

REPORT OF THE THAMES VALLEY PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

2017 October 12
6:38 p.m. to 9:12 p.m.

MEMBERS

A. Willsher, Co-Chair
L. Honsinger, Co-Chair
R. Tisdale, Trustee
R. Kuiper, Superintendent
M. Bayes, Parent Member
D. Parsons, Parent Member
J. Schweitzer, Parent Member
S. Vries, Parent Member
S. Ferguson, Community Member (-9:02)
A. Malcolm, Community Member
S. Thomson, Thames Valley Council of Home & School Associations
L. Gonzalez, Thames Valley Council of Home & School Associations
C. Cordes, Principal, Thames Valley Administrator's Committee
Elementary

Regrets:

M. Flumerfelt, Principal, Thames Valley Secondary School
Administrators' Council
M. Holmes, Parent Member
J. Kappers, Parent Member
J. Pollard, Parent Member
F. Huff, Community Member
C. Walker, Parent Member
S. Bantam, Parent Member
J. Asselin, Parent Member

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair L. Honsinger called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. in the Katherine Harley Room at the Education Centre in London.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by motion.

J. Allan, Public Health Nurse, from Elgin-St. Thomas, and guests J. Jacob, 2017-2018 Community Representative and K. Frisa, 2017-2019 Middlesex Parent Member were welcomed to the meeting.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – none declared

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING FROM 2017 June 14 - provided for information.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 2017 June 14

S. Thompson requested a minor change in section #16.c. B. Keast will make the revisions and repost the minutes.

L. Gonzalez asked if clarification on "crowd-funding" was provided as mentioned in section #11. Co-Chair A. Willsher reported that additional wording was added to the policy following public input to address crowd-funding.

ADMINISTRATION

S. Tucker, Graphic Services
B. Keast, Corporate Services
B. Cumming, Learning Support Services
H. Gerrits, Manager (-7:09)

GUESTS:

J. Allan, Public Health Nurse (-7:29)
J. Jacob, Parent
K. Frisa, Parent

6. CHILD CARE

R. Kuiper provided an update regarding the logistics of hiring current TVDSB ECE's to provide child care during TVPIC parent/community events. H. Gerrits was introduced to provide further information and details regarding the process used in previous years when child care was provided. The cost based on the appropriate ECE/child ratio was described.

Discussion considered the use of bins to be maintained for provision of Child Care services during TVPIC events.

It was suggested a checklist be created for planning future events requiring childcare. D. Parsons offered to assist with the creation of this checklist/form template. The checklist/form template will be brought to a future TVPIC meeting for review. H. Gerrits invited committee members to contact her if they require assistance when planning events involving child care.

In response to a question, Administration advised they will discuss the possibility of partnering with the ECE Program at Fanshawe College and report back to TVPIC.

A. Willsher will follow up with H. Gerrits regarding the 2017 November 8 event.

7. SYMPOSIUM – PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS (STANDING ITEM) – discussed under #15.b

8. MEMBER UPDATES FROM TVDSB REPRESENTATIVES (Standing Item)

a. Director of Education/Delegate

R. Kuiper reported three new superintendents were welcomed to TVDSB: A. Canham, P. Sydor, and J. McKenzie. In addition many schools have gone through a re-organization process due to enrollment increases. Two new schools have opened: Sir Arthur Currie P.S. and Cedar Hollow P.S.

R. Kuiper reported one of the main focuses for TVDSB is the renewed math strategy.

R. Kuiper reported Eaman Fahmy, the Parent Engagement Lead, was recently hired. R. Kuiper shared the professional experiences for E. Fahmy and reported she will attend the next TVPIC meeting.

b. Trustee

R. Tisdale highlighted the work on Re-Think Secondary Learning, Policies and Procedures, and the strategic plan. R. Tisdale further reported the Ministry of Education currently is reviewing a number of governance issues including Trustee honorariums and the role of Student Trustees.

