Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes – November 28, 2019

Attendees: Nicky Richardson, KCVI; Virginia Venditti, Polson Park; Marlene Orr, WJ Holsgrove; Chris Innocente, Sir John A; Dan, Sir John A; Crystal Bevens-Leblanc, FSS; Jim Jodoin, Rideau; Sachil Sing, Rideau; Jennifer Kehoe, Molly Brant; Jen Foster, JR Henderson; Sabena Islam, LCVI; Dorianne Sager, Sydenham PS; Debbie Viau, Prince Charles; Nicki Gowdy, SHS; Rajan Gill, Bayridge SS; Hilary Wallis, LCVI; Melissa Hudson, Centennial; Melissa Cox, Cataraqui Woods: Tom Mahoney, Public; Dennis Kehoe, Public; Mary Jean Short and Janine Monahan, Public Health; Bob Godkin, Trustee; Tom Gingrich, Trustee; Scot Gillam, Associate Superintendent; Trustee Elliot – PIC representative

Associate Superintendent of Safe & Caring Schools Scot Gillam welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Associate Superintendent Gillam read the LDSB Acknowledgement of Territory.

Board Updates

Associate Superintendent Gillam provided PIC with updates on the following items: Indigenous Education Month, Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week, Safe Spaces Symposium, Progress and Midterm Reports, and updates to PPM 158 – Rowan's Law.

Associate Superintendent Gillam shared a slide with information on Lead Testing in LDSB. All water filling stations are equipped with filters which ensure compliance with provincial guidelines for lead in water. All schools have signs which indicate which sources of water are tested and flushed regularly.

Associate Superintendent Gillam shared information on school supervision, both outside and inside the school. Principals are responsible for ensuring the safety of all staff and students. Parents who have concerns over supervision during lunch or outdoor play are to contact their school Principal and if need be, the Superintendent.

Health Unit Update – was emailed to the PIC Email Group prior to the meeting.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Prior to moving to the Adoption of the Agenda, there was a lengthy discussion on the need to formalize both the Meeting processes and the taking of Minutes.

Moved by Christine Innocente, Seconded by Jim Jodoin. Approved

2. Approval of October 2019 Minutes

Tabled to November 2019
Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.

Discussion ensued of having more details included in the Minutes for both LDSB Board Consent Agenda and for distribution to PIC members. Decision to have Hilary Wallis take concise but thorough Minutes, with information to be included in Consent Agenda to be bolded. Complete minutes will be shared with PIC.

3. Co-chair Election

An email was shared by Associate Superintendent Gillam from Lori Forrester who was interested in the PIC Co Chair position. The email was received just prior to the meeting and well past the Nov 21 deadline as per Associate Superintendent Gillam's email to PIC on both Oct 31 and Nov 18. There was a motion to table this to the Feb. 13th meeting and invite Lori to join us. There will be an opportunity for other parents to put their names forward prior to the Feb 13th meeting as well.

4. Business Arising

- Summer School data
- Cashless Rollout
- Safe Schools outdoor systems

This item was tabled to February as Associate Superintendent Gillam was not able to follow up at this time. Trustee Elliott informed the group that the first two items can be found in Board Minutes. We will provide the actual reference for next meeting.

5. Chair's Report

No report this meeting.

6. Correspondence

None this report.

7. Reports from Standing Committees/Working Groups

- Digital Working Group

Christine Innocente provided a brief history of the working group, including presentations and the Literature review. Mary Jean from Public Health provided more information on the Literature and it's 3 parts. Christine expressed that the group has been working for over a year and new members will be needed to carry this forward. There is a desire among the group to have more information on specific topics within the research. Mary Jean can not present the information as it belongs to Dr R. Reeves. There was interest in the group to have Dr. Reeves share some of the findings in the research to PIC.

Motion – to have Public Health invite Dr. Reeves to present the Literature Review to the Parent Involvement Committee – Christine Innocente

Seconded – Hilary Wallis

Carried

8. New Business

School Council Toolkit Follow Up

- Tabled for February meeting

Follow up from Indigenous Education Advisory Council

- Jen Kehoe discussed a recent meeting of the IEAC where representation of Indigenous parents on School Councils was discussed. Melissa Hudson suggested that Jen provide a summary of what was being discussed or asked so that this information could be brought back to individual Councils for discussion and perhaps follow up. The item was tabled so that Jen could bring back information to the February PIC meeting.

Increasing Parent Engagement

 Discussion revolved keeping everyone informed and providing opportunities. Many PIC members wanted a way to connect using email, but did not want to flood the system with too many emails.

Motion – to create an email group with permission for PIC members to connect with each other one on one. A closed Facebook page will be created with 2 administrators. Follow up will occur to discuss an open Facebook group and the use of Twitter. The LDSB PIC Facebook has been created and is in operation – Crystal Blevens Leblanc

Seconded – Jennifer Kehoe

Approved

 Facebook Live Streaming of Meetings – Jennifer Kehoe discussed this being an equity issue for those that live far away or have small children. The camera will remain on the screen and/or presenters for the duration of the meeting. Privacy will be paramount.

Motion – To pilot Facebook Live Streaming for the February Meeting – Sabena Islam Seconded – Crystal Bevens Leblanc

Carried

PRO Grants

- PRO Grants have been provided to LDSB and PIC is to be consulted on how to disperse the funds to local schools. A discussion on how best to distribute the funds and keep the amount to something that could be used was had.

Motion – to distribute the PRO Grants to Family of Schools combined projects/events. Applications and criteria will be similar to those used for previous PRO Grant applications at the Ministry – Marlene Orr

Seconded – not recorded

Carried

9. Meeting dates

- Feb. 13, 2020
- March 12, 2020
- May 7, 2020

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approx. 8:50 pm.