

## SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



**Our Mission:** *“Inspiring our students to succeed and make a difference”*  
**Our Vision:** *“We are leaders in providing quality learning experiences in our small school communities”*  
**Our Values:** *“Caring, Fairness, Empathy, Responsibility, Honesty, Resilience, Respect, Perseverance and Innovation”*  
**Our Motto:** *“Small schools make a difference”*

### Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 — 6:30 p.m.

### **MINUTES**

On-Site at Marathon Board Meeting Room  
 Electronic Access via Videoconference and/or Teleconference  
**Dial-in: 1-888-289-4573**  
**Access: #7542445**

Chair: Pearl Cooper

Recorder: Andrée MacGillivray

#### **1.0 Roll Call**

<b>Parent Involvement Committee</b>											
Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)											
Legend: School Council = (SC) / Parent Involvement Committee = PIC											
Elementary Schools	O	T	V	A	R	Secondary Schools	O	T	V	A	R
	S	C	C				S	C	C		
BAPS: Melissa Groom (SC)				X		GCHS: Lynne Lafrance, Matthew Donovan (SC) & (PIC)		X			
BAPS: Amelie Nephin, Natalie Cormier (SC)				X		GCHS: Lee Anne Donovan, Chantal Barrett, Paulette Abraham, Mary Jane Dunn(SC)		X			
BEPS: Nikki Orban-Goodman (SC) & (PIC)				X		LSHS: Mandy Monks (SC) & (PIC)		X			
BEPS: Brenda Goodman (SC)				X		MNHS: Jane Bourgeois (SC)					X
BEPS: Theresa Nelson, Misty Goodman, Karen Enders, Tanya Furoy(PIC)				X		MNHS: N/A (PIC)					X
DOPS: Kitty Dumonski(SC)& PIC		X				MRHS: Jennifer Bott, Paula Schawantz (SC)					X
DOPS: Lucie Lankimaki, Tricia Stenlund (SC)				X		MRHS: Pearl Cooper (PIC)	X				
GOPS: Kelly Mangoff, Chair (SC)				X		NRHS: Martha Verville, Theresa Monroe, Maria Gauvin (SC)					X
GOPS: Michelle Bird(SC)		X				NRHS: N/A (PIC)					X
MNPS: Amanda Warford, Theresa-Lynne Cain(SC)& (PIC)		X									
MTPS: Aryn Rooney, Julie Cyr (SC)				X							
MTPS: Faith Yaciuk (PIC)				X		<b>Trustees/Administration</b>	O	T	V	A	R
MMPS: Alyson Beaudry, Amanda Stark (SC)		X				Mark Mannisto		X			
MMPS: Rose Anne Nieman, Sherri Sawry, Amanda Cassie (PIC)		X				Kim Figliomeni (alt.)		X			
NAPS: Christiane Young, Lee Ann Donovan(SC) Matthew Donovan, Christiane Young (PIC)		X				Pinky McRae (Ex-Officio)					X
RRPS: Sara Hardy, Downey LeBar, Candice Hedlun (SC)& (PIC)				X		David Tamblyn	X				
SCPS: Tosha Borutski, Erin Nesbitt, Patricia White (SC)				X		Nancy Petrick					X
SCPS: Tina Hamel, Tosha Borutski (PIC)		X				Andrée MacGillivray (Recorder)					X
TBPS: Melissa Lalande, Wendy Adams, Kristi Voogt (SC)		X				RM. Joannette (Alternate Recorder)	X				

### **1.0 Welcome**

Director David Tamblyn welcomed the group and provided a brief overview of the roles and responsibilities of the Parent Involvement Committee in area schools.

### **2.0 Review and Approval of Minutes: May 21, 2014**

Director Tamblyn explained that there was no quorum present at the last meeting on May 21, 2014, therefore the minutes presented are for information only and cannot be formally approved.

### **3.0 Approval of Agenda**

*Mover: K. Figliomeni Second: M. Mannisto*

*That, the agenda for the Parent Involvement Committee meeting of November 19, 2014, be accepted.*

### **4.0 Business Arising from Minutes**

4.1 Nil

### **5.0 Chair: Parent Involvement Committee**

*(Pearl Cooper)*

5.1 Pearl Cooper agreed to act as PIC Chair until a formal election is held, perhaps at the next meeting.

### **6.0 Director of Education**

6.1 Parent Engagement in Ontario and Parent Engagement Making a Difference – A Practical Handbook. Director Tamblyn provided an outline of the structure, function and linkages that PIC has within the board organization.

