Near North District School Board

PIC Meeting

April 29, 2026, 6pm – 7:30pm

Via Teams

Present

Stephanie Bergman, PIC Chair/SAC Chair
Rebecca Bell, Supervisor of Near North District School Board
Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Teaching and Learning
Kyle Kadlec, Principal of Alliance and PIC Lead
Stephanie Norrie, Executive Assistant
Alison Clarke, Principal of Special Education
Kim Jenkins, Special Education Coordinator
Emily Samuel, Principal of Safe Schools
Niki Hutchinson, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
Gillian Kajganich, Administrator
John Skidmore, SAC Chair
Josh Stockill, SAC Member
Sarah Woolner, Vice Principal of Parry Sound High School
Amanda Meighan, Administrator
Chantelle Link, SAC Chair
Emile Ferlisi, Administrator
Shannon Mahon, Administrator
Margaret Mcdiarmid, Administrator
Joanne Christie, Administrator
Tyson Brear, Administrator
Debbie Newton, Teacher
Alyssa Rowley, SAC Member
Brigid Wright, Administrator
Rebecca Green, SAC Chair
Beauty Libita, Parent
Trisha Baribell, SAC Chair
Rebecca McLure, Teacher
Kayla Heslip, SAC Chair
Jeniese Beatty, SAC Chair
Candace Poitras, Parent

Call to Order- Chair Bergman at 6:00 pm

Land Acknowledgement- SO Gray

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Welcome and Introduction of the Ministry-Appointed Supervisor for Near North District School Board, Rebecca Bell – SO Gray

- SO Gray introduced the newly appointed Supervisor of the Near North District School Board, Rebecca Bell. Supervisor Bell brings more than 20 years of experience in communications, corporate leadership, and community development. Her expertise spans strategic partnerships, public affairs, communications, governance, and budgeting. These skills will strongly support the Board's ongoing work to strengthen relationships, enhance decision-making, and advance shared priorities.
- Originally from Ontario, Supervisor Bell has spent the past 27 years living and working in Newfoundland, where she developed deep connections with communities and organizations through her leadership roles.
- SO Gray extended a warm welcome to Rebecca, noting her commitment to working collaboratively in service of students, staff, and communities.
- Supervisor Bell expressed enthusiasm about joining the group and noted that she will be replacing the Minister on the PIC committee going forward.
- Furthermore, Supervisor Bell is now in her third week in the role and is learning all about the Near North District School Board and education sector. She took the opportunity to highlight how supportive and knowledgeable the Near North staff have been and their direct impact on bringing her up to speed on the strengths of the Board and the issues currently being addressed.
- Supervisor Bell concluded by expressing appreciation for being included, an eagerness to hear the upcoming presentations, and a commitment to working collaboratively with the committee moving forward.

Approval of the Agenda

Motioned by Josh Stockill, seconded by Gillian Kajganich. *Carried.*

Approval of the Minutes of the February 19, 2026, meeting

Motioned by Josh Stockill, seconded by Gillian Kajganich. *Carried.*

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Attendance Poll
Principal Kadlec encouraged participants to share their names and roles within the chat if they were unable to access the in-meeting poll.

There were 30 total participants, identifying in the following groups:

- Parent / Guardian- 5
- SAC Chair / Co-Chair - 6
- Teacher / Other School Staff- 1
- School Administrator (Principal / Vice-Principal)- 11
- Community Partner- 1
- NNDSB Central Staff / Other NNDSB Representative- 5
- Ministry of Education Representative- 1

Presentations

Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Identification Placement and Review Committee (IPRCs) Process

- Please see the attached document to review the presentation that Alison Clarke, Principal of Special Education and Kim Jenkins, Special Education Coordinator, delivered.

Community Culture Upholding the Code of Conduct

- Please see the attached document to review the presentation that Emily Samuel, Principal of Safe Schools, delivered.

Pro-Grant Update

- Principal Kadlec provided an update on PRO Grant Applications and Subcommittee Approvals
    - Principal Kadlec listed the schools that submitted successful applications for the 2025/2026 school year.
- Reminder to submit PRO Grant Feedback via Forms Survey as previously distributed in email to administrators.
- Pro-Grant initiatives
    - Evergreen Heights Education Centre – SAC Secretary Alyssa Rowley
        - Alyssa explained that their rural community school faces challenges like poverty, food insecurity, bullying, and racism, which can affect student learning. To help strengthen character and community, the council has invited Q-Mack, an Indigenous NBA entertainer and

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speaker, known for his basketball tricks and work with stars like Steph Curry and LeBron James.
        - On June 4, Q-Mack will deliver a multimedia family presentation focused on seven character traits; attitude, leadership, love, self-control, teamwork, accountability, and respect (an acronym spelling ALLSTAR. The event is intended to bring families and the school together in support of students. The SAC is excited and grateful for the funding that made the presentation possible, and they expect strong turnout given the school's sports focused culture.
    - Whitestone Lake Central School – SAC Chair Rebecca Green
        - Rebecca shared Whitestone's pine car derby event where families made small cars together.
        - Not only was there a stem/educational component tied to the cars, but a strong sense of school community was fostered when families supported other families in the making of the cars.
        - The evening event highlighted how to use Edsby and grow the school's communications.
        - An impressive 75% of the overall school community participated in the event
    - South River Public School SAC Chair Jeniese Beatty
        - Jeniese Beatty thanked the group for the program funding that made their initiative possible. Their school is hosting a STEM program with Science North, beginning with a daytime session for students. The hope is that students will go home excited about what they learned and encourage their families to attend the evening Science North event, where light snacks will be provided. The school typically sees strong turnout at family events, and they expect this one, which is scheduled for June 4 at 5:00 pm, to be well attended as well.

NNDSB PIC Webpage Feedback Survey Results

- Due to time constraints, Principal Kadlec suggested moving the discussion surrounding the NNDSB PIC Webpage

Closing Remarks

- Chair Bergman reminded everyone to check out the SAC Chair Forum Edsby page

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- Principal Kadlec reminded participants of the upcoming PIC Meeting, tentatively scheduled for June 3, 2026.
- Agenda Items are due to Principal Kadlec/Chair Stephanie Bergman by May 4, 2026

Adjournment at 7:28 pm

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