



## Special Education Advisory Committee

### Meeting held on March 3, 2020

#### Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Marline Ilijow - Trustee
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico
- Helen Gibbons - LHINS/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Nicole Beaulieu - NOSP - Greenstone

#### Regrets

- Mia Laframboise - Educational Assistant
- Tara Patterson - Parent
- Nicki Chik - Parent
- Gilbert Rondeau - George Jeffrey Children's Centre
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre

#### Welcome and Opening Liturgy

Judy began the meeting with a prayer and read the statement of acknowledgment.

## Agenda/Minutes:

### Resolution #19/19

Moved By: Marline Ilijow  
Seconded By: Fred Schmidt

**THAT** the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on March 3, 2020 be accepted as amended.

Carried.

### Resolution #20/19

Moved By: Marline Ilijow  
Seconded By: Fred Schmidt

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee teleconference meeting held on February 4, 2020 be accepted as presented.

Carried.

## Business Arising Out of Minutes

### Professional Learning Update

#### 1. Dilico Travelling Health Team Presentation - Curtis Hildebrandt

Curtis did an information session on the work of the Dilico Travelling Team. Their multi-disciplinary team consists of two consultants, two nurses, two social workers, a Speech Language Pathologist, a traditional healing liaison, a clinical pharmacist, a clinical psychologist, and two RPN's under the mental health nursing program. The team travels every week from the Thunder Bay location. They run clinics on Mondays and Fridays in Thunder Bay and travel the other days. There are different travel zones that they cover as well as offering clinics on First Nation Reserves by appointment. They accept all referrals. The Speech Language Pathology services primarily target pre-school and JK students. They also offer other programs, such as Dietician assistance. Their school based presentations include use of puffers, allergies etc. They travel through the District of Thunder Bay to provide services and can adapt their services to the needs of the area.

### New Business

#### 1. Geneva Centre for Autism Courses 2019-2020

Early Childhood Educators and Educational Assistants, have eagerly requested ABA

courses through the Geneva Centre, and many staff have been registered for these courses. The Ministry has provided us with funding of \$1500 to participate in these online courses with the Geneva Centre. We also have access to other funding so everyone that registered will be able to take their first course, plus any additional courses that they would like. Sixteen support staff/Principals are currently enrolled through the Geneva Centre.

### **2. Interim Positive Behaviour Support Worker in Greenstone**

We have successfully hired a Behaviour Support Worker in Greenstone, which will work with St. Joseph, Our Lady of Fatima and St. Brigid schools. She will be starting following the March break.

### **3. Jordan's Principle Applications 2019-2020**

Last year we were able to end our year with a presentation from Jordan Principle which allows for funding to meet additional needs of our First Nation students. We have four schools that have submitted applications and were approved for funding. Some students will have one on one support. Several students will be able to access the speech language services through Tiny Eye. One student requires additional support for transportation and tutoring for a student. We will continue to submit applications as needed.

### **4. Transition to Kindergarten/High School for Students with Special Needs**

Our Kindergarten registrations have occurred with several schools having increased registrations. At the moment we are currently working on effective transitions for these students entering JK and those heading to High School. This will ensure that our students are fully prepared and ready for their next placement.

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

#### **North of Superior Programs - Nicole Beaulieu**

Nicole outlined the Crisis response services available for children and youth in the District of Thunder Bay.

#### **Local Health Integration Network - Helen Gibbons**

No new updates at this time.

#### **George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Gilbert Rondeau**

Not available for an update.

#### **Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt**

No new updates at this time.

### **Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes**

Not available for an update.

### **Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore**

The Children's Foundation annual christmas campaign prepared over 1000 bags for children in care. They had many generous donations for this campaign. Currently, Dilico is in partnership with Shelter House in Thunder Bay for a food drive. The Dilico Mental Health Conference was held in February. Dilico is also monitoring the Junior Kindergarten students entering school for early intervention using the ASQ screening tool.

## **Other Matters**

### **1. Future Agenda Items:**

Please let Kerry know if you have any other presentations you may be interested in.

### **2. Next Meeting Date:** April 7, 2020

Our next meeting will be through a zoom link. It will connect each participant virtually.

## **Adjournment**

### **Resolution # 21/19**

Moved By: Marline Ilijow  
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

**THAT** we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Carried.

*Originally signed by SEAC Chairperson and SEAC Member*