

# Parent Involvement Committee



**12 May 2021**

## **Chair's Report**

A busy month with Easter and Spring Break leading to remote learning has seen parents tested to their limits of supporting their children outside of the “normal, whatever that is anymore” school setting. In addition, parents have been making difficult choices over next year's school (in person or not and for Kinder maybe delaying a year). I've been keeping a close eye on the PRO Grant events and some initial problems have, thanks to staff and event providers, been resolved.

Being vocal. As I mentioned in our last meeting, I see us as the parents' voice to the Trustees and Staff. I am hoping we can get a small working group together to help us develop the means to reach out to as many parents as we can. I believe we should be more engaged where we can. As I mention below other PICs are very forward leaning in that engagement bit. For me I will be taking forward the responsibility to reach out to all School Council Chairs to make sure they know who we are and they have a means to speak to the PIC. It would be nice going forward if committee members feel comfortable to seek out groups of parents and give them a voice as well. Again, the working group can help us better realize this.

Diana and I attended an online meeting of Ontario PIC chairs which was useful, again highlighting some excellent best practices that other PICs have. I have reached out to a number to get some liaison going and to see how they operate. One thing that did catch my eye was Peel PIC using the [www.self-reg.ca](http://www.self-reg.ca) program and helping fund it for parents who could not normally afford it.

From the meeting I have gleaned some more useful information portals.

Facebook: [Ontario PIC Connection](https://www.facebook.com/groups/685334115484057)<sup>1</sup>. This is a closed group for PIC members

Facebook: [Ontario PIC](https://www.facebook.com/OntarioPIC/)<sup>2</sup> This is a public facing web page

Internet: [Min of Ed webpage](http://edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/PIC.html#~:text=%20Parent%20Involvement%20Committees%20build%20parent%20engagement%20by%3A,of%2C%20school%20councils%20within%20the%20boards.%20More%20)<sup>3</sup>

Martyn

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/OntarioPIC/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/PIC.html#~:text=%20Parent%20Involvement%20Committees%20build%20parent%20engagement%20by%3A,of%2C%20school%20councils%20within%20the%20boards.%20More%20>