

PIC Meeting

Wednesday, September 24, 2025
Via Microsoft Teams

Present

Stephani 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
Leslie Hansen
Joanne Christie
Rebecca McLure
Jeniese Beatty
Chantal Link
Niki Hutchinson
Shannon Mahon
Heetal Patel
Alexandra Leggett
Jodi Roadknight-Amer
Meaghan Mullen
Stephanie Underwood
Stephanie Bergman
Nicole Chaput
Amanda Meighan, Mapleview
Nicole Brenne
Coby Bergman
Heather Howald
Sarah Lovering
Liz Gribbon
Frances Mitchell
Heather Keung

Land Acknowledgement presented by SO Gray

Called to Order at 6:05 pm

Welcome and Introductions - Superintendent Gray and Principal Kadlec

Superintendent Gray began the meeting by sharing the benefits for the community when parents and schools work in collaboration toward the common goal of creating the best possible learning environments for children.

Principal Kadlec shared her passion for parent engagement, describing it is the cornerstone of student success. Research consistently shows a strong connection between active parent involvement and increased student achievement and well-being. When families are meaningfully engaged in their children's education, students are more motivated, attend school regularly, and achieve higher academic outcomes. Beyond academics, the collaborative partnership between schools, parents, and communities fosters an environment where all students feel supported and valued.

Principal Kadlec recognizes that partnerships between schools, parents, and community members are essential for effective collaboration and the support of school initiatives. Through Parent Involvement meetings, the committee aims to lay the foundation for greater cooperation and shared responsibility in supporting our students.

In light of this, we are strongly encouraging all Principals and/or Vice Principals, School Advisory Committee (SAC) Chairs, and SAC teacher representatives to participate alongside parents in all four PIC meetings scheduled for the school year.

Agenda Approval

The majority of participants were in favour of approving the agenda.

Nominations and Elections

Principal Kadlec gave an overview of the PIC committee elections for varying positions. They are held annually to ensure to provide opportunities to parents who are new to the school community. Members can be re-elected from year to year.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- PIC Chairs/Co-Chairs; Three positions: Each region may be represented-West Parry Sound, East and North Bay
 - The chair or co-chairs of a parent involvement committee shall act as spokespersons for the committee in communicating with the SO Gray and or Principal Kadlec (supporting SO Gray's portfolio)
 - Prepare the agenda in consultation with SO Gray/Principal Kadlec
 - Chair PIC meetings
 - Lead and assist subcommittee chairs with projects and documentation
 - Consult regularly with SO Gray/ Principal Kadlec
 - Oversee and lead council initiatives and activities, ensures compliance with Board policies
 - Support in the completion of the annual PIC report
 - All SAC chairs are appointed to the PIC committee

- Elementary/Secondary P/VP representative; Three positions: Each region may be represented-West Parry Sound, East and North Bay
 - Attend PIC meetings
 - May participate in subcommittees and or regional initiatives/projects
- Elementary/Secondary teacher Representatives; Three positions: Each region may be represented-West Parry Sound, East and North Bay
 - Attend PIC meetings
 - May join a subcommittee and or regional initiatives/projects
- Community Representative: Niki Hutchinson (NBPS Health Unit)
 - Attend PIC meetings
 - May volunteer with other initiatives

PIC Chair

Motion that Stephanie Bergman be elected as the chair of the PIC Committee for a one-year term effective immediately and ending in June 2026

Moved by Nicole Chaput, seconded by Alexandra Leggett. *Carried.*

Elementary Administrative Representative

Motion to have Leslie Hansen as Elementary Administrative Representative for the PIC Committee for the 2025-2026 school year.

Moved by Amanda Meighan, seconded by Lisa Lamoureux. *Carried.*

Secondary Administrative Representative

Motion to have Gillian Kajganich as Secondary Administrative Representative for the PIC Committee for the 2025-2026 school year.

Moved by Lisa Lamoureux, seconded by Stephanie Bergman. *Carried.*

Community Representative

Motion to have Niki Hutchinson as Community Representative for the PIC Committee for the 2025-2026 school year.

Moved Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Lisa Lamoureux. *Carried.*

Teacher representatives

- Tabled to the next meeting

Approval of the Minutes of the November 6, 2024 meeting.

Motioned by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Nicole Chaput. *Carried.*

Approval of the Notes of the December 11, 2024 meeting.

Motioned by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Leslie Hansen. *Carried.*

Approval of the Notes of the June 17, 2025 meeting.

Motioned by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Leslie Hansen. *Carried.*

New Business

Pro Grant Subcommittee

Principal Kadlec gave an overview of the Pro Grant Subcommittee and described the duties of subcommittee members including reviewing and approving applications.

