



Special Education Advisory Committee

Meeting held on September 8, 2020

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Nicki Chik - Parent
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Tracy Bryson - Mental Health Lead (guest)

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
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Tara Patterson - Parent
- Mia Laframboise - Educational Assistant

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 number 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. Mental Health and Well-Being PD Day - Mental Health Lead, Tracy Bryson

[SEL Re-entry Plan](#)

Tracy discussed the process and plan for the re-entry for our students back to school. She mentioned the hubs that were created where there were discussions on developing the re-entry plan. Our priority is our students' mental health and well-being.

New Business

2. Special Education Plan 2020-2021 - Annual Review

Kerry shared the document highlighting the Proposed Changes to the Special Education Plan for 2020-2021. This will be reviewed with the required passing of resolutions at the October 6th meeting.

3. Recruitment of New Members - [SEAC Brochure](#)

Kerry reminded members about the SEAC brochure. This brochure will be sent to all schools for Principals to send to their special needs families to see if anyone has an interest in joining our committee. Kerry will confirm with our current service providers as to who will remain on the committee. She will also check with the Flying Post Education Director as well.

4. SEAC Chair for 2020-2021

Judy will remain as our SEAC Chair for this year.

5. [Special Education Framework for Reopening](#)

These are the recommendations and guidelines for this year. It will be based on a withdrawal for one on one or small group support. The Empower program is in all of our

schools this year. Please review and bring forward any questions to the next SEAC meeting.

6. Special Education Staffing & Funding for 2020-2021

Staff funding for this year includes eight Learning for all teachers, twenty eight Educational Assistants, with two EA's being funded by Jordan Principle. There was an increase in Special Education funding for this year. We still have funding for four positions related to multi-disciplinary support. We have ABA funding as well, so we will use this for a "fee for service" model with our outside agencies. Geneva Centre training will continue for this school year. The after school program is available for our autism students. Funding has increased for this program.

7. Service Provider Updates (if available):

North of Superior Programs - Nicole Beaulieu

Not available for an update.

Local Health Integration Network - Helen Gibbons

Not available for an update

George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Gilbert Rondeau

Not available for an update.

Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Fred mentioned that the Centre is getting back to support with lots of planning on COVID and providing service.

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 next SEAC meeting for the 2020-2021 school year, will be held on **October 6, 2020**.

Adjournment

Originally signed by SEAC Chairperson and SEAC Member