



## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on March 5, 2019

### Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- BJ Mercier - St. Hilary School Principal
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Tara Patterson - Parent
- Nicki Chik - Parent

### Regrets

- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Nicole Beaulieu - NOSP - Greenstone

### Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

## Agenda/Minutes:

### Resolution #17/18

Moved By: Marline Ilijow  
Seconded By: BJ Mercier

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

Carried.

### Resolution #18/18

Moved By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer  
Seconded By: Tara Patterson

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

Carried.

## Business Arising Out of Minutes

## Professional Learning Update

### 1. [Empower Reading Program - SNCDSB](#)

Kerry shared with the SEAC Committee that Superior North will be purchasing the Empower Reading Program using funding support from the Ministry and the NWMO for several schools within the board.

Kerry spent time exploring the attached powerpoint with the committee to ensure that everyone was aware of the anticipated impact that this program will have in our schools and for our students with learning disabilities or with a suspected learning disability.

## New Business

### 1. [2017-2018 SNCDSB Annual Report](#)

Kerry shared the attached Directors Annual Report with the Committee, which highlights all of the successful practices that were implemented in our board through 2017-2018. Many are ongoing this year and all committee members

were encouraged to read the report as a celebration for our board.

### 2. [2019 SB01 Update: Special Education Funding in 2018-19](#)

The attached Special Education Funding Update was released on February 20th and was shared with the SEAC committee. The following was highlighted as it directly impacts our board:

- Multi-Disciplinary Supports Amount - funding for up to four additional FTEs per school board. The Multi-Disciplinary team should reflect local need.
- SIP Allocation was revised to \$27,405
- Behaviour Expertise Amount has 2 components (ABA Expertise Professionals Amount and ABA Training Amount)

### 3. **Update on Special Education Professional Assessments TPA**

Kerry indicated that the Ministry has provided funds in the amount of approximately \$64,000 to support in the waitlist for Special Education Professional Assessments. Unfortunately, we do not have access to a Psychologist to perform all necessary assessments or ensure that all funds will be accessed prior to the end of the year, but Lise Trudeau and Melanie Morrow have both committed to complete several assessments for our board.

### 4. **Service Provider Updates (if available):**

#### **North of Superior Programs - Nicole Beaulieu**

Not available for an update

#### **Local Health Integration Network - Helen Gibbons**

Helen indicated that the LHINS continue to be busy and are currently providing care as usual, although we know that there will be changes to health care coming.

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

Not available for an update

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

Children's Centre continues to be busy providing services in the district. Both Genevieve Berube and Jessica Byrd are working to provide service to our schools and district and are willing to provide inservice to staff and educators in the future.

**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: April 2, 2019

**Adjournment**

**Resolution #19/18**

Moved By: BJ Mercier  
Seconded By: Fred Schmidt

**THAT** we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SEAC Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date