

# District School Council / Parent Involvement Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 2017 7 p.m.

**Lindsay Education Centre** – 300 County Road 36, Lindsay

**Haliburton County Education Centre** – 12 Vintage Crescent, Minden

**Muskoka Education Centre** – 1271 Cedar Lane, Bracebridge

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M E E T I N G N O T E S

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## 1. Welcome and Introductions

*Grant Boudreault – Kawartha Lakes area chair*

- a. *Grant welcomed everyone to the last District School Council – PIC meeting of this school year.*

## 2. Huntsville High School Robotics

*Ian McTavish – HHS Teacher*

HHS Teacher Ian McTavish, joined by some HHS students, shared information about robotics in TLDSB elementary and secondary schools including information about the robotics competitions recently attended by HHS, winning a district silver medal and a gracious professionalism award. The core values for robotics teams were shared as well.

## 3. Update from the Director of Education

*Director of Education – Larry Hope*

- a. Director Hope shared information about the two accommodation reviews that have taken place over the past several months. Trustees decided to keep Honey Harbour Public School open with some additional funding from the Ministry of Education to allow for additional classroom supports so that the pressure on multi-grade classrooms is lessened. Trustees decided to close Lady Eaton Elementary School in Omeme at the end of the 2017-2018 school year. Students will transfer to nearby Scott Young Public School at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. The board will be working on plans to add 4 purpose-built kindergarten classrooms as well as working with the local municipality to build a daycare to Scott Young PS.
- b. The board is engaged in many engagement tables and community events leaving the invitation open to talk about the spaces that are potentially available in many TLDSB schools. The [Long Term Pupil Accommodation Plan](#) available on the board website provides information about the space available in each TLDSB school. There are no reviews planned in any area until the 2019-2020 school year at the earliest.

## 4. Presentations

Pediculosis Update (Head Lice) – Superintendent Katherine MacIver

Superintendent of Learning Katherine MacIver shared the difference between live headlice and the nits. In reviewing the TLDSB Pediculosis policy and procedure, there has been an opportunity to consult with local health units and the Canadian Pediatric Society. Both organizations have made it very clear that head lice is not a health issue, it is not unsafe. Other points made included:

- A first treatment should kill the live lice but nits may still be on the hair shaft following the treatment which will not lead to live lice
- Lice do not fly, but can spread with head to head contact – sharing hats, etc.
- There is very low risk of transition through blankets and pillows and items where there is prolonged contact. Washing items in hot water and placing in a hot dryer aid in eliminating any live lice or nits.
- Head lice is often misdiagnosed
- The most notable change to the Pediculosis policy and procedure is that when there is a concern that there are nits, parents will be informed but students will not be sent home. Students will only be sent home if there are live lice on the student. Very important that students get back to school as quickly as possible.
- This information will come to schools and parents with a lot of communication. Schools will be supported with fact sheets and presentations to help get share information with school communities
- The policy and procedure a September start

b. PIC Symposium Update

- Kerry Foreman attending the April 22, 2017 PIC Symposium and her report is attached.

**5. Updates for School Councils**

*Catherine Shedden – Manager of Corporate Services and Communications*

a. Parent Engagement Fund / Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grants

- The deadline for applications is May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Lots of information is available on the Ministry website <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/reaching.html>
- Please apply in consultation with your school principal – and please share your login and password with the school principal – this will save everyone much time and frustration! And you must send a copy of your application to the Director’s Office (wendy.browne@tldsb.on.ca)
- Reminder that those who received 2016-2017 PRO grants – funds to be spent by the end of June – please submit your final online report by the end of the school year and you must send a copy of your final report to the Director’s Office (wendy.browne@tldsb.on.ca)

