

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – February 9, 2023

### Roll Call:

Members:	Staff:
<p>S. Bradley, Co-Chair (also 2SLGTBQIA+ Focus Group)            S. Coleman, Amherst Island PS            M. Rickey/M. Redmond, Bayridge PS            M. Hudson, Calvin Park PS            T. MacDonald, Centennial PS            A.Z. Flores, Central PS            C. Innocente, Ecole Maple ES            L. Ray, Ernestown SS            C. Notley, Frontenac SS            M. Foster, J.R Henderson PS            M. Glassford, LCVI            J. Kehoe, Molly Brant ES (also IEAC)            V. Venditti, Polson Park PS            R. Peters, Prince Charles PS            M. Walton, Prince Charles PS            S. Delouche, R.G. Sinclair PS            J. Jodoin, Rideau PS            A. Meyer, Southview PS            S. Gratto, Storrington PS            V. Wood, Sydenham HS and Co-Chair            A. Bradshaw, Winston Churchill PS</p>	<p>P. Gollogly, Assoc. Superintendent            A.M. Andretta, Administrative Assistant            M. Christopher, IT Systems</p>
Trustees:	
<p>B. Godkin            T. Lloyd</p>	
Guests:	Recorder:
<p>Cst. V. Gerasimow, Kingston Police            C. Walters Gray, KFL&amp;A Public Health</p>	<p>E. Smith, Administrative Assistant</p>

## 1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Bradley called the meeting to order at 6pm.

## 2. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Co-Chair Bradley welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided the Acknowledgement of Territory. “We recognize that The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land.”

Co-Chair Bradley noted that tonight’s meeting will be slightly different and, before moving onto Adoption of Agenda, there will be a presentation by Kingston Police on “*Hate Crime Prevention and Education*”.

## 3. Adoption of Agenda

Adopted.

## 4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest declared.

## 5. Approval of Minutes

October and November 2022 minutes were approved by consensus.

## 6. Delegation/Presentation

Cst. Vanessa Gerasimow, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Officer with Kingston Police, delivered presentation on “*Hate Crime Prevention and Education*”. Cst. Gerasimov answered some questions and indicated that the presentation will be shared with PIC Co-Chair for further distribution to PIC members. Assoc. Supt. Gollogly noted that Cst. Gerasimow delivered this presentation to Principals a week prior and said that it was very well received. A PIC member suggested that this presentation should be shared with youth for them to understand what hate crime is and the seriousness of their words and actions. Cst. Gerasimow informed that they have worked closely with LDSB Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Team and are looking into this option.

## 7. Reports for Information

### 7.1 Co-Chairs Update

Co-Chair Bradley informed that there is a new Trustee representation and new administrative support.

Ruhi Snyder, polysomnographer and advanced clinical sleep educator, will deliver a sleep presentation for LDSB families on February 15, 2023, from 6-7pm (virtually only). Co-Chair Bradley will send out Teams meeting link and a brief introduction.

Co-Chair Bradley acknowledged that PIC received a question about using of School-Day for fundraising and noted that she will raise this question with the Board.

Co-Chair Bradley informed that she updated school council bylaws template and that she will share the document once it is approved.

Parent Involvement Committees and Ministry of Education had consultation meeting in November 2022. The meeting was on competences and challenges that PICs are seeing in the new school year. General report was that people are feeling good about returning to school, the option of online learning and extracurriculars. It was reported that black, Indigenous and people of colour parents are not necessarily feeling welcome or included in the councils; furthermore, some concerns are related to student behaviour in secondary schools, including high rates of vaping, academic and social catch up, whether tutoring funding will keep coming. Next meeting is scheduled for Feb 22, 2023. School Mental Health Ontario will attend, and they will share strategies to help parents support their children's mental health and share how they are supporting schools.

Co-Chair Bradley provided an update on Mental Health and Neurodivergence Subcommittee meeting, which started with a small group of parents with neurodivergent children. The subcommittee mainly discussed if it could service both mental health and neurodivergence; it further identified some gaps such as service navigation, recognizing that school-based support is critical, IEP improvement, concept of "Get to Know Your Child" form that goes out to every family. The subcommittee also discussed a possibility of support group where parent/guardians could exchange their experience and reach out for support. Co-Chair Bradley invited any interested parties (parents/guardians) to participate, if they can.

