



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 7, 2021

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
- Brie-Ann Copp - Parent
- Erin Montelpare - NOSP - Greenstone
- Tracy Bryson (Guest) - Mental Health Lead

Regrets

- Christine Roszel - HCCSSNW/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Tara Kydd for Nicole Deschamps - George Jeffrey Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Lisa Copp - Educational Assistant Representative
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative

Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

Ms. Wawia began the meeting with a prayer and read the statement of acknowledgement.

Agenda/Minutes:

No motions were made due to the small number of participants, resulting in a lack of quorum. Therefore, this meeting continued as an informational meeting only.

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

1. Jordan's Principle - Kerry Desjardins

- [What is Jordan's Principle?](#)
- [Jordan's Principle Handbook](#)

Kerry shared information on Jordan's Principle. An informational video was also viewed with SEAC members.

New Business

1. Mental Health Update - Tracy Bryson

Anti-Bullying Week was held in November and the Mental Health team offered many activities and virtual programming for all grades. The programming with Dilico is continuing, and we are also looking at offerings with NOSP. We have four vacant Positive Behaviour Support Workers, at the moment, that we are trying to fill. There is an increase in referrals to outside agencies.

2. [PLEO](#) Update - Parent Support Group - Fred Schmidt

This information will be reviewed at the January 4th SEAC meeting.

3. SIP Update for 2021-2022 School Year - Kerry Desjardins

Since our last SEAC meeting, we have an SIP update for this school year. The Ministry has put a hold on any new SIP applications. The SIP funding/applications previously submitted were used to provide School Boards with a 5% increase in funding. No new applications will be submitted.

4. Learning for All Professional Learning - Kerry Desardins

Staffing shortages are extreme, to be offering professional learning for our staff. We have utilized our Learning for all Teachers in an enhanced capacity with training/support for teachers (for example Lexia Training). This Thursday the Learning for All Teachers will be participating in a Google Read and Write professional development session.

5. After School Programs - Kerry Desjardins

We have been given the approval to resume the After School Program in our District. We have some staffing issues in having this program available in all of our schools. Four schools in our district will be participating.

6. Service Provider Updates (if available):

- a. North of Superior Programs - Erin Montelpare

We are short staff and are wait-listing new referrals. Online referral process has started. A new position has been established to assist with streamlining the referral process.

- b. Children’s Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Not available for update.

- c. Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes

Not available for update

- d. Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

All Dilico offices are closed until January 10th due to the COVID-19 risk level. Services are still available.

There is an increase in referrals. The agency has sent out information on the new e-referral system.

- e. Home and Community Care Support Services North West - Christine Roszel

Not available for update.

- f. George Jeffrey Children’s Centre - Tara Kydd for Nicole Deschamps

Not available for update.

Future Agenda Items

Other Matters

1. Next Meeting Date:

The next SEAC zoom meeting will be held on January 4, 2022 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment

We adjourned the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Carried.

Originally signed by

SEAC Chairperson

Date

Originally signed by

SEAC Member

Date