

PIC Meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Via Zoom

Present

Stephanie Norrie, Executive Assistant
Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Teaching and Learning
Kyle Kadlec, Principal of Alliance and PIC Lead
Lisa Lamoreaux, Principal of student Well-Being, Equity and Indigenous Education
Emily Samuel, Principal of Safe Schools
Chris Walkling, Principal of K-12 Student Achievement and Well-Being
Lana St. Louis, NNDSB Mental Health Lead
John Skidmore, SAC Chair, Chippewa
Niki Hutchinson, Community Rep, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
Stephanie Bergman, PIC Chair/SAC Chair
Gillian Kajganich, Administrator
Shannon Mahon, Administrator
Heather Howald, Administrator
Sarah Lomack, SAC Chair
Heather Taylor, Administrator
Trisha Bariball, SAC Chair
Stephanie Underwood, Administrator
Meredith Joyce, SAC Chair
Tannis Gervais, Teacher
Emile Ferlisi, Administrator
Heetal Patel, SAC Co Chair
Chantelle Link, SAC Chair
Rebecca McClure, Parent
Karissa Culham
Rhianna Kelsall

Land Acknowledgement- SO Gray

Call to Order- Principal Kadlec at 6:06

Welcome- Principal Kadlec

Agenda Approval- Principal Kadlec

Motioned by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Sarah Lomack. Carried

Approval of the Minutes of the September 24, 2025, meeting

Motioned by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by John Skidmore. *Carried.*

Nominations and Elections- Principal Kadlec

Call for nominations – Teacher Representatives

No nominations received for teacher representative to PIC. Item deferred for future consideration.

Presentations

Emily Samuel, Principal of Safe Schools

Update on Planet Youth- Key Points:

- Planet Youth Nipissing is a community initiative based on Icelandic prevention models to reduce youth substance use and promote well-being.
- Grade 10 students surveyed to guide interventions.
- Protective factors emphasized: parental engagement, peer relationships, and extracurriculars.
- Concerns raised about:
 - Excessive screen time (45% of teens spend 3+ hours/day on social media)
 - Sleep deprivation (62% get less than 8 hours/night)
- Catherine Martinko's book *Childhood Unplugged* was distributed last year; future workshops may be considered.
- New resource suggested: *Smartphone Nation* by Dr. Caitlin Reiner. PIC members were invited to join a reading group.

Discussion Highlights:

- Gillian and Sarah suggested workshops on sleep hygiene and early intervention for younger students.
- Emphasis on practical strategies for parents to engage children offline.

Student Senate Participation Proposal

- Proposal to include a Student Senate representative in PIC meetings.
- Role: attend meetings, review agendas, contribute student perspectives.

- A student senate representative is not a voting member.
- Motion supported by majority; student rep to be invited to future meetings.

Harmony Movement- Virtual Parent and Caregiver Workshop; "Words Matter"

- November 20, 2025
- 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Flyer to be circulated by Stephanie Norrie

Principal Walkling, K-12 Student Achievement and Well-Being and Lana St. Louis, NNDSB Mental Health Lead

Correlation of student attendance and student achievement- Key Points:

- Attendance is a key indicator within the Student Achievement Plan.
- Alarming trends post-COVID: Only ~40% of elementary students attend 90%+ of instructional time.
- Secondary attendance is also declining.
- Strategies in place:
 - Personalized outreach
 - Mental health supports
 - Gamification and incentives
 - Professional learning for staff
- Indigenous Youth Circle emphasized recognizing cultural learning outside school and mapping it to curriculum.

Discussion Highlights:

- Sarah suggested hybrid learning options for transportation barriers.
- Stephanie Bergman emphasized inclusive recognition of cultural absences and building pride through community engagement.

Principal Lamoureux, Principal of student Well-Being, Equity and Indigenous Education- Portfolio Updates

Student Well-being:

- Teacher and student well-being champions launched.
- PD sessions held in September and October.

Equity:

- Equity Advisory Circle met in November.
- Planning underway for March anti-racism event with guest speaker.

Indigenous Education:

- Land-based learning (e.g., hide scraping workshop at West Ferris)
- Monthly Indigenous Youth Circle meetings
- Upcoming PD on anti-Indigenous racism

Pro-Grant Update- Principal Kadlec

- Round 1 Application- November 1, 2025
- Discussion of criteria and ways to create a successful PRO Grant application
 - Priorities include anti-racism and inclusion, parent engagement, mental health and well-being
 - Examples: literacy nights, wellness events, collaborative school projects
- Closing Date for Round 1- November 28, 2025
- Round 2 Application- January 9, 2026
- Closing Date Round 2- February 13, 2026

Topic of Interest Survey Results- Principal Kadlec

- Top themes: mental health, parent resources, IEPs, inclusive education
- Less emphasis on fundraising and financial literacy
- Future PIC agendas will reflect these priorities

Discussion- Principal Kadlec

What types of support would School SAC committees like to receive from the PIC committee?

- Share best practices across SACs
- Increase awareness of PIC's role and resources
- Provide guidance on Pro Grant applications
- Support fundraising strategies

Upcoming Events- Principal Kadlec

- Pro Grant Subcommittee Dec Meeting # 1- 3rd week of Dec
- Pro Grant Subcommittee Feb Meeting # 2- 4th week of Feb
- Feb meeting PIC Meeting # 3- Feb 25, 2026
- April PIC Meeting # 4- April 15, 2026
- May PIC Meeting # 5- May 13, 2026

Agenda Items for February PIC Meeting; due to Principal Kadlec/Chair Stephanie Bergman by February 6, 2026

Adjournment at 7:31 pm.

Unofficial