Motion that PIC Committee members Gillian Kajganic, Stephanie Underwood, Nicole Chaput, Rebecca McLure, Jodi Roadknight-Amer, and Heather Howald to be a part of the Pro Grant Subcommittee for the 2025-2026 school year.

Moved by Alexandra Leggett, seconded by Stephanie Bergman. *Carried.*

K-12 Student Achievement and Well-Being Principal - Chris Walkling

The Near North District School Board (NNDSB) invites families to participate in the [2025 Fall Multi-Year Strategic Plan \(MYSP\) survey](#). This survey will help measure the progress and implementation status of the 2021–2026 MYSP, which was developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders and launched in September 2021.

The MYSP focuses on four key pillars:

- Excellence in Teaching and Learning
- Excellence in Innovation
- Excellence in Relationships
- Excellence in Communication

The MYSP committee has created metrics aligned with these pillars to assess how well the plan is being realized. The MYSP survey continues the board's commitment to inclusive engagement and will provide valuable benchmarks to guide future decisions.

We encourage all families to share their feedback and help NNDSB stay informed and responsive to community perspectives. The survey is available on the board's website and will remain open until December 31st, 2025.

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

Principal Lamoreaux was pleased to share updated in various areas of her portfolio.

- Student Well-Being: This year Mental Health Lead, Lana St. Louis and Principal Lamoreaux were excited to share that NNDSB schools will have Teacher and Student Well-Being Champions. Professional development will be provided to Well-Being Champions throughout the school year, meeting on a monthly basis to share resources, plan events and activities and promote mental health.

Teacher well-being champions will be in place in all schools and student well-being champions will be encouraged in secondary schools. The initiative will potentially be extended to elementary school students in the future.

Nicole Chaput asked if PSHS would also be included and Lisa outlined that while the training takes place in Almaguin, the well-being champion initiative will be in place in all secondary schools.

Equity: Near North Equity Coaches will be engaging in professional development with Equity and Anti-Oppression Advocate Chris D'Souza in October. The PD learning session will focus on anti-oppression and how to respond to discrimination and racism. The 2025-2026 school year is also a Student Demographic Data collection year.

Nicole Chaput asked if it would be possible to find out who the Equity Coaches are in schools. Principal Lamoureux shared background on the selection process and to the Principal or Vice-Principal of a school to find out more about who may be an Equity Coach and Well-Being Champion in local schools.

Indigenous Education: Ourselves Indigenous Education and Library Services Teams will be hosting a Virtual Truth and Reconciliation Learning session for all NNDSB students and staff on Monday September 29th from 9:15 to 11:15 am. Elisa McFarlane, Library at Northern Secondary School will be performing a reading for elementary students and Judy Couchie, a residential school survivor, will be sharing her story with intermediate and secondary students.

Topics of Interest for PIC meetings- Principal Kadlec

To better serve and support NNDSB families and student achievement and well-being, the PIC Committee is looking for ideas/topics of interest.

Nicole Chaput- asked for some examples

Principal Kadlec shared the example of Childhood Unplugged, provincial curriculum resources, noting that offerings can be shaped by the interests of the committee.

Presentations, board initiatives/projects, curriculum, digital and AI literacy, ways to bring mental health back into elementary school, resources on IEP topics, understanding student behaviors and parent resources were some ideas suggested and feedback on what might be relevant to the committee.

Amanda Meighan said that parents/guardians/caregivers have spoken at their SAC meetings and in various forums about their interest in receiving support with creating family structures that contribute to their child(ren)'s well-being. Specifically, they're asking for help with creating healthy sleep habits, prioritizing outdoor play and reducing screen time.

Action item: A survey will be created and sent out to gather additional ideas.

PIC website - Principal Kadlec

Principal Kadlec shared her screen to walk through the PIC website. She explained that she is looking to make changes and is looking for suggestions to enhance the site and encourage families to access the site.

Stephanie Bergman mentioned that the website looks as though it has been created from the board's perspective and to see it from the perspective of a parent would be preferred. She suggested that additional resources could include recommended reading, websites, etc.

Lisa Lamoureux directed attention to the following mental health website; <http://smho-smso.ca>

Alexandra Leggett suggested Celebrating Cultural Diversity and connecting families with resources for academic support, social services and community engagement.

Nicole Chaput suggested including what has been happening in schools.

Action item: A survey will be created and sent out to gather additional ideas.

Upcoming Events- Principal Kadlec

- Next Meeting –  12 PIC Meeting # 2
- Pro Grant Subcommittee Dec Meeting # 1
- Pro Grant Subcommittee Feb Meeting # 2
- Feb meeting PIC Meeting # 3
- April PIC Meeting # 4
- May PIC Meeting # 5 (Optional)

Agenda Items

Due to Principal Kadlec or Chair Stephanie Bergman

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:22 pm.

Moved by Stephanie Bergman, seconded Rebecca McLure. *Carried.*

Unofficial