

**Parent Involvement Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2011 – 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Lakeside Inn, Kenora**

Present: Charlotte Brown, Murray Delorme, Phyllis Eikre, Charlotte Caron,
Brenda Bye, Crystal Alcock, Sarah-lynn Klassen (recorder)

New Items for Discussion:

1. **Pro Grant Proposal** – Charlotte Caron suggested a district wide (regional) submission to provide education and resources to parents about access to services for special needs and learning difficulties. This was an identified need brought forward by the Ecole Ste. Marguerite Bourgeoys School Council members but could benefit all school communities. A suggestion of getting a speaker in such as Stewart Schankar who has spoken on the topic of learning disabilities and self regulation strategies. Charlotte has agreed to work on a submission on this topic.

2. **Parent Involvement Committee Symposium (PIC)** – Charlotte Brown and Brenda Bye attended the symposium in Toronto, April 8-9, and were very pleased with all the workshops and seminars. They shared resources regarding healthy eating strategy, Planning Parent Engagement Tool, Kids Help Line, Canadian Learning Bonds, eLearning, Safe@school and more.

Other provincial PIC committees have started to identify themselves as CPIC (Catholic PIC). Privacy issues were discussed regarding email communications and sharing of information between PIC's. Our committee will eventually flow minutes, newsletters and communications through our school board website who has a communication strategy in development.

3. **Vermicomposting** – Charlotte Brown shared that this has been implemented at Pope John Paul II School and that it is looking like a viable project and way to be more environmentally responsible in the school community setting. Charlotte has information for any other schools interested in taking on this type of project.

4. **Year End Celebration** - The date has been confirmed for June 8 at St. Thomas Aquinas High School to coincide with the Arts Banquet. Any school council member is invited to attend the dinner and awards evening with speaker. Child care will be available. Members need to give their name to the school principal to obtain a ticket. The school chairpersons will give a brief verbal and written report to the Board at 5:00 p.m. The banquet will follow at 6:00 p.m. There will be no school council displays this year.

5. **Next Meeting** – to be scheduled.