

**LAMBTON KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL  
BOARD**

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE  
November 21, 2022– 6:30 p.m.  
Thames Room, CREC, Bluewater Room, SEC  
and via Teams**

Present:

Superintendent Angie Barrese	Bonnie Gotelaer – Administrative Assistant
Kelley Robertson - Trustee	Nicholas Sitter – Bosanquet P.S. / N.L.S.S.
Karen Genoway – Errol Village P.S.	Melinda Hazen - High Park P.S.
Alexandra Smith – G.L.S.S.	Shelby Lacey - Lambton Public Health
Stephanie Dries – Indian Creek Road P.S.	Sandra Ross – N.C.I.V.S.
Nicole Hopper - Thamesville Area P.S.	Kaylin Pretty – Chatham Kent Public Health
Jennifer Whiteye - Naahii Ridge P.S.	Malinda Little - Trustee
Melissa Hewitt - L.C.C.V.I.	

Regrets: Director Howitt; Karen Slater Angie Baresich

Guests: Chris Moore, Katie Colameco,

Welcome and Introductions – Superintendent Angie Barrese / PIC Co-Chair Alexandra Smith

Alexandra welcomed everyone to the Parent Involvement Committee meeting. Introductions offered from all attendees.

Superintendent Barrese attended meeting on behalf of Director Howitt.

School Climate Survey Results

Katie Colameco explained the formation of the School Climate survey involved referring to a previous survey and discussed items that were a learning experience from that survey to be included in this survey. Superintendent Barrese, Chris Moore, a parent from Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), representation from Indigenous communities, student voice, school administrators from the secondary and elementary panels and Lambton and Chatham-Kent Public Health partners were involved in reviewing questions asked when forming the survey. Along with working on the questions for the current survey, strategies to enable teachers to help students complete the survey were reviewed such as definition of a caring adult and sense of belonging. Questions were quite similar in current survey to have a sense of data to compare results with the previous survey. Lambton College provided analysis of the data.

Chris Moore noted the School Climate Survey results released on October 26, 2022 involved student voice in both elementary and secondary panels with board wide and individual school data. Schools are reviewing their data and interpreting what that says for their school as well as using the data to understand their students. The School Climate Survey provides raw data and an avenue to dig deeper, noting this is a starting point. He indicated the survey created ways to elicit student voice. He noted this was a growth characteristic as the voice of students is important in moving forward. He noted students don't always think they have a caring adult they can trust and don't always have a sense of belonging. He noted results were similar which indicated the engagement online during the pandemic was effective but still left room for growth. The board's Mental Well-being Leadership team has enabled the process to begin to make systemic change.

Question: Do you think the results were similar in both surveys?

Chris Moore confirmed that results were similar.

Angie Barrese noted there are questions asking if students know to how to access mental health

supports.

Suggestion to ask students using language they understand such as 'Do you know who to go to for a physical injury and do you know someone to go to when you're sad?'

Angie Barrese noted breaking down the language would be helpful for all inside and outside of school.

A concern was raised due to not having access to supports due to waiting lists.

Katie Colameco noted students in grades 7-12 should be seen by social workers within a week of requesting access.

Angie Barrese noted there could be a problem or a disconnect due to the referral not being submitted or received. She noted Katie Colameco has helped schools to understand the referral process. Teams are reaching out to help the understanding of the appropriate pathway.

Chris Moore explained sometimes students need a caring adult and not necessarily a social worker to work through their feelings and worries and that teachers can take a role in helping students through these feelings. He explained some of the work with teachers helps them to take a role and de-mystify mental health and sometimes if a student is having a bad day, often they can be helped by the person they see as their caring adult.

Question : The results being similar, what was the response rate, was it the same, as the themes were the same?

Chris Moore stated the response was not as high for this survey, but significantly higher in the parent group. He explained the timing of the survey during the pandemic accounted for the point of view responders used. He noted the group was large enough to provide valid results.

Follow up question – follow up action planning. Are the students engaged in that or representation of the older students?

Chris Moore answered student voice from representation of all students and it was a cross section of all students with efforts to get voice from marginalized students, those with attendance history as well as students who are engaged in school activities.

Discussions to help get answers from students in accessing mental health supports and using language students understand mental health is similar to other aspects in life – e.g. getting oil changed, going to see someone if you are physically hurt, going to the dentist.

Katie Colameco noted the students respond to language they understand when looking for their person. Superintendent Barrese thanked Katie Colameco and Chris Moore for their presentation.

