



## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 5, 2021

### Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Lisa Copp - Educational Assistant Representative
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
- Erin Montelpare - NOSP - Greenstone
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Tara Kydd for Nicole Deschamps - George Jeffrey Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Brie-Ann Copp - Parent
- Tracy Bryson (Guest) - Mental Health Lead

### Regrets

- Christine Roszel - HCCSSNW/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse

### Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

## Agenda/Minutes:

### Resolution #01/21

Moved By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer  
Seconded By: Brie-Ann Copp

**THAT** the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on October 5, 2021 be accepted.

Carried.

### Resolution #02/21

Moved By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer  
Seconded By: Lisa Copp

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on [June 1, 2021](#) be accepted.

Carried.

### Resolution #03/21

Moved By: Fred Schmidt  
Seconded By: Brie-Ann Copp

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on [September 21, 2021](#) be accepted.

Carried.

## Business Arising Out of Minutes

### Professional Learning Update

1. [LD@school: Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario](#)

Kerry shared the LD@schools website info and how it is a resource that is dedicated to serving the needs of Ontario's educators and parents. This website provides educators and families with information, resources, and research related to teaching students with learning disabilities. Everyone was encouraged

to explore the website as it has access to the following resources: Learning Modules, Videos, Podcasts, Webinars, and Informational resources.

### New Business

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

Tracy provided an update to share about the return to school to date. It has been a great start for students and staff and everyone is relieved to be back in school. She shared highlights about the one year Action Plan that includes a focus on development, consultation and implementation of a Suicide protocol, that also includes training to support administrators and educators in understanding how to respond appropriately (e.g Living Works START Training, ASSIST Training, Superior Strategies, etc.) Monthly Principal meetings will continue that will specifically focus on strengths, needs, next steps, etc. Tracy shared that there is a monthly collaboration occurring with Dilico to focus on supporting mental health and well-being through the monthly virtues (e.g October - Thankfulness session).

#### 2. Service Providers & Fee for Service Providers

Kerry shared that we continue to work collaboratively with all service providers in the district and they have been welcomed back into our schools to work alongside students and staff, including NOSP, Dilico, George Jeffrey Children's Centre and Home and Community Care Support Services North West (Mental Health Nurses).

Superior North will continue to support consistent services and support for staff/families through a fee for service model for Speech/Language services through Tiny Eye and Superior Speech Services, as well as observation/training/consultation through ABA Services at George Jeffrey Children's Centre for specific students with ASD.

#### 3. Board Funded Autism Courses - Additional Qualification Course - Teaching

##### **Students with Communication Needs (ASD) & Geneva Centre Training Courses**

The Ministry will continue to fund the AQ course "Teaching Students with Communication Needs" for teachers during the 2021-2022 school year. As well, the board will support all educators in independent virtual learning opportunities for supporting students with ASD through the Geneva Centre.

#### 4. Special Programs - Powerschool Implementation

The Learning for All teachers have continued with the implementation of Special

Programs for IPRC's and the creation of IEP's and at this time it appears that the majority of schools will meet the time requirements for consultation and completion of both the IPRC's and IEP's for the 2021-2022 school year.

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

#### a. North of Superior Programs - Erin Montelpare

Erin shared that NOSP has undergone some changes in their leadership structures, including that she is responsible for all counsellors. Counsellors have been reaching out to all schools and workers are currently entering into most schools to work with students. Counsellors are also working collaboratively to plan presentations and activities for students in schools. There is currently one person exclusively responsible for intakes, but at this time they are currently understaffed in some areas so they have a waitlist.

#### b. Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Fred shared that CCTB is getting back into the groove with the return to school for staff and students. CCTB has been working to create a Parent Support Advocacy Group that can provide parent to parent support. This model (PLEO) originated in Ottawa by 2 parents who had youth in crisis and they were looking for acute support.

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

Maureen was unavailable for an update.

#### d. Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

Jennifer shared that she is getting back into her role at Dilico after some time absent so she is working on learning about what has been happening during this time. Dilico now has Kristine Stasiuk who is working in the Adult Mental Health section of Dilico and Children's Mental Health has a full complement of staff. Dilico is currently working to get their Youth Empowerment Course up and going. As well, Jennifer shared that they are looking at how to best observe September 30th in the future.

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

Christine was unavailable for an update.

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

Tara shared that GJCC is also experiencing staffing shortages but they also have people working in all schools across the district. School Based Rehab conversations are

occurring with boards and Learning for All teachers and updated referral forms have been shared with boards.

## Future Agenda Items

## Other Matters

### 1. Next Meeting Date:

The next SEAC zoom meeting will be held on November 2, 2021 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

## Adjournment

### Resolution #04/21

Moved By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer

Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

**THAT** We adjourned the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Carried.

Originally signed by

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Originally signed by

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date