



## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on January 8, 2019

### Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Tara Patterson - Parent
- Peter Kutok - System Math Lead (Guest)

### Regrets

- BJ Mercier - St. Hilary School Principal
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Nicole Beaulieu - NOSP - Greenstone
- Nicki Chik - Parent

### Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

Judy began the meeting with a prayer and read the statement of acknowledgment.

## Agenda/Minutes:

### Resolution #11/18

Moved By: Marline Ilijow  
Seconded By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer

**THAT** the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on January 8, 2019 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

### Resolution #12/18

Moved By: Marline Ilijow  
Seconded By: Fred Schmidt

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee teleconference meeting held on December 4, 2018 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

## Business Arising Out of Minutes

### Professional Learning Update

#### 1. Third Path Presentation - Kerry Desjardins

Kerry shared the linked presentation as it was the learning that the Principal's engaged in to support them in the facilitation of the Equity and Inclusive Education Professional Development day on November 23, 2018. The learning session was facilitated by Tom Boland and focused on the notion that traditionally there have been 2 distinct paths to adulthood: Achievement and Well-Being but research demonstrates that social connectedness (relationships) is a more important pathway to adult well-being. This led the way to the development of the Third Path. The Third Path is developed as a path and not a program in order to emphasize that it is an ongoing journey to development.

As a system we are learning that every interaction with every child is an opportunity to impact their well-being, as well as develop the relationship that we can have with each child. Well-being can be embedded in everything that schools do. We need to better understand ourselves as adults and support educator well-being in order to have everyone staying on the path.

Kerry shared how this learning and this work is an ongoing journey and is something that we will continue to develop over the course of the year and into the future.

## New Business

### Multi-Disciplinary Team Report & Update

Kerry shared that we have the following positions now filled for the Multi-Disciplinary Team

1. Positive Behaviour Support Lead - Tracy Bryson
2. Positive Behaviour Support Worker (Highway 17 Support) - Meghan Miller
3. Positive Behaviour Support Worker (Greenstone Support) - Kathleen Mahon
4. Attendance Counsellor (all schools) - Michelle Legacy
5. Learning for All Principal Lead - Lindsay Costa

### Learning for All Update

Learning for All teachers will be engaging in a learning session alongside Educational Assistants in the future to learn more about the Third Path and how to use this learning to support our highest needs students (e.g. Tier 2 and Tier 3 students). As well, all Learning for All teachers that attended the session on Executive Functioning with Dr. Rana Pishva will now take their learning to support a session with the Educational Assistants within their buildings.

### SEAC Correspondence

Correspondence has been received from the Upper Grand District School Board and Trillium Lakelands regarding concerns about funding cuts in Special Education. Letters were shared with the SEAC chair, Judy Wawia.

### Service Provider Updates (if available):

#### North of Superior Programs - Nicole Beaulieu

Not available for an update

#### Local Health Integration Network - Helen Gibbons

Helen shared that there are no new updates at this time.

#### George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Gilbert Rondeau

Gilbert shared that George Jeffrey Children's Centre also continues to be business as usual and that quality of services are constantly increasing due to the placement of a Communication Disorders Assistant. This support frees up additional time for assessments, as the CDA will travel the whole district. Students are being seen on a monthly basis by either Gilbert or Kendra Price and they are able to support teachers in a more consistent manner. The goal for Jan - July is for students to be seen 4-6 times in each community.

**Children’s Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt**

Fred shared that Children's Centre Thunder Bay continues to be business as usual and how the Third Path really parallels with Children’s Centres’ services to schools, in that we have to create learning environments that are ready for students.

**Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes**

Maureen shared a reminder that the FASD Diagnostic Clinic is available for anyone to refer to. This referral is a one page referral and requires only one trip to Thunder Bay for the diagnostic clinic and the other sessions can be done through OTN.

**Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore**

Not available for an update.

**Other Matters**

- 1. Next Meeting Date: February 5, 2019

**Adjournment**

**Resolution #13/18**

Moved By: Marline Ilijow  
Seconded By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer

**THAT** we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:17 a.m.

Carried.

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SEAC Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
SEAC Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date