## **7.2 Trustee Update**

Trustee Godkin gave overview: Education Policy and Operations Committee (EPOC) took place on Feb 8; follow up on Right to Read report is very good and there are different initiatives that Board is working on, such as getting assessments as early as possible and addition of nine learning coaches that all schools have access to. Trustee Godkin reported that senior staff are putting a lot of effort into it and working on these issues, and it is important that parents are aware that it is being work on.

Trustee Godkin informed that the Board will be reaching out and seeking input from parents/guardians about School year calendar, budget process and special education review process. All these matters are very important, he invited every effort to be made to give the feedback.

Trustee Godkin further reported that a group of Trustees attended Public Education Symposium (PES). Some of the highlights were workshops on Indigenous studies. He also learned that LDSB stands out as open and respectful and harbour a safe place for people to say things, and we need to

continue our work. There was also a discussion about the lengthy name 2SLGTBQIA+ which he will bring to the attention of the subcommittee.

### 7.3 Board Update

Associate Superintendent Gollogly introduced Erduana Smith, new Administrative Assistant to Superintendents of Education. She also thanked Ann Marie Andretta for doing phenomenal job with PIC. Assoc. Supt. Gollogly further informed that we have the first designated Indigenous Trustee with LDSB, Kelly Maracle from the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte.

Assoc. Supt. Gollogly further noted that February is Black History and Futures Month, it is time to celebrate the numerous accomplishments of Black Canadians; it is an opportunity to amplify Black voices and recognize how they contributed to our history. The Equity Team has been planning several different free events for LDSB students. The second time that LDSB Queer Sports and Social Club is getting together, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:30pm.

Assoc. Supt. Gollogly further reported that Educational Services Leadership Team (ESLT) is embarking on a Special Education Review between February and April 2023. As with previous reviews, a goal is to examine resource allocation, strengthen partnerships, leverage supports, and identify professional learning opportunities for staff. The Thought Exchange will be available to students with special education needs and their families between February 27 and March 3, 2023, it will also be made available to Limestone staff and community members and partners starting April 24 to 28, 2023. Educational Services will review and analyze information gathered; final results and findings will be shared publicly in the Fall of 2023.

Assoc. Supt. Gollogly provided report on the School Year calendar process. Namely, explained *Provincial Regulation 304 School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days*, confirmed that the Ministry template for 2023/24 has not yet been received and that Assoc. Supt. Gollogly will represent Limestone and facilitate internal discussions and consultations. The LDSB School Year Calendar Committee will have representation from Trustees, parents (PIC), unions, federations, non-union employees, Human Resources, and school-based administrators. Currently, there are two possible options being considered for 2023/24 school calendar.

For school calendar 2024/25, Assoc. Supt. Gollogly further informed that consideration is being given to have an early start to the school year which would enable LDSB to have a new five-day break at the end of October and/or beginning November. This option is being explored because of the increase in absences that typically occur in November, as well as mental health data which suggests that breaking up the period from Labour Day to the December/January break may be beneficial for student and staff well-being. This model would require Ministry approval as it deviates from the Regulation 304. More information will come forward with engagement of stakeholders on potential models and LDSB more broadly gather survey information.

Recommendation was made by a member that we have to be mindful of demographics we are serving and that any survey information should be sent home with students and not just electronically.

#### 7.4 KFL&A Update

C. Walters Grey, RN, provided an update on behalf of KFL&A:

**Balanced Family Meals Workshop** took place on November 30<sup>th</sup>. In this workshop families learn how to balance family meals with convenience foods. There were 17 attendees. PIC members are encouraged to share the following with their parent councils to promote and distribute to their school community.

**Social Media and Body Image Workshop** will take place in-person on February 22 from 6-7pm at the LCVI cafeteria, and by live webinar on February 23 from 6-7pm. In this workshop we will discuss how social media messages shape our perceptions of reality, how they can negatively affect body image, and strategies to use social media in ways that can be both positive and health promoting. PIC members were encouraged to promote this workshop at their parent council meeting. School admins are also aware of this workshop and have been encouraged to communicate it with their school community. Promotional flyer attached.

**Parenting in KFL&A** is a service offered through KFL&A Public Health. Connect with a registered nurse for any questions you have about your school age child by phone, email or following us on Facebook. Promotional flyer attached.

**Update on ISPA (Immunizations of School Pupils Act):** Families with students who are not up to date with their routine immunizations would have received an ISPA letter. The deadline to submit your immunization record is February 27<sup>th</sup>. Parents are responsible for ensuring that they notify Public Health when their child has received an immunization. There are more options now for parents to get their kids up to date with their routine immunizations, including Public Health, Primary Care Provider and the Cataraqui Mall vaccine clinic (NEW). At the Cat Mall appointments are available Monday to Friday from 11am to 6pm. Eligibility: ages 4 to 18 years; no access to a health care provider; overdue for vaccines required for school. Follow the [link](#) to book an appointment.

