



Special Education Advisory Committee

Meeting held on December 5, 2017

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - Aboriginal Representative
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- BJ Mercier - St. Hilary School Principal
- Mary-Beth Minthorn-Biggs - Inclusive Education Clinician
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse

Regrets

- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Margie Rondeau - NOSP
- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Maureen Parkes - FASP Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Kristie Nicholas - NOSP - Nipigon
- Jennifer Niskanen - Parent

Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

Kerry began the meeting with a prayer and read the statement of acknowledgment:

I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather today is the ancestral territory of the Anishinaabe and the Metis. I wish to recognize and show respect to the long history and contributions of the First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario, as well as, the Inuit People of Canada.

Agenda/Minutes:

Resolution #10/17

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: Helen Gibbons

THAT the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee teleconference meeting held on December 5, 2017 be accepted.

CARRIED

Resolution #11/17

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: BJ Mercier

THAT the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee teleconference meeting held on November 7, 2017 be accepted.

CARRIED

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

1. Wellness Professional Development Day

Kerry shared the following resources and videos that were utilized and discussed at our Wellness Professional Development Day on November 24th. This day allowed school teams to work and learn alongside their sister school team (e.g. St. Hilary School staff was with St. Edward School staff). The morning was spent reviewing and/or watching Professional learning resources/videos and school teams had the afternoon to spend participating in Wellness activities that were developed and planned as a school team. The feedback received from everyone indicated that the day was appreciated by all school teams and the materials shared with relevant and useful.

The SEAC Committee was encouraged to take time to review the following resources when they had an opportunity to do so.

- a. [Wellness Wheel](#)
- b. [What Students Really Need to Hear](#)
- c. [Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance](#)
- d. [Mental Health and the Ontario Curriculum \(elementary\)](#)
- e. [Supporting Minds](#)

New Business

1. SNAP Program Update

Dr. Mary-Beth Minthorn-Biggs shared how her and Tracy Bryson were currently in the process of preparing for travel to Geraldton for the Community Roll-Out of the SNAP Program tomorrow. This will be a 13 week wrap around program for classroom that targets social and emotional learning for the students.

It is specifically designed for students that are age 6-11 who have at-risk behaviour that will potentially lead them to enter the criminal justice program. This will be piloted in 2 of our 6 schools and the roll-out is taking place with NOSP, OPP, Social Services, and our Coterminous board partners and is intended to explain the premise of the program.

2. Modernizing EQAO and Accommodation Changes

Kerry shared the Modernizing EQAO document which is an information paper in regards to how EQAO will be modernized to better support student learning. We discussed how the intent from EQAO is to collaborate more closely with the province, including students, parents and educators to ensure that these assessments reflect the today's classroom more closely, measure skills that they are not currently measuring and facilitate online customization to accommodate unique learning needs of all students.

As well, it was shared that EQAO has changed the following accommodations as they no longer require an IEP to apply to specific students:

- a quiet, individual and/or small group setting;
- prompts for students with severe attention problems who are at risk of being off-task for significant periods of time

3. SIP and SEA Claims

Kerry shared that Superior North Catholic District School Board is currently in the process of completing both SIP and SEA claims for students in our schools.

SIP Claims are Special Incidence Portion claims that can only be completed on behalf of students who require more than two full-time equivalent board-paid staff providing intensive support for the health and safety of the applicant student and/or staff. A Health claim can be submitted for a student who staff must provide intensive support for activities of daily living including health and/or safety at an age when they would not otherwise be so dependent. A safety claim may be submitted on behalf of a student who requires more than two full-time board paid staff to provide intensive support for the safety of the student.

SEA Claims are Special Equipment amount claims to support the purchase of non-computer based equipment, to be utilized by students with special education needs, including sensory, hearing, vision, personal care and physical assist equipment.

4. Service Provider Updates (if available):

North of Superior Programs - Margie Rondeau

Not available for update

Local Health Integration Network - Helen Gibbons

Helen indicated that there were no updates at this time.

George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Gilbert Rondeau

Not available for update

Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Not available for update

Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes

Not available for update

Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

Jennifer shared that many of their Dilico staff attended ARC Training in Thunder Bay on November 16th and 17th and staff found it amazing and enjoyed the two days.

All of the new staff at Dilico are currently engaging in Triple P Training, as well as Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Training.

Jennifer indicated that schools can engage in offering Triple P Parenting through Dilico. Further contact with Jennifer will be established to investigate how to move this forward within our schools.

Future Agenda Items

1. ARC Training update - Fred Schmidt
2. SNAP Rollout - Mary-Beth Minthorn-Biggs

Other Matters

1. **Next Meeting Date:** January 9, 2018

Adjournment

Resolution #12/17

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: Helen Gibbons

THAT we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 9:58 am.

CARRIED

SEAC Chairperson

Date

SEAC Member

Date