



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on September 21, 2021

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Brandy Brake Weldon - Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
- Lisa Copp - Educational Assistant Representative
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Tracy Bryson - Presenter

Regrets

- Christine Roszel - HCCSSNW/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Erin Montelpare - NOSP - Greenstone
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Tara Patterson - Parent
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay

Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

Agenda/Minutes:

Motions were not able to be made due to the small number of participants, resulting in a lack of quorum. Therefore, this meeting continued as an information meeting only.

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

1. **Mental Health and Well-Being PD Day - Mental Health Lead, Tracy Bryson**

[Mental Health & Well-being Slides August 30th Professional Development Day](#)

Tracy shared a presentation to SEAC members highlighting what was presented for the PD day on August 30th. Resources that are available to schools were also shared. Tracy shared what training will be done for our staff this school year.

New Business

1. **Update of New [SEAC Members](#)**

Kerry shared the list of SEAC members for this year and what organizations they represent. We will be looking for a replacement representative from George Jeffrey Children's Centre as Gilbert Rondeau has retired.

2. **Recruitment of Parent Members - [SEAC Brochure](#)**

This brochure will be sent to schools to share with parents with students with special needs.

3. **SEAC Chair for 2021-2022**

Judy has offered to stay on as SEAC Chair. Thank you, Judy.

4. **Special Education Staffing & [Funding for 2021-2022](#)**

Kerry shared information on the funding for Special Education and the breakdown of how we are funded. We have 25 Board Educational Assistants. We received funding for 6 additional Educational Assistants through Jordan's Principle. With COVID funding we were able to retain 2 Educational Assistants. (SIP) Special Incident Portion funding is application-based and for specific one on one attention. The BCBA funding was also explained. ABA training and George Jeffery Fee for Service & training will also be funded through Special Education funding.

5. **[Special Education Plan 2021](#)**

Updated Special Education Plan was shared with SEAC.

6. Parent's Guide to Special Education 2021

Updated Parent's Guide to Special Education 2021 was shared with SEAC.

7. Service Provider Updates (if available):

- a. Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt
Not available for update.
- b. Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes
Not available for update.
- c. Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Brandy Brake Weldon
Not available for update.
- d. Home and Community Care Support Services North West - Christine Roszel
Not available for update.

Future Agenda Items

Other Matters

1. Next Meeting Date:

The next SEAC zoom meeting will be held on October 5, 2021 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment

Originally signed by

SEAC Chairperson

Date

Originally signed by

SEAC Member

Date