



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 3, 2019

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- Nicole Beaulieu - NOSP - Greenstone
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Mia Laframboise - Educational Assistant

Regrets

- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Nicki Chik - Parent
- Tara Patterson - Parent

Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

Agenda/Minutes:

Resolution #10/19

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

THAT the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on December 3, 2019 be accepted as amended.

CARRIED

Resolution #11/19

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

THAT the amended minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee teleconference meeting held on November 5, 2019 be accepted as amended.

Carried.

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

New Business

1. NSI Update 2019-2020

The Northern Support Initiative will continue in our region. Funding is available for a 5 year term.

The focus this year will be:

1. Child Psychology Services - Lise Trudeau has visited our District to work within our schools to complete various psycho-educational assessments.
2. Creating capacity for child psychological understanding within our staff with the support of Dr. Chi Cheng.
3. Urgent Response Team - request funding from NSI for temporary needs that is necessary to support our students in urgent need (tragic needs).
4. Mental Health - utilizing children services - Professional Development when available to build capacity with our staff
5. Special Education Support - Care and Treatment Custody Program - we have not

and will not have these programs available to our students.

6. Leadership Development and Capacity Development - funding for various professional development such as Special Education for Administrators, Leadership courses, and the support for tuition costs for courses.

A copy of the NSI Plan will be shared with SEAC.

2. Empower Reading Update

The Empower Reading program is operating in Manitouwadge, Marathon, Terrace Bay, Schreiber, Red Rock and Geraldton. We are working with a coach (Meredith Temple) from Sick Kids Hospital and the program is in full implementation in these schools. We have just completed our third coaching day.

3. November 29, 2019 PD Day (Mental Health & Well-Being)

On November 29th we had our system wide Professional Development Day with all staff remaining in their own schools for a school-based learning session. The Agenda consisted of a morning session with Dr. Kristen McLeod which included a one hour long virtual learning session for our teachers.

The afternoon session consisted of a Third Path Professional Learning session with building on student strengths/relationships with our students and including this in our School Improvement Plan. The main goal was to work towards having our students feel they belong.

4. PAAC on SEAC Survey of SEAC Members

Madisen's Story - Journey to Advocacy and Belonging

Kerry shared the Madisen's Story video, as well as the following survey.

SEAC Member Survey

The Provincial Parent Associations Advisory Committee advocate group has requested members of SEAC to complete a survey. This has been provided to you by the link in the SEAC Agenda.

Service Provider Updates (if available):

North of Superior Programs - Nicole Beaulieu

The LHINS has provided some funding from the District of Thunder Bay to develop a crisis service plan for the District. Nicole is co-ordinating this for NOSP. The school boards are involved in this program. This group will be identifying needs by community hubs and will develop active plans with a wide range of representation. The Province is

recognizing that we are in need of these services.

Helen Gibbons inquired if she could be included in this team. Nicole and Helen will connect after the meeting. Kerry inquired as to whether Nina Baker could also be included in this team.

[Local Health Integration Network - Helen Gibbons](#)

Helen has been busy with telepsychs and referrals. There is now a Mental Health Nurse hired for the Geraldton/Longlac area.

[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](#)

Jennifer mentioned that Dilico now has two Speech Language Pathologists.

Other Matters

1. Future Agenda Items

- Trauma Informed Professional Learning - Dr. Kristen McLeod
- Update on the traveling health team - Kerry will email Curtis Hildebrandt from Dilico to see if he is available for presenting at the next meeting.

2. Next Meeting Date: January 7, 2020

Our next meeting will be through a zoom link. It will connect each participant virtually.

Adjournment

Resolution # 12/19

Moved By: Marline Ilijow
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

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

CARRIED

Originally signed

SEAC Chairperson

Date

Originally signed

SEAC Member

Date