



Minutes

Parent Involvement Committee
Thursday, March 10, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.
Bluewater DSB Education Centre - Chesley

MEMBERS PRESENT

Parents:

North: Jennifer Barratt-Parker (Chair), Tanya Schute, Joe Grieco

South: Sara Leask

West: Jim Thorpe

Trustee: Linda Hamill

Community:

Administration: Jean Stephenson, Superintendent of Education; Keith Lefebvre, Principal;
 Matt Pickett, Principal

| Agenda item | Discussion / Decision / Action Taken | Follow-up/person responsible |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Welcome and introductions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jennifer reviewed membership and welcomed everyone. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jean Stephenson discussed the role and goals of PIC and parent engagement. ▪ Brief introductions all round stating goals for our PIC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PIC is not just about meetings ○ Accommodation Review process engages parents ○ PIC should be providing support to parents and school councils (educating parents about ARs and board processes) ○ Look at what other successful PICs do. ○ Parent involvement can connecting with child’s educator and showing interest in your child’s school day. ○ Parents have busy lives and do not realize that they don’t have to attend meetings to be involved. ○ Parents need to be asked or invited to be involved. ○ PIC can provide advice to the board on parent issues. ○ PIC members represent our areas, not only our schools. | |
| 1. Approval of Agenda | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No exceptions ▪ Added new business and SCC Network meeting. | |
| 2. Review of October 1, 2015 Minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Correct spelling of Sara throughout the minutes and post. ▪ Accept minutes as amended - Tanya ▪ The minutes were seconded by Sara - carried | |
| 3. Business arising from the minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None. | |
| 4. Report from the Superintendent | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engaging Parents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information about the Award of Excellence nominations was shared recently with Administrators. ▪ PIC website is accessible from BWDSB website banner. ▪ Board posts items on the PIC website (i.e. concussion protocol and effects on learning). ▪ Items from the PIC website are picked up by the local media and the magazine “Grey Bruce Kids”. ▪ PIC Symposium. Members are encouraged to attend ▪ ARC Policy: Bluewater is one of the first boards to utilize the new ministry guidelines and policy. ▪ Feedback will be taken regarding the initial two accommodation reviews. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PIC members to promote the use of the PIC website. |

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| 5. Trustee's Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Board deficit budget was approved last June 2015. A priority is to reduce excess space and reduce financial pressures. ▪ The goal is to eliminate/ reduce excess the spaces within the current board term. ▪ Board bylaws have been revised. All requests to present as a delegation must be received by noon on the Tuesday prior to the next meeting. ▪ Budget meetings have started for next year. | <p>Action Joe and Linda will provide more info on the bylaw regarding delegations and send out prior to the next meeting.</p> |
| 6. Chair's Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviewed the PIC Members Listing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jennifer is interested in sharing the PIC role ▪ PIC membership is down. We may be in non-compliance with our bylaws. ▪ Discussed ways to invite parents to join the committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Direct invitation from PIC members. ○ Trustee invitations at SCC meetings. ○ JBP needs our help to directly invite parents to join PIC ▪ Correspondence; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussed mental health support in schools and the fact that our region is inundated with people wanting to speak on mental health issues. ▪ School councils should go to their principal with ideas so that speakers can be vetted. ▪ Ontario Federation of Home and School Association (OFHSA) Conference is the weekend of October 15 2016. ▪ Nominations for the Awards of Excellence must be from the high school catchment area of the nominee. ▪ Ombudsman office has literature and reports and would be available as a speaker. ▪ Members invited to the PIC symposium in April. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action: all identify interest of sharing Chair role to JBP ▪ Action: Tanya and Sara will provide JBP with tips in order to draft a letter. ▪ Action: Keith and Matt take invitation developed then promote membership in PIC. ▪ All: inform JBP if interested |
| 7. PRO Grant Application | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jennifer explained purpose and method of submitting a PRO Grant. ▪ Reviewed ministry web-page "what you need to know to apply" ▪ PIC members are invited to submit community wide grants on relevant topics (this topic will be tabled to the next meeting). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All: send ideas for community PRO grants to JBP for discussion. |
| 8. CODE Resource Handout | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building healthy relationships (3rd of the series) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Given out at the network meeting. ▪ Not easy for SCC groups to use. ▪ Inspiring Your Child to Learn and Love Math (4th of the series) is now available. | |
| 9. Other initiatives and ideas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spring networking session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussed impressions of fall networking meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning was easier as speakers were organized by the board administration. ○ There was not a choice of break-out sessions for attendees to go to. ▪ Ask attendees to give comment on topics. ▪ For the fall; perhaps a pancake breakfast could be held on a Saturday for new SCC chairs. ▪ May 11 (tentative networking event) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open space dialogue on parent engagement ideas for the fall networking meeting. ▪ Social media presentation from Jamie Petit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is available on all platforms ▪ PRO Grant applications ▪ Mental health initiatives in BWDSB. ▪ <i>Inspiring Your Child to Learn and Love Math</i> ▪ Involvement in ARCs? Might be better suited for fall. ▪ Invite SCCs to showcase their successes regarding parent involvement, or PRO grants. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A sub-committee will be established to set the agenda and topics. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welcoming new families to Ontario and Bluewater | |
| 10. Next meetings. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May 11 networking meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning meeting to be set up by email ▪ June 15 for PIC end of year meeting. | |
| 11. Agenda items for next meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elections ▪ Financial reports ▪ Network Meeting de-brief | |
| 12. Adjournment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 8:03 p.m. | |