



Parent Involvement Committee

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 – 6:30 – 7:30 PM
Virtual Teams Meeting

MINUTES

Co-Chair: Jennifer Cox (Clinton PS), Jennifer Schroter (UTES, MDHS)
Principal Rep: Marie McDade (UTES)
Trustees: Nancy Rothwell, Laura Bisutti
Staff/Resource: Chera Longston (Communications Manager), Allison Segeren (Research Manager), Barb Crawford (Exec. Assistant)
Council Reps: Erin Gaunt (FEMSS), Jill Rolfe (Milverton), Andrea Fisher (Hullett Central PS), Jeanette Versteeg (LDSS) Judy Greig (SMDCVI), Sara Woolnough-Thayer (Avon), Lori Versluis (North Perth Westfield), Carling Buchanan (Listowel Eastdale), Stacey Schulz (CHSS), Heidi McNeil (Mornington), Annerieke Van Beets (Clinton)

1.0 Motion to Approve April 7, 2021 Agenda

Moved by Erin Gaunt

That the Agenda for April 7, 2021 be approved as presented.

Carried

3.0 Motion to Approve the November 18, 2020 Minutes

Moved by Judy Greig

That the Minutes of the November 18, 2020 meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

4.0 Business Arising from the November 18, 2020 Minutes

4.1 PRO (Parent Reaching Out) Grants for 2020/2021

Communications Manager Chera Longston provided an update regarding the Grants. A link has been added to the parentvoice.ca website, just to remind everyone that the PRO grants were distributed in December. In following up with Finance Manager Erin Moore, she confirmed that a lot of the funds have not been spent. School Councils are reminded to spend these funds by the end June 2021. Erin will be sending a template to tally a final report back to the Ministry. Chera advised the Committee that there may have been a few schools that did not get approval for the grant because their project did not meet the criteria for the PRO grant. However, at the time of the school's submission, Erin would have advised that because they didn't meet the criteria for the PRO grant there was another Parent Involvement fund for schools to access that are not as specific as the PRO grants. The Parent Involvement fund is \$500./school. Chera noted for the 2021/2022 school year it is expected that the same process will be following for schools to apply for the PRO grant.

4.2 Strategic Plan Update

Chera explained that at the last PIC meeting there was an overview of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024 which was released in the fall 2020. There was a presentation on how it was developed and more information about the details of the Plan. Tonight is an update and additional information regarding the work that Trustees have been doing at the school council meetings. The Plan is on the Board website – Plans and Reports. Within this folder there is a link to the Strategic Plan and the video.

In February and March attended planned school council meetings and gave a similar presentation. School Councils were asked to give 3 stars and a wish – 3 things they liked about the plan and 1 wish. The 3 stars were themed – Mental Health, Real World/Future Skills, Design/Interconnection, Pathways, Community/Partnerships, Student Voice, Measurement and Monitoring, Focus on Vulnerable Groups and Director’s Work Plan transparency. Two themes from the Wish were ‘More precision and clarity in terms of the indicators and criteria that will be used to monitor the progress of the Strategic Plan; and Engagement of all stakeholders, including students, teachers, caregivers, broader community. There were a list of other wishes presented as well. (attached to these Minutes)

Research Manager Allison Segeren spoke about monitoring and measuring the progress that has been made on this Plan. Monitoring is the various processes that we will go through at all levels of system to gauge and track the progress that we are making towards the Strategic Plan and the Director’s Work Plan. Measurements are the smaller level tools, and different data sets that we will actually use as evidence of that progress.

The graphic iAm prepared, iAm well and iAm engaged and the overlaps to capture the complexity of the Plan were reviewed.

Allison had a Reflection Activity for the Committee. Members were asked to think about how we are intending to measure the impact of this Plan and answer the question in the Padlet: “What tools, measures, data points could be used to measure the progress we are making to the engagement, wellness, preparedness of students and staff at AMDSB?”

[Bit.ly/PICstratplan](https://bit.ly/PICstratplan)

Allison advised that staff are in the process of rolling out to schools, and finalizing the Climate Surveys through The Learning Bar in May. Will be using some traditional measures that students have used in the past, and we also had the opportunity to add some questions on student experiences of learning during the pandemic.

Jennifer S. asked if at the end of the year could there be a comparison of marks, trends, attendance, success rates given the online learning and in-person. And what can we do to support students in their homes and schools to ensure they get the best education. Allison noted this is something that the survey will capture the learning and experiences.

Laura B. suggested next year she would be presenting the Director’s Annual Report which is a summary of the previous year.

Chera explained the connection between the Strategic Plan and the Director’s Work Plan. DWP is specific items that is the work happening in the schools in connection with the Strategic Plan.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Committee Direction and Purpose

PIC is a Ministry mandated committee and there are 4 meetings per year required. This is a committee that is an advisory committee to the Board. There Forum was created on the parentvoice.ca website. The Forum has been used in past to brainstorm ideas, ask questions about what worked for other school councils. The Forum is a tool to spread the word about the Parent Involvement Committee and how it can be a support to school councils within the board.

The next meeting date is June 9th at 6:30 p.m.

6.0 Adjournment

That the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.