

Parent Involvement Committee Minutes (PIC)

Wednesday, May 1 | 6:00 p.m..
Zoom Online Networking Meeting

Present:

Tim Graves, Superintendent of Education
Krista Holmes, Executive Assistant
Meredith Joyce, Sundridge Centennial Chair
John Skidmore, Chippewa School Chair
Meaghan Mullen, Nobel School Co-Chair
Jeanine Fuscaldo, Trustee
Howard Wesley, Trustee
Jill Cooper, Sundridge Centennial
Leslie Hansen, South Shore Principal
Laura Walker, Community Member

Regrets:

Karissa C, SouthShore Education
Amanda Meighan, Principal Mapleview
Katlan Schewmner, Mactier Public School
Kyla Kadlec, Principal Alliance
Marcus Etienne, Alliance Chair
Laura Forget, Community Member
Gillian Kajganich, West Ferris Principal
Chantelle Link, PSPS Co-Chair

Guests:

Chris Walking, K-12 Student Achievement and Well-Being Principal

Land acknowledgement - SO Graves

Called to order at 6:04pm

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendance was taken.

Approval of the agenda as amended

Motion to accept the agenda as presented; Chair Meredith Joyce Moved, Jill Cooper Seconded. *Carried*.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the notes as presented. Chair Meredith Joyce Moved, Meghan Mullen. Seconded. *Carried*

Review PRO grant committee's recommendations – SO Graves

- In the Fall, we sent out an application to School Councils to apply for PRO funding.
- Discussed round 1 and round 2 applications. See attached slide for the approvals from round 2.

New Business

School Climate Survey

- Aims to get anonymous information from student grades 4-12, but parents and staff will also do the survey.
- Questions such as – do they belong, how are they feeling at school, bullying, etc.
- This survey is confidential.
- The report will go to the Board of Trustees, and this will likely be received in the first few meetings of the new school year.
- Would be appreciated if you could encourage your school council to go and participate in the survey.
- We want everyone to feel, included and accepted.

Bullying and Prevention Plan

- The government has determined that the 3rd week of every November is Bullying and Prevention Week.
- We need to continue to have conversations about what bullying is, and what it isn't.
- See network discussion prompt slide.

School Council Survey

- Each year we have a survey to see what would support School Councils for that school year. We have a standard survey that we send out every year. PIC committee provides additional questions.
- SO Graves reviewed the questions from last year, that were ones that are repeated many years.
- Suggest – don't rush a survey out in May but get a smaller committee together for the data collection piece, and then planning out the responses to these things. Bring it back to June PIC meeting, and then push it out in early September.
- Sub-committee will be formed – Trustee Fuscaldo, Principal Hansen and SO Graves will call a few other members to see if they can get involved.
- SO Graves will also consult with the other depts, and see what else they'd like to see.

Student Achievement Plan (with Principal Chris Walkling)

- The Ministry has provided districts with a new planning process and template to support improved outcomes for students. Now entitled Student Achievement Plan, better schools and Student Outcomes Act – came out in the summer of 2023.
- First incarnation of this plan will be launched in June of this year. See Principal Walkling's slides on these details.
- Board can add additional indicators, and we've done so in our plan
- On April 2nd, NNDSB published a baseline. The Ministry mandated that districts use 2021-22 OnSIS data and 2022-2023 EQAO results to inform the initial report. When districts publish plans in June, these measures will be updated.
- We brought this to PIC so that we can have a dialogue on what meaningful engagement might look like. Are there additional indicators that we can use in PIC, or with our School Council's?
- Once the plan is published we are looking to engage community, families/parents twice a year, Fall and Spring.

Student Achievement Plan

- The Padlet can be brought back to each school's council
- Great as a parent to look at why our numbers are below the provincial average.
- Street Data comment – from Principal Walkling. How might we improve attendance rates across the District?
- Trustee Fuscaldo inquired about if this is able to be tracked on a per student basis. At the school level, Edsby is able to monitor school attendance, and offer early intervention. In terms of data, this is a system snapshot. (Slide about attendance in comparison to the province, NNDSB, etc)
- Trustee Fuscaldo inquired about in take-home packages would be available for students that could have/pick-up – especially for literacy and math given additional attendance issues such as busses being cancelled due to no drivers, etc. Principal Walkling asked, what might parent engagement look like?
- Trustee Wesley – what post secondary options students have, and getting them the information. We do not get advertised to, like the Southern communities do. Principal Walkling – the value of the information is not sufficient, this is feedback to help drive better communication strategies, and also shared with guidance dept and teams.
- Trustee Wesley thinks that the guidance dept is doing a great job, but that there is a disconnect with the students. But having the parents as part of the conversation would be helpful.
- Trustee Fuscaldo – graduating grade 8 students. Is there a way that the graduates can do some work in that summer for PIC/school councils. We will take this feedback and look into it, for students to get more community hours.

- The intent of the padlets is transparency. It is tied to our student achievement and well-being. Principal Walkling appreciates that this info will help to tell the story.
- Trustee Fuscaldo shared that many that she talks with say that by the end of the year, parents aren't as engaged, but wondering if the engagement/feedback would be better at the start of the year.
- Our historical data has a lot of context (21-22 school year – just coming out of Covid, and secondary was in octomester). The plan on June 30th would have updated metrics.

Bullying Prevention

- How might School Councils support this initiative.
- Love the idea of getting the PRO grant out earlier, as that would help when it comes to this overall awareness.
- Great to not just have the awareness for the kids, but for the parents as well. Especially where we're at with social media.
- Trustee Fuscaldo – could we do something like an infomercial could be created? Maybe a few SACs could get together to do something like this.
- Laura would like to highlight cyber-bullying. Maybe an opportunity to empower them with this, and what is your child doing with things.

Other Business

- Board website – Administrative guidelines – under review, and click that. There are three. 1 – outdoor learning, 2 reporting and investigating injuries and illnesses, 3 Joint Health and Safety Concerns.

Upcoming Events – SO Graves/Chair Joyce

June 12 PIC meeting #4 10-11:30

Agenda items due **Friday MAY 20– agenda items due** – SO Graves/Chair Joyce .

Adjournment Motioned by Meredith Joyce, Seconded by John Skidmore. *Carried*