



Minutes

Parent Involvement Committee
Tuesday, June 09, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.
Bluewater DSB Education Centre - Chesley

Parents:

North: Jennifer Miller (Co-Chair), Jennifer Barratt-Parker (Co-Chair), Tanya Schute

South: Joe Grieco, Toby Bruce

West: Jim Thorpe

Trustee: Linda Hamill

Community:

Parent at Large: Judi Chambers

Administration: Steve Blake, Director; Bev Sims, Director's Office; Keith Lefebvre, Principal

Teacher: Betty-Jo Raddin

Regrets: Jennifer Isber-Legge, Katherine Arnold, Colleen Madill, Christine Laur, Patricia Greig, Sue Loyst, Matt Pickett, Jean Stephenson

Agenda item	Discussion / Decision / Action Taken	Follow-up/person responsible
Welcome and introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brief introductions all round. 	
1. Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No exceptions 	
2. Review of March 10, 2015 Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minutes approved. 	
3. Business arising from the minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No business arising from the minutes 	
4. Director's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing negotiations both locally and provincially regarding the Work to Rule possible strike position for elementary school teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report card situation being handled on a board by board basis ▪ Local commitment (barring any changes) to have report card with marks and letter of explanation from Director ▪ Principals are mitigating the impact ▪ Strategic plan will be rolling out in the fall and so far there have been over 600 respondents to survey. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feedback suggests that the strategic plan meets expectation ▪ 40% of surveys returned from parents 40% from staff, 10% from students, 10% from graduates and others. ▪ Respondents are suspicious about information being gathered about parent engagements and don't understand the boards motives ▪ PIC members can view the board report on the BWDSB website ▪ ARC Policy Guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ feedback received with good suggestions from parent groups ▪ ARC announcement coming mid October 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PIC members.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Planning and Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ partnership letters being sent to the municipalities in the near future ▪ Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BWDSB is running a deficit budget however the budget is ministry compliant. ▪ Three-year plan to bring in a balance budget. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dealing with empty space (Boards get more flexibility with money for having no excess space) ○ Optimizing consolidation of expenses ○ Ministry penalizes boards for extra space. ○ Special education funds redistributed across the province and we were net losers. ○ Money will be taken away next year for empty space and from high needs amount. ▪ ARC Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As the ARC process unfurls parents will become more engaged. ▪ ARC process is very different. ▪ Skilled trades success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Successful year at the regional, provincial and national levels for Bluewater students enrolled in the skilled trades ▪ The Regional Skills Challenge was held in Owen Sound at the end of March and included over 100 local students with 26 Bluewater students advancing to the provincials in May. ▪ Three students won gold at the provincials, 4 won silver and 7 won bronze. ▪ The 3 gold medal winner advanced to the nationals in Saskatoon at the end of May, where one of the students won gold in Automotive Service! ▪ A report highlighting all Bluewater provincial and national award winners from the past school year will be presented at the Regular Meeting of the Board on June 16. ▪ OEC Open house <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ from 1 PM to 4 PM Saturday, June 13 	
5. Trustee's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 50% of board members are new. ▪ Trustees are doing everything they can to foster parent engagement. ▪ Good feedback on strategic plan given at school council meetings and other public forums. ▪ Not many comments were received from parents on the accommodation review policy. ▪ Budget meetings were poorly attended. 	
6. Budget Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PIC budget: \$5000 per board and \$.17 per student for total of \$7500. ▪ \$3300 remaining. ▪ \$841 on books spent for network meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
7. PIC Symposium Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PIC Symposium involves networking of PIC leaders from around the province ▪ Topics focused on parent engagement ▪ Interactive workshops on teaching math. ▪ Speakers Included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Video from premier of Ontario. ▪ Ruth Gordon from roots of empathy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ David Bouchard on reading. ▪ Spencer West from me too we. ▪ Demonstrations/Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online employment profiles from the Ministry of colleges and universities. ▪ Update on the supports for the ministry on parent engagement. ▪ Next year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invitations will be sent out to PIC members if the chairs cannot attend. 	
8. PIC Annual Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PIC Report completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jennifer BP - next steps
9. Election Process Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Election process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Members are to notify co-chairs of intentions for next year including interest in executive positions. ▪ Elections are not possible until September due to time constraints and the fact that this is the last meeting of the school year. ▪ By-laws: Require update to reflect new areas/membership and realities of the committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All Parent and Community reps ▪ Jennifer BP and Jim Thorpe
10. School Council Network Meeting Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special-education session worthwhile one stop shopping. ▪ Network session and seemed short period time went very quickly. ▪ Positive atmosphere and people enjoyed the network session. Productive discussions on the strategic plan. ▪ Male role models in the school make a difference and positive impact on boys. ▪ Mass group enjoyable. ▪ Good participation by attendees. ▪ Low numbers lacked and diversity. ▪ Over one half of the trustees were in attendance. ▪ Introduction of the word yet when students say they cannot do things. ▪ Principals in attendance enjoyed the sessions. ▪ Growth mindset session very well done with a lot of humor. ▪ Icebreaker set the tone and loosened everyone up. 	
11. PRO Grant – Application Submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting to be set up with Alanna Murray for regional PE grant applications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiative will include an on-line portal to support parents with children with special needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jennifer M
12. Fall Network Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2015/2016 networking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussion around fall or spring - support for a fall meeting. ▪ We will try to get a speaker from People for Education. ▪ CODE resources could be purchased with 2014/2015 funds and given to SC reps in attendance. ▪ There is a reading program over the summer Reading program with Bruce County Library could be promoted by PIC - decided not to proceed further. ▪ Action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Determine where the parent engagement gaps are. ▪ Determine where the achievement gaps are. ▪ Could PIC provided tool kit to help or guide school councils when promoting math and literacy nights. ▪ \$2000 to be ear marked for fall networking meeting. ▪ Money also to be allocated for building healthy relationships package from CODE. ▪ We need to look at how we can build on existing programs 	

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	such as the Bruce county library reading program	
13. Meeting Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thursday, October 1. ▪ November 10 school council networking. ▪ January 14. 	
14. Summary of PIC Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Email intentions of committee involvement to co-chairs ▪ PIC feedback ▪ Input mileage submissions 	
15. Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Steve Blake thanked the co-chairs for their leadership and dedication. ▪ 7:40 PM 	