



Special Education Advisory Committee

Meeting held on April 5, 2022

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Tara Kydd - George Jeffrey Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Lisa Copp - Educational Assistant Representative
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Erin Montelpare - NOSP - Greenstone
- Shirley Jean - Trustee
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative

Regrets

- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
- 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 #18/21

Moved By Shirley Jean

Seconded By Fred Schmidt

THAT the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on April 5, 2022 be accepted.

Carried.

Resolution #19/21

Moved By Shirley Jean

Seconded By Fred Schmidt

THAT the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on March 1, 2022 be accepted.

Carried.

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

1. Right to Read Symposium

- [Breaking Down Barriers to Education Equity](#)
- [Right to Read Symposium Padlet](#)

Kerry shared the Right to Read Reports with information on the 157 recommendations that address these issues. Our Empower reading program has been very successful with students. Lexia is also used in our schools to improve student reading. The videos and resources are attached for your viewing.

New Business

1. Mental Health Update - Tracy Bryson

Tracy has been on the road supporting our schools. Our mental health and well-being staff have been working in the classroom with independent support for students. Roots of Empathy, Second Step Program, and Zones of Regulation programming are being offered in our schools. Seventeen of our staff members participated in ASIST training. There is regular collaboration with Principals on a weekly basis.

2. [Special Education Plan 2021](#) - Feedback - K. Desjardins

We are looking for any feedback on the Special Education Plan for 2022. Please let us know if you have any comments/recommendations.

3. **[Special Education Grant Changes for 2022-23](#)** - K. Desjardins

There are some changes for next year. More information will be shared at our next SEAC meeting. NSI - Northern Support Initiatives - Northern Adjustment Amount will increase for our area.

4. **[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)** - K. Desjardins

Our school year calendar for 2022-2023 was shared with SEAC.

5. **Special Education Professional Learning for Educators Update** - K. Desjardins

It has been difficult to offer board wide Professional Development due to the shortage of supply teachers. Most Professional Development has been offered independently, with some courses being offered with evening sessions.

6. **Correspondence Received** - **[Durham District School Board - RE: PPM No. 81](#)**

- **[Durham Catholic District School Board](#)**

7. **Service Provider Updates (if available)**

North of Superior Programs - Erin Montelpare

The Program is short staffed but are continuing to provide service as best we can.

Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Service has continued as normal.

Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes

Not available for updates.

Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

Not available for updates.

George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Tara Kydd

They are short staffed as well but continuing with regular services as best they can.

Future Agenda Items

Other Matters

1. **Next Meeting Date**

The next SEAC zoom meeting will be held on May 3, 2022 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment

Resolution #20/21

Moved By Shirley Jean
Seconded By Fred Schmidt

THAT we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Carried.

Originally signed by

SEAC Chairperson

Date

Originally signed by

SEAC Member

Date