



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on January 11, 2022

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Shirley Jean - Trustee
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
- Lisa Copp - Educational Assistant Representative
- Erin Montelpare - NOSP - Greenstone
- Tracy Bryson (Guest) - Mental Health Lead
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay

Regrets

- Nicole Deschamps - George Jeffrey Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Brie-Ann Copp - Parent

Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

Agenda/Minutes:

Resolution #08/21

Moved By: Fred Schmidt
Seconded By: Lisa Copp

THAT the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on January 11, 2022 be accepted.

Carried.

Resolution #09/21

Moved By: Lisa Copp
Seconded By: Lindsay Costa

THAT the [minutes](#) of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on November 2, 2021 be accepted.

Carried.

Resolution #10/21

Moved By: Fred Schmidt
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

THAT the [minutes](#) of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on December 7, 2021 be accepted.

Carried.

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

1. No Presentation in January - rescheduled for February

New Business

1. **Mental Health Update - Tracy Bryson**

We are excited that we have partnered with Kenora Catholic DSB in offering a virtual Parent Night on January 17th in our region. This will be a one hour session

covering internet safety. We had scheduled ASIST training for this month that we have had to postpone. Tracy has also completed ASK Training.

2. Special Education Remote Learning Update - Kerry Desjardins

As everyone is aware, the pivot to online learning occurred with short notice. We are continuing to offer face to face services for students with high needs. We have 13 students across the system returning to in school learning. As well, we have 7 out of our 8 schools that are continuing to offer the Empower Program virtually.

3. Special Education Fee for Service/Essential Health Services Update- Kerry

Desjardins

Tiny EYE and Superior Speech Services have reached out to all families and families have opted for virtual services. George Jeffrey Children's Centre has also reached out to schools and will continue to offer their services on an as consented basis.

4. Kindergarten Registration for 2022-2023 - Kerry Desjardins

Kindergarten Registration will be different this year. We will have Kindergarten registration beginning Jan 17th and it will remain open for the remainder of the school year. This will offer parents the opportunity to visit as well. A Kindergarten advertisement will be heard through the CFNO listening area. A complete town mail out will also be done, as well as individual posters to be distributed throughout the communities. An information package will also be distributed to all schools for all new Kindergarten students.

5. Psychoeducational Assessments - Kerry Desjardins

Dr. Sinclair continues to offer psychoeducational assessments for our families. Our wait list has been completed and we are now taking referrals for students that have been a query for years. We are very happy with the partnership with Dr. Sinclair.

6. Service Provider Updates (if available):

a. North of Superior Programs - Erin Montelpare

NOSP is continuing with virtual support. The in-take process is now online. NOSP currently has a staff shortage.

b. Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

We are continuing to provide service. Increase in referrals and needs are amplified

during the past months. Schools being closed has also been a challenge.

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

Not available for update.

- d. Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

Dilico offices are closed until February 1st, but service continues to be ongoing. A few of the communities are in lockdown. Dilico has launched their e-referral system and will slowly fade out paper referrals.

- e. 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 February 1, 2022 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment

Resolution #11/21

Moved By: Jennifer Moore
Seconded By: Shirley Jean

THAT we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:05 a.m.
Carried.

Originally signed by

SEAC Chairperson

Date

Originally signed by

SEAC Member

Date