Near North District School Board

PIC Meeting

Thursday, October 1, 2026
Via Microsoft Teams

Present

Ashley Gasson, Executive Assistant
Kyla Kadlesc, Principal of Alliance and PIC Lead
Kim Pauli, Superintendent of Learning
Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Learning
Lana St – Louis, Mental Health Lead
Amanda Meighan, Central Principal, Curriculum K-6
Heather Hickey, Central Principal, Curriculum 7-12
Liz Gribbon, Principal of Land of Lakes
Amy Wood, Principal Sunset Park
Marcie Gervais, Principal of Woodland
Wade Burrows, Principal of Whitestone Lake Central
Scott Barons, Principal of Phelps
Elizabeth Simser, Principal of PSHS
Emile Ferlisi, Principal of South River
Stephanie Underwood, Principal of Vincent Massey
Marg McDiarmid, Principal of White Woods
Brigid Wright, Principal of Francis Pegahmagabow
Tammy Melnyk, Principal of Mapleridge
Leslie Hansen, Principal of Argyle
Jessica Snyder, Teacher of Parry Sound High School
Stephanie Bergman, PIC co-chair
Chantelle Link, PIC co-chair
Lauren Asher, Parent SAC
Katie Frattini, Parent SAC
Alyssa Rowley, Parent SAC
Josh Stockill, Parent SAC
Amanda Boyes, Parent SAC
Ian Daforge, Parent SAC
Jolene Greer. Parent SAC
Shane Reynolds, Parent SAC
Trisha Barriball, Parent SAC

Called to Order at 6:04

Land Acknowledgement presented by SO Pauli

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Welcome and Introductions – Superintendent Pauli

Kim Pauli welcomed members to the first Parent Involvement Committee meeting of the school year. She emphasized the importance of family engagement, thanked participants for contributing their perspectives, recognized Kyla Kadlec's leadership, and welcomed Ashley Gasson's organizational support. She also shared regrets from Director Jay MacJanet and Supervisor Rebecca Bell, who are expected to attend the next meeting.

Agenda Approval

There were no additions, deletions, or changes to the agenda.
Moved to approve the agenda as presented by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Jessica Snyder. *Carried.*

Approval of the Minutes of the April 22, 2026 meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Josh Stockill. *Carried*
No discussions around the minutes moved by Trisha Barriball, seconded by Melanie Gray. *Carried.*

Approval of the Minutes of the June 3, 2026 meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Ian Daforge.

Nominations and Elections

Kyla presented an overview of the process and role of the Chair/Co-Chairs.

PIC Chair/Co-Chair

Motion that Stephanie Bergman be elected as the co-chair of the PIC
for a one-year term effective immediately and ending in June 2027.
Motion that Chantelle Link be elected as Co-Chair for the PIC for a one-year term
Effective immediately and ending in June 2027.
Moved by Alyssa Rowley, seconded Chantelle Link. *Carried.*

Elementary Administrative Representative

Motion to have Stephanie Underwood elected as Elementary Administrative Representative for the PIC for the 2026-2027 school year.
Moved by Chantelle Link, seconded by Alyssa Rowley. *Carried.*

Secondary Administrative Representative

With no nominees, the position will remain vacant at this time. The committee will revisit the vacancy at the next meeting in November.

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Community Representative
With no nominees, the position will remain vacant at this time. The committee will revisit the vacancy at the next meeting in November.

Elementary and Secondary Teacher Representative
With no nominees, the position will remain vacant at this time. The committee will revisit the vacancy at the next meeting in November.

Non-Teaching Staff Representative
Motion that Ashley Gasson be elected as the Non-Teaching Staff Representative of the PIC for the 2026-2027 school year.
Moved by Kyla Kadlec, seconded by Jessica Snyder. *Carried.*

Central Staff Representative
Motion that Heather Hickey and Amanda Meighan be elected as Central Staff Representative Co-Chairs for the 2026-2027 school year.
Moved by Stephanie Bergman, seconded by Jessica Snyder. *Carried*.

Motion that nominations be closed.
Moved by Tammy Melnyk, seconded by Leslie Hansen. *Carried.*

Melanie Gray – Superintendent of Learning provided an update on EAC, FNAC and IEC.