b. Feed All Four Resources for School Councils and Parents

- Last spring we surveyed staff, students, community members and parents about their awareness of Feed All Four as a way of being for TLDSB
  - We discovered that our staff and students had a high degree of awareness, but that our parents did not. 43% of parents compared to 94% of staff indicated that they were aware of Feed All Four; 83% of staff indicated they have a good understanding of Feed All Four while only 37% of the parents said they understood what Feed All Four was; and our final question around Feed All Four “Has Feed All Four had a positive impact on your life?” 53% of our staff indicated that Feed All Four did have a positive impact while only 26% of our parents said that there was a positive impact. The survey was circulated last spring and a lot of work has been done in our departments to integrate Feed All Four into teaching and learning. We want to know how to help parents to know and understand the value of Feed All Four and how to incorporate Feed All Four practices into family life at home.
  - We are working on a Feed All Four for parents campaign which will include a postcard that will be sent home at the beginning of the school year welcoming families to the new school year and introducing or reminding them about Feed All Four at home and at school. The postcard will show where parent resources may be found on our websites.
  - We are also working on a Feed All Four ideas for families – we will develop a set of information sheets – one for each segment of the Feed All Four graphic. These will be sent out in each quarter of the school year (October – BODY; December – MIND; February – EMOTIONS; April – SPIRIT)
  - What we would like your help with is how we can best support school councils in sharing the Feed All Four message with families. What do school councils need to help parents know, understand, and incorporate Feed All Four into their homes? Do you need research based information? Would a ready-made school council event package be helpful? Could we provide you with postcards, stickers, etc.? We’d like you to include this in your off-camera discussion later this evening. Here is an example of how a school council could use Feed All Four as a themed event at your school to engage parents.  
<file:///Users/c.shedden/Downloads/MYAM%20Pres%202016.pptx.pdf>
- c. One last item – as this is the last meeting of this school year ... if anyone is interested in the role of District School Council Chair, please send an email to [catherine.shedden@tlds.on.ca](mailto:catherine.shedden@tlds.on.ca) . Catherine will answer any of your questions about the role, and if you wish to proceed, submit your name to the Director of Education for consideration.

## 6. Site Discussion

### Haliburton Area

Promotion of Feed All Four

- Board Wide promotion campaign?
- layman's terms in social media posts ("name and notice it"); the hashtag isn't enough information, include, for example, we're feeding our mind #feedallfour
- important to note that "Feed All Four" looks different from school to school, student to student, home to home
- don't want parents to think they are being told what to do in their own homes...example of Social Median post "this is our Feed all Four box, what does yours look like?" an image may display a container divided into the 4 sections
- clarify the intent of "spirit" to avoid misinterpretation
- family events aren't scripted but maybe there could be an explanation of the what and why of Feed all Four
- interested in previewing the McCauley slide presentation
- discuss with Councils what we know, want to know and what we've learned and what we will do with the information we've assessed

### City of Kawartha Lakes Area

Feed All Four – how can school councils help parents gain an understanding about Feed All Four? What resources would be helpful?

- Could there be a day at the Yearly Education Centre for parents? With ministry funds providing food, transportation, could have feed all four theme – max people would be 50 people
- Could we do a Feed All Four Day in different areas of the board?
- Feed All Four could be introduced at various events including Welcome to Kindergarten, Meet the Teacher, etc.
- An information sheet with some basic points would be helpful
- Events that are set up like a fair with presentations by students, tables with information, etc. could be a good idea
- Promotional items are more likely to be picked up (key chains, lanyards, etc.) than information sheets.

Open discussion

- Would like to have more presentations at DSC-PIC from students about initiatives in the board.

### Muskoka Area

Suggestions for Feed All Four Resources for School Councils and Parents:

- social media ready messaging and tools
- art ready and link ready hyperlinks for teachers when they are issuing updates- many use e-mail, and various apps such as Fresh Grade, SeeSaw, etc. so they could be tagging with the hyper links that would take parents to a FEED ALL FOUR website or messaging centre of sorts

**District Chairs 2016-2017:**

City of Kawartha Lakes	Grant Boudreault	705-786-3937	<a href="mailto:eyespydogs@bell.net">eyespydogs@bell.net</a>
Haliburton County	Sam Itani	705-457-7407	<a href="mailto:sam_itani@hotmail.com">sam_itani@hotmail.com</a>
	Jenn Sharp	705-457-6564	<a href="mailto:jennsharp2@gmail.com">jennsharp2@gmail.com</a>
District of Muskoka	Patricia Wark	705-637-0413	<a href="mailto:pbwark@hotmail.com">pbwark@hotmail.com</a>

**Meetings 2016-2017:**

Thursday, November 3, 2016

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Thursday, May 4, 2017