

## Parent Involvement Committee Minutes

**Date:** March 25, 2013

**Time/Place:** 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Trustees' Area, HJA Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga

Anthony Blair, Parent representing Brampton, Co-chair  
Kelly Ralston, Parent representing Mississauga, Co-chair  
Stan Cameron, Trustee representing Caledon  
Barbara Cyr, representing the board's Special Education Advisory Committee  
Salha Jeizan, representing Multicultural Inter-Agency Group of Peel  
Janace King-Watson, Parent representing Brampton  
Harinder Malhi, Trustee representing Brampton  
Marilyn Matis, Parent representing Caledon  
Shan Rai, Parent representing Mississauga  
Dan Wilkinson, Parent representing Brampton

### **Regrets:**

Meredith Johnson, Trustee representing Mississauga  
Tony Pontes, Director of Education  
Sukhjit Singh, Parent representing Mississauga  
Lisa Skeete, Parent representing Mississauga  
Lisa Thompson, Parent representing Brampton

### **Resource:**

Jay Fedosoff, Leader, Parent and Family Literacy Centres  
Varsha Naik, Community Liaison Co-ordinator  
Carla Pereira, Acting Manager of Communications

### **Approval of minutes**

The committee approved the minutes of the Feb. 25 meeting.

### **Budget Update**

No funding was spent between the Feb. 25 meeting and this meeting.

### **Wireless access**

Committee members discussed a request from a School Council chair to present to PIC regarding wireless access. Carla Kisko, the Peel board's associate director of operational support services, spoke to the board's wireless installation plan, and indicated that installation is ongoing and the target to have all schools Wi-Fi ready in Sept. 2013. Carla also spoke to Wi-Fi as necessary component for 21st Century Teaching & Learning.

A year ago today, trustees approved a \$7 million investment in 21st Century Teaching & Learning to create wireless access, and expand broadband to improve access for students. Carla Kisko spoke to relying on Health Canada and Peel Public Health's positions on Wi-Fi safety.

Carla Kisko indicated that, wireless access points, for the most part, are placed in hallways. Health concerns are being taken seriously and the board is taking its direction from Peel Public Health and other public health agencies. Carla Pereira distributed materials to PIC members that have been provided to parents and staff related to Wi-Fi safety.

Marilyn Matis shared her experience with a similar request at her school. Anthony Blair asked members for input regarding the request. Committee members decided to invite the School Council chair to the next PIC meeting to deliver a five-minute information presentation. Anthony Blair will contact her.

Carla Kisko invited PIC members to attend a meeting at Port Credit Secondary School on April 24 to learn more about the board's 21st Century Teaching & Learning initiative. Carla Pereira will share the invitation with PIC when it is ready.

### ***Spark!***

Carla Pereira indicated that web pages have been drafted to promote *Spark! An evening to share parent involvement success stories* on the board's website at [www.peelschools.org/parents/schoolcouncils/spark](http://www.peelschools.org/parents/schoolcouncils/spark). Council members who are interested in being one of three councils to present at the event will submit their project/plan online. Council members will also register for the event online. Committee members reviewed the web pages and approved them with minor revisions.

Lisa Skeete, Barb Cyr and Marilyn Matis are working on a set of questions PIC members can use to facilitate table discussions. Barb Cyr and Janace King-Watson are drafting the evaluation form which will be distributed to participants at the event. Carla Pereira will need the evaluation form by the end of April to ensure copies are made in time for the event. Kayla Tishcoff in Communications is preparing the PowerPoint template and Carla Pereira will then forward it to PIC members for input.

### **Selection Sub-Committee**

Four parent positions will become available on Sept. 1, 2013. The board is now inviting parents to apply for positions on the committee. Applications are due on April 26, 2013. Interested PIC members will form a Selection Sub-Committee and meet to determine who will fill the four parent positions that will be vacant at the end of the school year.

Selection Sub-Committee members include: Barb Cyr, Marilyn Matis, Shan Rai, Kelly Ralston and Dan Wilkinson.

### **Secretary position**

Janace King-Watson volunteered to take PIC minutes for the duration of this school year.

### **Correspondence Received**

Anthony Blair will forward all email correspondence sent to PIC co-chairs to PIC members as they are received.

### **New Business**

Varsha Naik announced that Peel's Regional Diversity & Inclusion Charter will launch April 18. Meeting will take place at Bowden Banquet Hall on Lakeshore Blvd. in Mississauga.

### **Next meeting**

PIC's next meeting is on May 27, 2013.

All meetings will start at 5 p.m. and take place in the Trustees' Area at the HJA Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street in Mississauga.