### Business Arising from the Meeting of October 24, 2022

The item regarding destreaming to be presented February 6, 2023 by Superintendent Mary Mancini. Heather Hughes to follow-up with schools regarding clarity on social media for bus cancellations and delays.

There were no concerns with the minutes from October 24, 2022

### Director's Update

Superintendent Angie Barrese noted stepping in for Director Howitt who is attending a community meeting regarding a structural issue at Brooke Central Public School and noted communications are available on the website. Superintendent Barrese noted asynchronous and synchronous learning, busing and before and after school care have all been addressed. She explained that in preparation for routine construction for next summer, the engineer was inspecting the area and discovered a portion of the roof was not structurally sound for excessive snow. When the roof is repaired, and inspections are complete, students will transition back to Brooke Central Public School while trying to be least disruptive as possible for families.

It was noted that this is a good opportunity for students to build relationships for future enrollment at LCCVI. Chris Moore is assisting schools in welcoming students to their new temporary locations.

### EQAO

Superintendent Barrese noted in the past EQAO was completed booklet form but is now completed online.

Question: Will the focus be on both mathematics and literacy equally as it seems mathematics has been the sole focus.

Superintendent Barrese explained the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal ruled learning to read is a human

right and that Superintendent Ben Hazzard has been developing strategies while working collaboratively for phonemic awareness which will provide a good foundation as some students see the barriers are too great to overcome.

### Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week – November 20 – 26, 2022

Superintendent Barrese noted messages will be shared to all to help promote safe, welcoming and inclusive learning and work environments. The message will include links for additional information and resources from the provincial government.

### Inclement Weather

Superintendent Barrese explained if school bus transportation is cancelled in the bus zone where the school is located or cancelled system-wide due to inclement weather, all Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) secondary students attending the individual school, regardless of whether they ride a bus to school or not, will engage in remote, teacher-led virtual learning on that day and the secondary school will be closed to students for in-person learning.

When individual buses are cancelled (e.g. mechanical issues) or delayed (e.g. fog day), secondary schools will remain open to students. If buses in other zones for the school are cancelled, but the buses in the zone where the school is located are operating, the secondary schools will remain open for in-person learning.

A concern was raised as Northern Collegiate had an issue with communications as to whether the school was open.

### PRO Grant Update

Bonnie Gotelaer provided an update to the PRO Grant process – Grant for Student Needs

She explained each school can utilize \$500 PRO Grant funds and can use in conjunction with the \$500 school council funds. Funds do not roll over for PRO Grant or School Council Funds. They are expected to be used each year.

PRO Grant ideas include

This year, the PRO allocation has moved from Priorities and Partnerships Funding (PPF) into the GSN. The Parents Reaching Out (PRO) funding enables school boards to work with parents to support projects and initiatives which remove barriers at the local level that prevent parents from participating and engaging fully in their children's learning and educational progress.

PRO Grant Ideas include: a variety of items such as:

- Anti-Black Racism, anti-Indigenous and anti-oppression initiatives
- Parent/caregiver engagement supports (e.g., evening conferences)
- Enhanced multi-lingual and technology support (e.g., virtual presentations, online networking)
- Food sovereignty and environment (e.g., hiking, community gardens);
- Mental health and well-being (e.g., workshops on student and family mental health)
- Physical health and wellness (e.g., Zumba)
- Providing targeted resources to meet specific parent needs so parents can be resilient (e.g., parent curriculum-briefing workshops)
- 2SLGBTQI (e.g., awareness building by offering culturally responsive experiences)
- STEM (e.g., in-person learning nights)
- Online learning software and safety (e.g., cyber-literacy); and,
- Literacy supports for parents to help their child(ren).

- Bonnie to send guidelines to principals to discuss with their School Councils.

### PIC spring event

The budget to plan a spring event is \$7500. Members are encouraged to think about ideas to bring forward for discussion.

### PIC Team

A PIC Team has been created in Microsoft Teams. Members of PIC will receive an invitation to the team. In the General Channel there is an opportunity for chat or general Q & A. In the PIC Meeting Agenda and Minutes channel, click on "Files" and it will take you to a 2022-2023 File. In there, you can access agendas and minutes separated by the month of the meeting.

### Other Business/Future Agenda Items

2023 – 2024 School Year Calendar to be reviewed with PIC on February 6, 2023 – Ben Hazzard

Destreaming Discussion – Mary Mancini February 6, 2023

Dress code discussions have taken place at some School Council meetings. Superintendent Barrese noted there has been highlights in the media recently regarding dress codes.

### Next Meeting

- February 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm via Teams

Adjournment: 7:37 pm

Bonnie Gotelaer, Recording Secretary