9. TVDSB ADMINISTRATION, TVCSA, and COMMUNITY REPORTS (STANDING ITEM)

a. Thames Valley Administrators' Committee – Elementary

C. Cordes advised progress reports and Kindergarten communication will be sent home 2017 November 10 with an interview date scheduled for 2017 November 17. Some schools may offer an additional interview date.

Information was shared regarding the upcoming Literacy Conference on October 14 and the iCon conference taking place October 21 at Medway Secondary School.

C. Cordes shared math remains a main focus with Math Lead Teachers and Instructional Coaches at each school.

b. Thames Valley Secondary School Administrators' Council - none

c. Thames Valley Council of Home and School Associations

L. Gonzalez reported the TVCHSA Executive Committee has been meeting for strategic planning. In addition, the first general meeting was held September 25 with the topic "Community and Communication". Appreciation was extended to H. Tranberg and L. Abell for their presentation on

Community Use of Facilities. The meeting was well attended with Home and School Representatives from across TVDSB.

L. Gonzalez reported the PRO Grant application for “Parent Engagement and Leadership in the 21st Century: Building Capacity Together” was successful. Lastly, the OFHSA Conference is scheduled for April 27-28 at Stoneridge Inn.

d. Community Member Reports

A. Willsher invited community members to introduce themselves and share their professional portfolio.

S. Ferguson reported she is from St. Joseph’s Health Care Centre working in Health Services and Fund Development.

A. Malcolm reported she is a registered Social Worker working primarily with LGBT youth. Issues facing LGBT youth were highlighted including the need for gender neutral washrooms. The Trans Day of Remembrance will be held in November at the Teen Centre in St. Thomas. A poster promoting this event will be sent to the committee.

In response to a question it was noted that Secondary and some Elementary schools have a GSA/QSA (Gay-Straight Alliance/Queer-Straight Alliance). Administration noted there are mental health resources available but they are not specific to LGBTQ2+ students. R. Kuiper suggested Superintendent K. Edgar and the Culture for Learning team would be a beneficial contact for resources.

R. Kuiper advised community members are welcome to bring any information to the committee they feel would be valuable for parents and community members.

10. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING TVPIC ON OTHER COMMITTEES

a. Award of Distinction - none

b. Active & Safe Routes to School

A. Willsher attended the last Active & Safe Routes to School meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 2017 November 21.

c. Environmental Education Management - none

d. Communications – none

e. Think About It

J. Allan reported on October 2 the Tri County Work Substance Misuse Prevention Group hosted a *Think About It* session. It was noted a number of students are using, or are at risk of using alcohol or other drugs. The goal of the Tri-county Think About It committee is to equip parents of youth, adult leaders/those who work with youth, and youth themselves with online information, resources and local community support with regards to alcohol and drug use.

Substance misuse prevention is a long term process and positive outcomes for youth are most likely when prevention takes a comprehensive approach.

The boundaries of the Tri County Think About It Committee was shared. Resources that are available and the purpose of the resources was shared with the committee. Many of the Think About It Resources are available free of cost.

J. Allan answered questions of clarification regarding the hours of meetings, current student representation on the committee and the promotion of Safe Grads. In reference to Safe Grads J. Allan shared there is more focus on peer led initiatives and youth engagement.

Discussion considered the safety/regulations of vaping.

f. Thames Valley District School Board Parent Engagement Steering Committee

R. Kuiper reported on the work of the Parent Engagement Steering Committee noting a draft report will be provided to TVPIC before January. A tool-kit also is being developed and will be shared with a number of committees for their input and feedback.

Additional information will be shared at the next meeting.

