



# DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ONTARIO NORTH EAST

## Parent Involvement Committee Meeting

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### Committee Members

**Present:** Janet MacDowall, Elk Lake Public School - Chair  
Cathy Senyuk, W.E. Miller P.S.  
Jennifer Crump, Smooth Rock Falls School  
Brian Conley, Schumacher Public School  
Saunders Porter, Chair, District School Board Ontario North East  
Rosemary Pochopsky, Vice-Chair, District School Board Ontario North East

### Committee Members Absent

Joanne Perritt-Hager - Roland Michener Secondary School  
Alex Vanderburg - KLDCS

### Administration

**Present:** Linda Knight, Director of Education

### Recording

**Secretary:** Janice Sharpe

**Date:** August 20, 2009

**Time:** 4:30 p.m.

**Place:** Schumacher Board Office

### **1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Janet MacDowell asked everyone to introduce themselves as there are have two new members: Jennifer Crump and Brian Connolly. The Committee is still looking for more members from the North and South of the Board.

### **2.0 Agenda**

**Moved by Saunders: Jennifer Crump**

**Seconded by: Cathy Senyuk**

**That the Agenda be approved as printed.**

**CARRIED.**

### **3.0 Approval of May 20, 2009 Minutes**

Moved by: Rosemary Pochopsky  
Seconded by: Cathy Senyuk

**That the May 20, 2009 PIC minutes be approved.**

**Carried.**

### **4.0 School Council Orientation**

The Committee discussed plans for the upcoming School Council Orientation being planned for September. Janet MacDowall has been in contact with Jacqui Strachan of People for Education, who is available as a speaker. Following the Committee's confirmation of a September 15<sup>th</sup> date, Janet will confirm Jacqui for the 15<sup>th</sup> and advise the Committee. Janet advised that costing would include Jacqui's travel, a speaker's fee, and accommodation for one night. This will be charged to the PIC budget.

As in the past, Roland Michener will be the main site, and the following 4 sites will be used for videoconferencing:

Kirkland Lake District Composite School  
New Liskeard Board Office  
Cochrane High School  
Kapuskasung District High School

The Committee decided that they would like the orientation to include some of the following ideas:

- Best practices
- The importance of parental involvement in the school
- What does a school council member do?
- Successful fundraising
- How to write a grant proposal

It was decided to call the evening "Parent Power" in the hopes of interesting parents who have not been involved before but have considered it.

Janice will produce a flyer to be sent home with all students the first week of school notifying parents of this event.

## **5.0 PRO Grants**

Discussion involved how all schools can be shown how to write a successful grant proposal and which types of proposals have been successful in the past. It was decided that Jennifer Crump would present a success grant proposal format at the Parent Power event. Jennifer will e-mail the schools to request descriptors of successful grant proposals from the schools and have them available at the event.

## **6.0 School Council Funding**

It was suggested that a reminder be sent to Principals and School Councils reminding them of the grant money available for School Councils to promote parent involvement at their schools.

## **7.0 Other Business**

Linda Knight discussed the recent procedural changes regarding school Lockdown Procedures as directed by the Ministry of Education. These changes will be reflected in the Police and School Protocol Policy.

Changes to the Accommodation Review Policy will include timeline differences as directed by the Ministry of Education. The Board's policy will be changed following formal approval at the Board table.

Superintendent of Schools Steve Pladzyk is developing a Board Accessibility Policy which will come to the Board in the near future.

Linda advised the Committee that she is currently working with the Administrative Team on the board's Strategic Plan. This plan will come to the Board in September.

Superintendent of Schools Michelle Leigh has a team in place and they are currently working on a board Environmental Policy.

Linda gave the committee an update of the new French Immersion School being built in Timmins. A committee will commence meeting in September and tenders will be going out early in the new year.

Linda advised that the board is sponsoring schools district wide to attend the International Plowing Match being held in New Liskeard in September. The Ministry will have a booth there that our principals will be participating in.

The Committee was advised of the amalgamation with the Folyet and Gogama boards.

Brian Connelly was concerned about the state of No Trespassing signs on school property. Signs at Schumacher Public School are faded and no longer readable.

Linda advised Brian that she would contact the Property Manager and have the signs replaced.

#### **7.0 Dates for Future Meetings**

The dates that were agreed upon at the May 20<sup>th</sup> 2009 PIC Meeting were upheld and are as follows:

Monday, November 30, 2009

Monday, March 22, 2010

Monday May 22, 2010

All agreed that meetings would be held from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

#### **7.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.