



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on February 5, 2019

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Tara Patterson - Parent
- Nicki Chik - Parent
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Curtis Hildebrandt - Dilico (Guest)

Regrets

- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- BJ Mercier - St. Hilary School Principal
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Nicole Beaulieu - NOSP - Greenstone

Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

Agenda/Minutes:

Resolution #14/18

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

THAT the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on February 5, 2019 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

Resolution #15/18

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

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

Carried.

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

1. Dilico Presentation - Primary Care Traveling Team

Curtis Hildebrandt shared with the SEAC Committee that Dilico has a Primary Care Travelling Health Team that is committed to visiting each of the communities in the Robinson Treaty Area (Michipicoten - Armstrong - Ginoogaming) once a month. This Primary Care team includes the following services: Nurse Practitioners, Social Workers, RPN's, Mental Health Nurse, Psychologist, Foot Specialist, Traditional Healer and currently advertising for a Speech Language Pathologist. These services can be scheduled (recommended as the team is then aware what is needed to bring with them) or if necessary walk in appointments can be available.

This service allows for treatment on site, as well as referrals to specialists, as necessary. It ensures chronic disease management for patients, as well as a comprehensive medication management. The team utilizes a local pharmacist for medications (Jonah Dupuis). The inclusion of Mental Health and Social workers ensure that there is an opportunity for individual and group counselling.

Although the law in Ontario indicates that individuals are allowed one Family Practitioner, people can still access walk-in clinics in the region when necessary. The services are offered on reserve but are open to any patient, they must come to where

the clinic is being run. While they are still building their team they are not asking clients or patients to leave their current medical provider yet.

Curtis also shared that they have a clinic location in Thunder Bay on Archibald Street and patients can reserve spots in the city on Fridays.

Jennifer Moore shared Curtis Hildebrandt's contact information immediately following the meeting.

New Business

SIP Applications 2018-2019 - January 31, 2019

Kerry shared that there were 10 SIP applications that were completed and submitted to the Thunder Bay Ministry of Education Regional Office prior to the deadline of January 31, 2019.

EQAO Teleconference - January 30th

Judy Wawia and Kerry Desjardins participated in an EQAO teleconference on January 30th that was an initial conversation with Boards and SEAC chairs regarding the change in how the denominator is used in EQAO reporting.

At this time the denominator includes students who have just arrived in Ontario and students who are in Ontario's school system but access alternative learning expectations outside of the provincial curriculum. By including these students it creates questions about the clarity of EQAO's reporting denominator.

Special Education Professional Assessments

On January 11th all Ontario School Boards received a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) for Special Education Professional Assessments. SNCDSB received an amount of \$64,131. Kerry is working with Children's Centre Thunder Bay and Fred Schmidt to determine if there is a possibility to partner to complete the necessary assessment prior to the end of the year.

There is an alternative option in the TPA that allows schools to spend half of the funds on Early Intervention Programs that will support students with Special Education needs. The board is pursuing the option to purchase the Empower Reading Program through The Hospital for Sick Children, Learning Disabilities Research Program and provide this opportunity in 5 of our 9 schools as a pilot.

SEAC Correspondence Durham District School Board and Peel District School Board

Kerry shared that both PEEL District School Board and Durham District School Board have sent letters to Minister Thompson and all board SEAC committees in regards to the impact of the dramatic decrease in the Special Education Incidence Portion (SIP) and consideration for this to be increased for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

Gilbert indicated that there are no new updates at this time.

Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Not available for an update

Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes

Maureen indicated that there are no new updates at this time.

Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

Jennifer shared that there is a RAM Clinic located in Thunder Bay and is available for clients. She also informed the committee that Dilico will fund Psychoeducational Assessments for First Nation students. As well, Dilico is part of a 2 year Project funded from Jordan's Principle to support the needs of children in care (e.g. diabetes). Jordan's Principle is also supporting First Nation students in Provincial schools through additional funding for Educational Assistants.

Other Matters

1. Next Meeting Date: March 5, 2019

Adjournment

Resolution #16/18

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: Tara Patterson

THAT we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Carried.

SEAC Chairperson

Date

SEAC Member

Date