- Purpose of PIC as outlined in policy is to provide board level involvement with link to director, trustees and school councils
- Student/parent engagement for student success is an important goal in all schools and PIC is a group who can promote parent involvement in schools by helping to impart information to parents regarding their role with children both in and out of the classroom.
- Support and enhance meaningful and inclusive involvement
- Structure for PIC
  - Parent chair
  - Majority must be parent member
  - Schools have one representative and two alternates
  - Quorum is simple majority (more than 50 percent)
  - PIC is a Statutory Committee, i.e., named in legislation
  - There are four meetings in each school year
  - After meeting, trustees report back to the board, and PIC members relay information to their school council
- The ministry provides base funds of \$500 for each school council in the board to assist with parent engagement activities
- There is also approximately \$5,000 in grants with which school PIC's and School Council can apply to the Board to organize parent engagement/involvement activities in their schools.
- The Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grant is an annual program that all school councils can apply to organize events in schools. Each year several of our schools apply to this program and if the Ministry sees merit in the application PRO grants are provided. In the past some examples of schools providing opportunities for parent engagement include
  - DOPS received \$1000 and organized a Chat Night to engage in mental health
  - MTPS received \$1000 for a Healthy Nutrition and Fitness Event

- NRHS received \$1000 ran a Healthy Living Presentation and also supports nutritional lunches at the school
- SCPs received \$1000 to organize a Mathematics Learning as did TBPS
- GCHS received \$250 for a Parent Engagement exercise

Mr. Tamblyn went on to advise the group that information exists on the Board website under the “Parents” menu. There is a link the PIC Handbook and the PIC Bylaws and Constitution can be found there.

## 6.2 Early Years Framework

Superintendent of Education Nicole Morden-Cormier briefly reviewed some information about the Early Years Framework as outlined in the document “How does Learning Happen”. She noted some of the optimum conditions for children’s learning include:

- Expression, communication, being heard and listened to
  - Wellbeing, physical and mental health, self-care
  - Engagement, really feel involved
  - Belonging, connectedness to others, valued relationships, contribution to a group or community
- This is where we are going in the district

## 6.3 Tell Them from Me (Results Board-Wide Student Survey)

D. Tamblyn reported that in the spring, 2014 the “Tell Them From Me” survey was distributed to all the school administration, teachers, students and parents. All parents received notice of the survey, but only 91 responses were returned. Students returned 262 surveys, while the return by teachers was 100%

The results of the survey provided data that was used in the Board Learning Plans and the School Improvement Plans around the area. The results were also shared with the board Mental Health Lead. Mr. Tamblyn went over the survey results in detail. Of particular concern by Mr. Tamblyn was the student response to the queries regarding their sense of belonging the school culture, environment. The data suggested that contentment dissipates dramatically as students promote to higher grades and then high school itself. Mr. Tamblyn says that he wants to work with student senate to find out why our students have a poor sense of belonging.

Mr. Tamblyn said he would put the facts and figures as articulated at this meeting into a report for further study by PIC members. He also noted that members may access their own school’s result, likely the most appropriate venue being at their School Council Meetings.

## 6.4 Board Learning Plan

*(Nicole Morden-Cormier)*

N. Morden-Cormier provided a brief report, noting that the name, “Board Learning Plan” has evolved from the former name of Board Improvement Plan. The learning plan is apropos because it represents what is done in schools. Collaboratively, principals, lead teachers, program leaders are involved in how we can create an environment that is all about an optimal learning(er) environment. The Board Learning Plan is an extensive resource within which the process for delivery of learning adheres to what is called the “Four Conditions for Learning” as follows:

- Relationship Building
- Collaboration
- Risk Taking
- Responsive Instruction

## 6.5 Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (November 7 to 24, 2014)

D. Tamblyn noted that Bullying Prevention Week is underway as the Ministry sets the third week of November as such. He read through a list of activities being held throughout area schools. He also advised that the board has an ongoing connection to Take the Pledge Against Bullying. At any time, anyone can go to the “Pledge” link on the website to sign on and or gather resources from the sight. He also read aloud the press release he has prepared for the print media this week.

## **7.0 PIC Representative Feedback**

7.1 Member-Pearl Cooper: Keenly interested in the "Tell Them From Me" data. Would like to pursue and probe further if possible.

Member-Kitty Dumonski: Noting that parent survey return so low (91) questions if the right message was included to illicit responses.

Member-Tina Hamel: Inquired as to how the parents came to be in receipt of the survey. Mr. Tamblyn advised that a letter was sent home containing the website address. For those who did not have a computer, the schools made their computers available

Member-Michelle Bird suggested that in future, perhaps an e-mail letter could be sent to parents with the website address contained as a link within.

Board Member-Kim Figliomeni: Noting K. Dumonski's concern over low parent involvement suggested that, it is her experience that this outcome is reflective of the parent engagement we see in the schools.

Director Tamblyn: We will explore other avenues to disseminate to parents when the next turnabout for them which is 2015-2016. As well, when the time comes to do with parents again, PIC could help develop some of questions directed to parents.

## **8.0 Suggestions: Future Agenda Items**

Given the interest in the "Tell Me From Them" data, Mr. Tamblyn advised he will distribute this to the PIC to help provoke thinking and ideas so that as a board, we pursue digging further into this data. All questions and ideas are welcome and can be forwarded to D. Tamblyn or Pearl Cooper for inclusion the next agenda.

Pearl noted that a discussion on the PIC Student Art Calendar will follow at the next meeting.

## **9.0 Next Meeting Dates**

Note: Reg. 330/10 requires that **four meetings** be held in each school year.

Wednesday, February 4, 2015 (subject to change as new Board Inaugurated December 5, 2014)

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

## **10.0 Adjournment**

*Mover: Kim Figliomeni*

*Second: Allyson Beaudry*

*That, the Parent Involvement Committee meeting on November 19, 2014, adjourn at adjourn at 7:27*