia. Parents did a survey listing five options vs. the two options recommended by the Board. One option put forth was one “super” school. There was a split vote for the options presented. Parents in the community do want a change. There is some interest in a single track FI school. A second survey is being conducted with only the two options presented that will include maps illustrating the proposed boundary changes. Turnout at the community meetings was lower than expected.
- It is hoped that a recommendation report will go to the Board of Trustees by the end of January.

FI Update

- Director Costello gave an overview of the review process for the French Immersion program. He explained the concept of costing the “empty desk” and the improvement in vacancy rates in this current year.
- The Board has answered all questions which have been placed on the web site.
- The Board will likely conduct another review of the FI program in future, possibly opening up the process to involve both FI and non-FI parents.

Text Book Regulation

- Director Costello reviewed the Regulation and Administrative Procedures for the Selection of Textbooks and Supplementary Learning Resources.
- Rationale was provided on why “Little House on the Prairie” was removed from Ridgeview Moravian School.

Other Business/Future Agenda Items

- Marian asked if the group would like to have a brainstorming session this year for PIC planning next year.
- Jane gave an update on the courtesy seating policy review. There will be a down loadable application form available on the CLASS website for parents to apply for Joint Custody Transportation for their child/children. The committee is reviewing the practice of granting temporary courtesy seating and will be recommending changes. A communication strategy for communicating any approved changes to granting temporary courtesy seats was discussed.

Next Meeting

- February 7, 2011 via video conference room from the Sarnia and Chatham Education Centres beginning at 6:30.
- Lynn thanked everyone for attending

Adjournment: 8:03 p.m.

Marian Redford for Sue Fraser, Recording Secretary