



## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on May 4, 2021

### Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Helen Gibbons - HCCSSNW/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- Nicki Chik - Parent
- Alison Morse - Presenter

### Regrets

- Mia Laframboise - Educational Assistant
- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Nicole Beaulieu - NOSP - Greenstone
- Tara Patterson - Parent

### Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

## Agenda/Minutes:

### Resolution #24/20

Moved By: Nicki Chik

Seconded By: Fred Schmidt

**THAT** the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on May 4, 2021 be accepted.

Carried.

### Resolution #25/20

Moved By: Helen Gibbons

Seconded By: Fred Schmidt

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee virtual meeting held on March 2, 2021 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

### Resolution #26/20

Moved By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer

Seconded By: Helen Gibbons

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee virtual meeting held on April 6, 2021 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

## Business Arising Out of Minutes

### Professional Learning Update

#### 1. [PAAC on SEAC Effective Practices Presentation](#) Alison Morse

Allison Morse presented a slide show on (PAAC) Provincial Parent Associations Advisory Committee on SEAC with information on their goals which includes highlighting effective practices for SEAC members and meetings. Information on their website (<http://www.paac-seac.ca>) was also shared.

Membership criteria for SEAC was described as well as the effective practices to recruit local association members, their roles and responsibilities and effective practices.

## New Business

### 1. Mental Health Update from Tracy Bryson

Kerry mentioned that since we have transitioned to remote learning, PBSWs are doing a lot of programming as well as check-ins with their students. They continue to work to support Principals and assist students that are struggling. Monthly meetings with Principals are still occurring.

### 2. Mental Health Week

This week is Mental Health week as well as Catholic Education Week. Kerry shared the activities that are scheduled for this week.

### 3. [Special Education Plan September 2020](#) - Consultation & Feedback

We are in the process of updating this plan. If you have any feedback please let us know.

### 4. Summer Learning Program Update

The Province has provided school Boards with funding for the Summer Learning Program. The Board has received a total of \$ 381,085 which includes summer learning programs, mental health strategies and Reading Intervention - all for online learning. The survey for the summer learning program was sent out and resulted in 18 registrations being received. The survey will be sent out once more. We will have both K to 4 and Gr 5-8 programs happening this summer.

LEARNStyle Summer Programs will be offering two virtual camps over the summer for our students.

### 5. Reading Intervention Funding

### 6. Service Provider Updates (if available):

- a. North of Superior Programs - Nicole Beaulieu

Not available for update.

- b. George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Gilbert Rondeau

Not available for update.

c. Children’s Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

The Agency has had a lot of discussion about school closures. The Province is locked down but the risk issues are not the same in all locations. Diane Walker has been advocating for students to return to school.

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

Kerry shared information on an upcoming session called *Children with Learning Disabilities: Diagnosis & Intervention - A virtual Training Event* with SEAC members. This will be held on May 27th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. We have shared this with our Learning for All Teachers and Principals.

e. Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

We are providing the services the best we can; mostly virtually and the odd face to face meeting. Sharing the same challenges as others with families and virtual connections.

f. Home and Community Care Support Services North West - Helen Gibbons

Students aren’t engaging in online learning and am currently connecting with students. She is continuing to connect with students with phone calls and virtually.

## Future Agenda Items

Please send any future items you would included in the agenda to K. Desjardins or M. Lapenskie.

## Other Matters

1. **Next Meeting Date:**

The next SEAC zoom meeting for the 2020-2021 school year will be held on **June 1, 2021** beginning at 9:30 a.m.

## Adjournment

### Resolution #27/20

Moved By: Fred Schmidt

Seconded By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer

THAT we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Carried.

Originally signed by

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Originally signed by

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date