



# Special Education Advisory Committee

## Meeting held on June 9, 2020

### Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Mia Laframboise - Educational Assistant
- Nicki Chik - Parent
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Tracy Bryson - Mental Health Lead
- Nichole Deschamps - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Tara Kydd - George Jeffrey Children's Centre

### Regrets

- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Nicole Beaulieu - NOSP - Greenstone
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Tara Patterson - Parent

## Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

## Agenda/Minutes:

Motions were not able to be made due to the small numbers of participants, resulting in a lack of quorum. Therefore, this meeting continued as an information meeting only.

## Business Arising Out of Minutes

### Professional Learning Update

#### 1. [George Jeffrey Children's Centre Presentation](#)

Nicole Deschamps and Tara Kydd did a slide presentation to SEAC members describing the services that George Jeffrey Children's Centre provides and the area they cover with their services.

They cover the publicly covered schools. They have new initiatives that they have started that includes confirmation and status of the student referrals.

One of their plans moving forward is to form an Advisory Committee consisting of community partners. Invitations will be sent out to community partners.

### New Business

#### 1. [Special Education Plan 2020 - Annual Review](#)

There were minor revisions to the Special Education Plan. In consultation with the Ministry of Education, the motions required from SEAC and the Board will be deferred to September 2020.

#### 2. [Parents Guide to Special Education September 2020](#)

This document was shared with SEAC members.

#### 3. [Distance Learning Update for Learning for All teachers and Educational Assistants](#)

There were many opportunities for staff to attend virtual learning during this time and staff have been participating in these sessions. This learning has happened both during the day and evening sessions. PECS training is also being held online with many staff

interested in this training. The Learning for all teachers and Educational Assistants have taken advantage of these great learning opportunities.

### 4. Summer Transition Program Funding

The Ministry has announced funding will be available for assistance during the summer months for students that are more vulnerable. We will be receiving more information on this funding and criteria. There will be a two week transition plan to returning to school for these students. We are waiting for further information from the Ministry.

### 5. Special Education for 2020-2021

We are waiting on what our funding model will be for the next school year.

### 6. Service Provider Updates (if available):

#### North of Superior Programs - Nicole Beaulieu

Not available for an update.

#### Local Health Integration Network - Helen Gibbons

Staff are encouraged to call Helen with referrals. She has a handful of children on her caseloads that she is working with. She will let Kerry know when she is not available, due to vacation.

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

Not available for an update.

#### Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Not available for an update.

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

Not available for an update.

#### Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

Not available for an update

## Other Matters

### 1. Next Meeting Date

The first SEAC meeting for the 2020-2021 school year, will be held on **September 8, 2020** in person in Nipigon beginning with a lunch at noon with the meeting to follow.

All future meetings will be scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month.

## **Adjournment**

*Originally signed by SEAC Chairperson and SEAC Member*