The Equity Advisory Circle will use rotating chairs and agendas this year due to changes in superintendent portfolios. The first meeting date has not yet been determined, but four to five meetings are anticipated. Meeting information will be shared, participation is open to all, and the committee's terms of reference are available upon request.

The First Nation Advisory Committee will work directly with individual First Nations rather than holding a board-wide meeting while the Education Service Agreement is renewed and revised.

The Indigenous Education Committee, which includes community partners, First Nations Indigenous education counsellors, and Board staff, will hold its first meeting on October 20. Following consultation, the committee may return to PIC to share priorities identified for the Board Action Plan for Indigenous Education.

<u>Nominations/Elections of PRO Grant Committee</u>

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Principal Kadlec gave an overview of the Pro Grant Subcommittee and described the duties of subcommittee members including reviewing and approving applications, providing application closing dates.
Motion that Alyssa Rowley, Stephanie Bergman, Chantelle Link be part of the Pro Grant Subcommittee for the 2026-2027 school year.

PIC Presentations

K-12 Student Achievement and Well-Being Principals –Amanda Meighan and Heather Hickey

The district is strengthening elementary teaching through **evidence-based instruction** and coordinated supports in literacy and mathematics. Its approach combines strong classroom foundations, responsive assessment, and collaborative educator support.
Kindergarten and Grade 1 focus on explicit literacy instruction, while Grade 6 emphasizes explicit mathematics instruction, student data, direct teaching, and effective tools and representations.
The **Multi-Tiered System of Support** keeps every student connected to Tier 1 instruction while adding targeted practice, feedback, smaller groups, or intensive support when needed.
Coaches, coordinators, and school staff use student-centred coaching, and Kindergarten educators are implementing Ontario's new curriculum while maintaining structured literacy, early mathematics, play, and inquiry-based learning.

Mental Health Lead -Lana St-Louis
Presentation: Helping Students Thrive: Mental Health Supports in NNDSB
Lana provided instructions and an overview of the NNDSB website and how to access mental health resources.

The Mental Health Department uses a tiered approach supported by 29 professionals across the Board. Services range from universal classroom programs that build emotional regulation, social skills, coping strategies, and mental health literacy to small-group instruction, individualized support, and short-term counselling for students with greater needs.
Elementary families can request support through their child's teacher or principal, while secondary students may approach guidance staff, another trusted adult, or use an online referral form. Caregivers may also submit referrals and receive assistance from the intake team in identifying appropriate services.
The multidisciplinary team includes child development counsellors, intake workers, mental health clinicians, culturally responsive Indigenous-focused

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clinicians, attendance counsellors, and health-system partners. The Board's website also provides information about crisis supports, community agencies, referral pathways, and other resources that promote student well-being.

Committee Discussion
Principal Kadlec reviewed PIC's key goals and priorities as increasing diverse representation, strengthening collaboration, expanding outreach to equity-deserving communities, reducing participation barriers, and ensuring the committee reflects district needs.

Topics of interest
Principal Kadlec invited members to suggest topics, priorities, initiatives, and measures of success for the year.
Chantelle Link proposed exploring supports for children, families, and school staff navigating family separation and transitions between households.
Members discussed increasing engagement with the new Francis Pegahmagabow Memorial School. Its School Advisory Council chair will be invited to participate in PIC, and program funding may support parent-engagement initiatives.
A survey will be distributed to school communities and committee representatives to gather broader input and help guide PIC's work.
Upcoming Events - Principal Kadlec

- Next Meeting – Nov 25th PIC Meeting # 1
- Pro Grant Subcommittee Meeting # 1 - December 3rd 3:30 - 4:30
- Pro Grant Subcommittee Meeting # 2 - February 10th 3:30 – 4:30
- Feb 3rd PIC Meeting # 2
- Mar 31st PIC Meeting # 3
- June 2nd PIC Meeting # 4

Agenda Items
Due to Principal Kadlec/Chair/Ashley Gasson by Friday, November 6.

Adjournment
Motion to adjourn 7:34

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