



## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 4, 2022

### Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia (Chair) - Trustee - First Nation Representative
- Andrea Stach - George Jeffrey Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Lisa Copp - Educational Assistant Representative
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative
- Shirley Jean - Trustee
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Jennifer Moore - DILICO
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Sarah Clowes - Guest

### Regrets

- Erin Montelpare - NOSP - Greenstone
- Brie-Ann Copp - Parent

### Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

J. Wawia began the meeting with a prayer and S. Jean read the statement of acknowledgement.

## Agenda/Minutes:

### Resolution #04/22

Moved By: Shirley Jean  
Seconded By: Lisa Copp

**THAT** the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on October 4, 2022 be accepted.

Carried.

### Resolution #05/22

Moved By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer  
Seconded By: Shirley Jean

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on September 6, 2022 be accepted.

Carried.

## Business Arising Out of Minutes

### Professional Learning Update

1. **Summer Learning Presentation, Sarah Clowes, Vice-Principal, St. Edward Catholic School**  
[Summer Learning Presentation 2022](#)

The video highlights from the Summer Learning Program were shared with SEAC. S. Clowes described the details of the summer learning program and the number of students involved. We had EA's supporting each of the classrooms in breakout rooms as well as individual learning.

### New Business

1. **Mental Health Update**  
We have two Child and Youth Workers, with one placement in the north and one in the Terrace Bay Schreiber region. We are in the process of completing individual student profiles using the Student Success Plan. We are hosting a Mental Health First Aid First Nations training session on November 1, 2, 3, 2022 in Nipigon. One or two staff members from each school are approved to attend.
2. [Professional Learning Plan for EA's \(2022-2023\)](#)

We are collaborating with Confederation College this year to provide Professional Development for our Educational Assistants. This is a voluntary and paid professional development available to EA's outside of the school day. This will be a weekly event which includes 5 different learning modules. The College has modified their EA program to accommodate this learning.

**3. Board Funded Autism Courses - Geneva Centre Training Courses**

We were funded through the Ministry of Education for Geneva Centre training courses. We have offered this to all our staff in the Board. Currently we have 10 staff interested in taking courses with the Centre.

**4. NorWest Community Centre FASD Workshop**

The NorWest Community Centre will be having a face to face workshop for staff. We have six staff that will be attending.

**5. Special Education Staffing (2022-2023) Update**

Our Educational Assistant situation in each of our schools has changed with the addition of Jordan Principle applications. We have 14 successfully approved applications and are waiting on one more approval.

**6. Correspondence Received: None received**

**8. Service Provider Updates (if available):**

**North of Superior Programs - Erin Montelpare**

Not available for update.

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

There are some staffing changes at the Children's Centre Thunder Bay. The new rural psychology staff person is Brandi Person. She will be working with Dr. Jessica Bird to provide services.

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

The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Training will be offered on October 26, 2022. Anyone interested in having staff attend, please contact Maureen Parkes.

**Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore**

We are managing with the staff we currently have. Referrals are high at the moment. We are focusing on more prevention strategies. Our primary care traveling team is short staffed in their speech language program.

**George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Andrea Stach**

Transitioning JK/SK students to school has been successful. We are short in staffing and have had other staff members step up to assist. We have a contract with Karen Figliomeni (Superior Speech Services) for rural services until the end of March 2023.

She has picked up all our referrals. For behaviour support services, we're continuing to learn more about how this is going to work. Some staff will be attending the FASD workshop.

## Future Agenda Items

## Other Matters

1. **Next Meeting Date:** November 1, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. via zoom

## Adjournment

### Resolution #06/22

Moved By: Bobbi-Lin Mercer  
Seconded By: Fred Schmidt

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

Carried.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date