



PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE



Tuesday, February 19, 2019
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. – Gordon Public School

MINUTES

PRESENT:	Lisa Mooney, Joy Janzen, Pauline Dawson, Fran Cerminara, Melissa Lofquist Bigford
REGRETS:	Kelly McNeil, Susan Jovanovic, Chris Seabrook
SUPERINTENDENT:	Wes Hahn
TRUSTEES:	Nancy Beamer, Doug Newton, Shannon Mitchell, Alex Bradnam
ADMINISTRATION:	Tracy Leemet, Karen Simpson
RECORDING SECRETARY:	Jennifer McGugan

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting was called to order. Superintendent Wes Hahn welcomed everyone and asked the committee to introduce themselves. PIC Co-Chair, Lisa Mooney, thanked everyone for coming and thanked Tony D’Alessandro, principal of Gordon Public School, for hosting our PIC meeting. Lisa shared that Gordon Public School is an excellent school. She noted that the staff and Tony are a big part of the supportive community at the school. Superintendent Wes Hahn also noted that he had a positive experience working with Tony and Gordon Public School. Superintendent Hahn welcomed Trustees Doug Newton, Nancy Beamer, Shannon Mitchel and Alex Bradnam.

Tony shared with the committee a summary of Gordon Public School, a dual track French Immersion school with a great sense of community. Tony showed a video to the committee that highlighted the students at Gordon. Superintendent Hahn and Lisa Mooney both noted that the strong leadership at Gordon is a factor in the school’s success.

APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBER

It was noted that the PIC membership application of Melissa Lofquist Bigford had been sent to the committee prior to our meeting. As there were no objections, Melissa was acclaimed and welcomed to the Parent Involvement Committee.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Joy Janzen

Seconded by Pauline Dawson

“That the February 19, 2019, Parent Involvement Committee Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Wes Hahn highlighted the following:

- The importance of keeping our focus on students and student achievement.
- PIC meetings create an opportunity for trustees and staff to hear parent voice.
- Through the committee and the PIC Conference, the DSBN is always looking to bring relevant and helpful information to parents. The DSBN PIC conference is highly respected by parents and the community.

- The DSBN has focused in on transition. Well planned transitions are better for students. Our Kindergarten Open Houses were held at all DSBN schools on January 31st. Kindergarten Open Houses support the transition of young children into school by building relationships with parents and students. Also, our Grade 8 to 9 transitions have focused on supporting students in their move from elementary to secondary school.
- The Policy Committee reviews policies throughout the year at three policy meetings. When policies are up for renewal they are posted on the board website for vetting. Policies coming forward to the next Policy Committee meeting on March 7th are:

POLICY#	POLICY NAME
Newly Developed	Newly Developed: Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions
A-17	A-17: Advertising Expenditures for Public Information and Awareness
G-33	G-33: School Logo

CO-CHAIR’S REPORT

Lisa Mooney shared the following:

- Lisa shared that the Minister of Education made an announcement about consultations in January and it can be found here <https://news.ontario.ca/edu/en/2019/01/statement-by-education-minister-on-consultations-with-education-labour-partners.html>
- As a parent representative on the DSBN Calendar Committee, Lisa reviewed the status of the Draft 2019-2020 school year calendar.
- OPHEA publishes weekly blogs titled “Cleaning the air about cannabis education” at <https://www.ophea.net/>
- Kim Yielding, DSBN Chief Communications Officer, is doing a Master’s student survey that is available for schools councils to participate in if they are interested. This is not a DSBN survey, although it has received ethics clearance from both DSBN and McMaster University. Here is the link to the survey <https://surveys.mcmaster.ca/limesurvey/index.php/577173?lang=en&fbclid=IwAR0wWFNMCsq7HpwwY6jWZgA9LQlvnmjJP6bN3G7AygEYvSQLdly3mP1Tg28>
- The School Climate Survey is open until March 29th for Students, Staff and Parents to provide input.
- There is an Autism Niagara Trivia night on March 2nd.

The Committee began preparations for the School Council Chair event on Wednesday, March 6th at Jeanne Sauve School.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Trustee Nancy Beamer shared that there were excellent presentations at the Inaugural Board meeting on January 22nd. Presentations showcased the talent and creativity in our DSBN schools. The Beamsville District secondary students culinary program provided the refreshments. She noted that it was great to see the dedication of students and teachers.

Trustee Beamer attended the OPSBA conference in Toronto. The theme at the conference was working together to achieve the best outcome for the students. She shared that the student trustee senate session was exceptional. The highlight of the conference was the talk by Michael ‘Pinball’ Clemons.

Trustee Beamer shared that her and Trustee Newton have been out visiting their schools and have enjoyed all the innovative things happening in schools. She also shared that the Board has received a \$1 million investment into

the SHSM (Specialist High Skilled Majors) programs. These are red seal programs in various trades offered in our secondary schools. Trustee Beamer is enjoying the challenge of learning her new role.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Joy Janzen

Seconded by Doug Newton

“That the Parent Involvement Committee meeting adjourn.”

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next meeting – School Council Chair Meeting, Jeanne Sauve French Immersion School, on March 6th, 2019