

**LAMBTON KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL
BOARD**

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

**October 24, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.
via Teams**

Present:

John Howitt - Director of Education	Malinda Little – Trustee
Ashlee Brown - Lambton Public Health	Melissa Hewitt - Queen Elizabeth II Petrolia P.S./L.C.C.V.I.
Nicholas Sitter – Bosanquet P.S. / N.L.S.S.	Angie Baresich - Brooke Central P.S.
Karen Genoway – Errol Village P.S.	Alexandra Smith – G.L S.S.
Melinda Hazen - High Park P.S.	Stephanie Dries – Indian Creek Road P.S.
Sandra Ross – N.C.I.V.S.	Shelby Lacey -LPH
Jennifer Whiteye - Naahii Ridge P.S.	Kaylin Pretty – Chatham Kent Public Health
Karen Slater - Sir John Moore P.S.,	Jack Fletcher – Trustee

Regrets: Ashlee Brown, Angie Baresich, Stephanie Dries, Jennifer Whiteye

Welcome and Introductions – PIC Co-Chair Melissa Hewitt called meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone, introduced new members and updated CK Public Health will be an advisor. Each member introduced themselves.

Business Arising from the meeting of May 16, 2022 -none

Director's Update

- Welcome Back to School
 - LKDSB Handbook for School Success

Director Howitt noted the ability to have more participation in school events with reports of meet the teacher and family nights. Director Howitt indicated that although the LKDSB Handbook for School Success addresses COVID-19, it is not solely driven by COVID-19 protocols. Director Howitt reflected on the desire people have for socialization and gatherings.

Director Howitt reported that vaping is a significant concern and indicated some students have shared they aren't comfortable using school washroom. He explained efforts to have this activity stop are in process.

Melissa Hewitt noted a concern regarding gender neutral bathrooms with vaping and asked if that is a general concern across the board. Director Howitt confirmed that it is a very big concern and is not isolated to one school.
 - Kindergarten staggered entry

Director Howitt explained LKDSB planned a staggered entry for junior kindergarten to begin the 2022 – 2023 school year. All of senior kindergarten attended on first day. Half of junior kindergarten joined their senior kindergarten classmates by attending on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 and on Thursday, September 8, 2022, the other half of Junior Kindergarten joined their senior kindergarten classmates while the first half group remained home. On Friday, September 9, 2022, all junior kindergarten students attended with their senior kindergarten classmates.

Director Howitt explained a staggered entry and the multiple open houses held in February and classroom tours promotes readiness and stated there was positive feedback from parents as communication was done thoroughly to help them plan for child care.
 - COVID-19 School Screening Assessment Tool

Director Howitt noted the COVID-19 school and child care screening tool remains in place. He explained the tool answers any questions one may have and continues to be a reliable tool with any changes updated within the screener as they occur.

Director Howitt noted Trustee Fletcher and Trustee Little are the current Trustee membership of the Parent Involvement Committee and today is municipal elections. He explained the new term of office for the Board of Trustees begins Tuesday, November 15, 2022 due to municipal elections occurring today. There will be new Trustees elected as there were some Trustees choosing to not be re-elected.

- Plan to Catch-Up
 - Director Howitt noted PIC's voice in asking for clear directions to make access easier for parents indicating a banner was posted on the website for parents to access items such as applying for payment for tutoring services.
Director Howitt noted tutoring supports that began on April 1, 2022 with tutoring both inside and outside of school with tutoring supports continues to see success as funds can be used for this support until end of March 2023.
- EQAO Provincial Update
Director Howitt noted EQAO results indicate a drop in mathematics in all levels for grades 3, 6 and 9. Math coaches were reaffirmed, and professional development is planned to maintain focus on the gaps that took place in learning during COVID-19. Professional development relies on being able to release staff to take the training which has been a challenge having sufficient numbers of occasional staff available.
He noted that we are in a contract year and dealing with labour negotiations. CUPE is closest to implement any job actions and there are negotiations scheduled. Should any job action occur, the Board will communicate with parents.

PIC Update

- 2021-2022 PIC Budget Summary was sent out with agenda package and will be posted on the Board website.
- The 2022 - 2023 PIC Central Budget is \$7,550.00.

Nominations and Election of PIC Co-Chair for Two Year Term

Melissa Hewitt will complete her two year term today. Melinda Hazen will complete one year as Co-chair. Alexandra Smith acclaimed as Co-chair.

PRO Grant

PRO Grant has been moved into the Grants for Students Needs (GSN). More information will be provided at the next meeting and the process the committee will follow. Applications will be sent to the schools outlining requirements.

Facebook Group

Alexandra made motion to dismantle Facebook group. All were in agreement.

Other Business/Future Agenda Items

Question regarding uploading student volunteer hours on BluePrint and how hours could be tracked. Director Howitt confirmed that currently BluePrint has not passed privacy thresholds and noted the board is currently seeking an alternative way for submission to be completed easy and securely.

Question put forth by Nick asking if published textbooks would be provided for the destreamed curriculum and concern was noted about destreaming occurring too rapid. Director Howitt noted publishers have reviewed offerings and have provided digital curriculum resources. He noted this can empower teachers to make good choices on resources to cover curriculum and has had supportive feedback.

Melinda noted that resources have been shared by teachers and there has been a shift in the way teachers are teaching. She noted the focus given by the board to share resources has been positive. Nick noted a concern that students don't have access or equal ability to differentiate one YouTube video that solves a problem correctly versus a YouTube video that has a wrong answer and caution is

needed.

Future Meetings

November 21, 2022, February 6, 2023, May 8 2023

Meeting formats discussed and meetings will be held in both the Chatham Regional Education Centre and the Sarnia Education Centre using video conference in November and May and virtually in February.

Next meeting – November 21, 2022 and held in Thames Room, Chatham Regional Education Centre, the Bluewater Room, Sarnia Education Centre and on Teams for those wishing to attend virtually.

Adjournment: 7:38pm

Bonnie Gotelaer, Recording Secretary