11. MEMBERSHIP (Standing Item)

A. Willsher reported on Membership vacancies for 2017-2019. It was suggested a call-out may be required to fill current vacancies. The current expected vacancies were reported as follows:

Elgin County – 2
London (Wards 1, 11, 12, 14) – 2
London (Wards 2-6) – 1
Indigenous Representative – 1

Discussion considered the timeline for accepting and reviewing membership applications. It was agreed to set the deadline for applications shortly after the November 8th TVPIC Event. The membership committee will then review in November with a final recommendation needing to go to the Board of Trustees at their 2017 November 28 meeting.

It was confirmed that a formal resignation is required from any current member wishing to vacate their seat.

The following motion was moved and CARRIED:

THAT a Membership Sub-Committee be formed with the following members: R. Kuiper (Director Designate), R. Tisdale (Trustee), A. Willsher (Co-Chair), L. Honsinger (co-Chair), S. Ferguson (Community Representative), and D. Parsons (Past Chair).

An e-mail will be sent to Committee members to ask for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

R. Kuiper will send out communication regarding the list of vacant positions. In response to a question, R. Kuiper clarified that communication for the vacant positions will be shared through a variety of means.

It was suggested when the membership vacant positions notification is sent out that parents also be asked if they would be interested in sitting on Sub-Committees.

12. CORRESPONDENCE (Standing Item) - none

13. FINANCE (Standing Item)

D. Parsons presented for information the draft actuals for the 2016-2017 budget year noting approximately 40% of schools have returned their PRO Grant reports; it is possible the Ministry has received the reports directly, but schools should be reporting to the board as well.

The draft 2017-2018 budget was provided. Changes to the budget were highlighted and justification for increases and decreases was provided. Questions of clarification were answered by D. Parsons.

A number of changes were made to the presented budget.

The following motion was moved and CARRIED:

THAT the 2017-2018 budget, as amended, be approved.

14. TVDSB SUPPORT UPDATES (Standing Item)

See report by S. Tucker under item #15.b.

15. UPCOMING EVENTS (Standing Item)

a. An Evening with Dr. Somer Bishop for Parents and Caregivers

A poster was provided to the committee regarding the upcoming Autism Spector Disorder parent night scheduled on October 17, from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Education Centre. The poster was distributed to schools and community groups.

R. Kuiper offered to follow up with S. Builder regarding communication with parents by LSTs and if additional resources will be available for parents after this event.

b. November 8 Planning

A. Willsher provided a summary regarding the planning for the November 8 parent night *Building and Strengthening School Councils* including the schedule of events and the registration numbers to date.

In response to a question, S. Tucker noted the wording on the event invitation event will be changed to include all parents.

M. Bayes volunteered to be a facilitator for the Volunteer Engagement session.

A. Willsher advised he will follow up with planning committee members regarding any additional meetings that may be required.

S. Tucker reported on the communication to date including posters, web and social media promotion, e-mail blasts and the TVPIC newsletter. R. Kuiper reported information also will be shared in the LSS News that goes out to all school administrators.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

TVPIC members not receiving e-mails were asked to contact A. Willsher. It was reported School Council e-mail accounts will be changing to Gmail. This will help to eliminate spam and e-mailing issues. Additional information will be shared in November.

17. FUTURE MEETING DATES, SPEAKERS AND LOCATION

2017 November 16, 6:30 p.m. – Wilfrid Jury P.S.

2018 January 11, 6:30 p.m.

2018 February 8, 6:30 p.m.

2018 April 12, 6:30 p.m.

2018 May 10, 6:30 p.m. – conflict with Award of Distinction

2018 June 14, 6:30 p.m.

Unless noted, all meetings will take place in the Katherine Harley Room at the Education Centre.

18. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Fundraising FAQ's (May 2014)
- Internal Audits (May 2013)
- Copyright
- Support Document for Parents (Future)
- Webinar (Future)
- TVPIC Volunteer Recognition (Future)
- TVPIC Annual Report (2016 Sept. 8, item #5.e)
- Doodle Poll (2017 June 14, item #6)

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. by motion.

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

A. WILLISHER & L. HONSINGER
CO-CHAIRS