

Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board
PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (PIC)
MINUTES
Tuesday, November 26, 2019



Catholic Education Centre
Meeting Room 6
6:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Attendance: Rose Burton Spohn, Pat Luck, Tanya Running, Kelli Verdecchia, Danny Viotto, Kathleen Zambusi, Nadia Zanatta, Jessica Zeppa

Regrets: Paul Best, Tyler Dunn, Elizabeth Scott, Cindy Stewart, Brittany Varlow

Chair: Kelli Verdecchia

Minutes: Rose Burton Spohn

	ACTION	LED BY
Prayer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We said an opening prayer together. 	D. Viotto
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We introduced ourselves and explained why we were drawn to be involved in the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). 	D. Viotto
Mandate of PIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Danny reviewed Policy 4013 – Parent Involvement Committee with the group. In particular, he emphasized the mandate and membership of the PIC. A few other members (e.g., secondary administrator, teacher representative) might join the PIC later in the year. 	D. Viotto
Selection of Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kelli Verdecchia was selected as the Chair of the PIC. 	D. Viotto
Review of Minutes from Mar. 26, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Danny reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. The parent information night related to online safety did not occur last year; however, Constable Jack Rice did visit some individual classrooms to speak about this matter. 	D. Viotto
CSC Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Francis French Immersion – The CSC just finished a fundraiser for Christmas wrap. The school is running popcorn days and is planning on having a day in the spring where hotdogs, hamburgers, and chicken burgers from Aurora's are sold. Currently, students are practicing for their Christmas concert, which will occur on December 17th. St. Paul – The CSC runs a once-a-month hotdog day that raises \$700 / month. The CSC expects that these days will help them reach their modest fundraising goals. The CSC is currently reviewing the school's results from the <i>Tell Them From Me</i> survey. Holy Cross – The school's breakfast program is running and pizza days are offered every month. The school held a Christmas craft show recently, which raised some money. Indoor and outdoor play equipment funding may ultimately be a goal. The Christmas store will also be opening this year. The hope is also to purchase another popcorn machine. 	All

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SEAC Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SEAC is a special committee that focuses on students with special needs. The committee is composed of board personnel and representatives from various agencies (e.g., THRIVE, APH). • At the last SEAC meeting, the committee learned about some of the changes in funding and navigation related to the Autism Ontario Program. 	R. Burton Spohn
PRO Grant Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The way that PRO Grants are distributed has changed. Previously, individual PICs and CSCs could apply for PRO Grants. Now, PICs are provided with a sum of money and expected to distribute these funds to worthy CSC projects. • The ministry provided our board with \$4,873.94 for CSC projects. • All CSCs were invited to submit expressions of interest to the PIC. Three schools applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ St. Basil, SSM – Bridging the Gap – Celebrating our Multicultural Diversity (\$1000) ○ Our Lady of Lourdes French Immersion, Elliot Lake – Embracing Arts and Culture (\$2000) ○ St. Mary, Massey – Mindfulness-Based Learning Strategies (\$503) • Danny will reach out to ministry contacts to get clarification about ineligible expenses (e.g., honoraria). He will also follow up with the three administrators re: some proposed changes to their applications. • Assuming that the administrators make the required changes, the committee approves the three applications. The related motion was proposed by Tanya and seconded by Kathleen. 	D. Viotto
PIC Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danny explained that the PIC has been given \$5000 to spend. • There was a fulsome discussion about various topics of interest to parents. Vaping, bullying, and residential schools were mentioned as possibilities. • We could possibly collaborate with ADSB to maximize the funding we have received. • Nadia mentioned The Healing Lodge as a possible source of a guest speaker. • Danny mentioned a faith-based guest speaker named John Donahue-Grossman, whom he had heard speak in Toronto to students in Grades 5 – 12. This speaker spoke both to students during the day and to parents at night and he was very well received. We believe that this speaker might cost approximately \$2,000 USD. His presentation focuses on respect and people being made in the eyes of God. • Some questions arose about whether this speaker could travel to two or more locations in our board and/or whether this speaker could change his messaging to involve primary students and their parents. Alternatively, we could use Skype to connect parents and students throughout the board. • We will discuss this in more detail at our next meeting. 	D. Viotto
Meeting Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We decided that Mondays were the best meeting nights. With that in mind, future PIC meetings will be held on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monday, January 13, 2020 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ○ Monday, February 10, 2020 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ○ Monday, March 30, 2020 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ○ Monday, May 11, 2020 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. 	D. Viotto
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:02 pm 	