**Respiratory season update (KFL&A) for January 22 to January 28, 2023:** Most recent update as of February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Updates have moved to a bi-weekly basis.

- COVID-19- while COVID-19 percent positivity and hospitalizations have decreased slightly, wastewater concentrations remain high with some fluctuations.
- Local respiratory activity- multiplex testing from KHSC and LACGH indicate an 8.0 percent positivity for rhinovirus/enterovirus. Percent positivity for each of Influenza A, RSV, parainfluenza, human coronavirus and human metapneumovirus are below 5%.
- Viral respiratory mapper- Both respiratory-related emergency department activity and pneumonia and ILI-related (Influenza Like Illness) admissions are stable and below pre-pandemic seasonal levels. This is true for all age groups.
- Let's get back to the basics that work.
  - Stay up to date with vaccines.
  - Screen for symptoms daily and stay home when sick.
  - Wear a mask in crowded indoor public spaces, including schools.
  - Wash your hands regularly.
  - Cover your coughs and sneezes.

### **7.5 Indigenous Education Advisory Council (IEAC)**

Member Kehoe wanted to clarify, whilst Trustee Kelly Maracle was appointed from the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte to serve on our Board of Trustees, that does not mean that there is an Indigenous Trustee representing at the Indigenous Education Advisory Council as of this time.

Member Kehoe further reported that the last IEAC meeting was in November 2022. Member Kehoe also reminded that the February 14<sup>th</sup> is the day to honour Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and encouraged everyone to take a moment and acknowledge that it is a National Day of Call to Action.

### **7.6 2SLGTBQIA+ Focus Group**

Representative Bradley informed that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 14 February 2023, at 7pm (online). Conversation will be about PRO Grant and, hopefully, Focus Group will be doing arts and creativity workshop with Lauren McEwan. Conversation followed about Pride Parade, rep. Bradley and Assoc. Supt Gollogly invited everyone to join the Board contingent at the parade noting that the last time about 200 people joined. Several members noted that Napanee had very successful Pride Parade as well. Trustee Lloyd informed that they are taking their request for road closure in Napanee to the Council, they are already working closely with OPP.

## **8. Reports for action**

None at this time.

## **9. Unfinished Business**

### **9.1 PRO-Grant**

Co-Chair Bradley gave an update on Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grant applications and funding. PIC approved 35 PRO Grant applications, averaging \$1,000 each. It is expected that funding for PRO will be provided next school year as well. Improvements in the process are being made and forms revised. Considerations will be given to recommendations made by School Councils during the course of this process. Co-Chair Bradley expressed appreciation for the subcommittees who met to review all applications. Co-Chair Bradley informed that she is planning to take it back to the Ministry about what parent engagement looks like at the secondary level and how very different that is than parent engagement at elementary level. Information on the approval of PRO Grants and instructions on how to pay for expenses and obtain reimbursements will be sent by the Board on Friday, 10 February 2023.

### **9.2 Renaming of PIC**

Consideration was given to renaming PIC, decision was made to leave the name as is: Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). Suggestion was made to invite volunteers who would be willing to work on promoting PIC via social media.

## **10. New Business**

10.1 Co-Chair Bradley introduced Vanessa Wood as a new Co-Chair.

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.

10.2 Speaker Series Committee – Co-Chair Bradley invited volunteers to sign up for the committee.

## **11. Correspondence**

## **12. Next Meeting**

Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 6:00pm.

## **13. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.





# Parenting in KFL&A



Connect with a registered nurse for any questions you have about your school age child.

## Connect with us:



@ParentinginKFLA  
Facebook page



613-549-1154 or  
1-800-267-7875, ext. 1555



Parenting@kflaph.ca





Join us for an information session

# Social media and body image

## **In-person**

February 22, 2023

6 to 7 p.m.

L.C.V.I cafeteria

## **Live webinar**

February 23, 2023

6 to 7 p.m.

In this session we will discuss how social media messages shape our perceptions of reality, how they can negatively affect body image, and strategies to use social media in ways that can be both positive and health promoting. Hosted by a registered dietitian and a registered nurse.

**Register by February 20**

to reserve your spot in-person or online.

[kflaph.ca/SocialMedia](https://kflaph.ca/SocialMedia)

A recording will be available for those that register.