



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 6, 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
- Shirley Jean - Trustee
- Bobbi-Lin Mercer - Teacher Representative
- Jennifer Moore - DILICO
- Brie-Ann Copp - Parent
- Danielle Bond - Presenter

Regrets

- Erin Montelpare - NOSP - Greenstone
- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Coordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Lindsay Costa - Principal Representative

Welcome and Opening Liturgy:

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

Agenda/Minutes:

Resolution #10/22

Moved By: Shirley Jean
Seconded By: Lisa Copp

THAT the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on December 6, 2022 be accepted.

Carried.

Resolution #11/22

Moved By: Shirley Jean
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

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

Carried.

Business Arising Out of Minutes

Professional Learning Update

1. Attendance Presentation - Danielle Bond

Danielle shared her presentation with SEAC and described her role as the Attendance Counsellor for SNCDSB.

New Business

1. Mental Health Update - Tracy Bryson

This will be moved to the January meeting.

2. Northern Adjustment Priorities for 2022-2023

Our Board is part of NOEL which includes all eight regional School Boards and this funding is shared among the boards to ensure services for Northern Ontario students is accessible. This funding will ensure that Dr. Sarah Sinclair can continue to support us in completing Psychoeducational Assessments. This has assisted us with clearing up our previous wait list.

Urgent Response Funds are also available and can be used for trauma and/or brief support for student needs. There is funding available for a variety of services. Another part of this funding is the ISNC funding which we use to fund our speech and language services within our Board. We are happy to be able to access this funding for this school year.

3. RSEC (Regional Special Education Committee) Update

This is the Regional Special Education Committee that represents all eight School Boards in our northern communities. It is the sharing of information between our Boards. The first meeting was held face to face after 3 years in Thunder Bay in November 2022. We discussed practices in other Boards and supporting our students with resources. Shelly Moore from B.C. attended. She is a strong advocate for inclusion and equity. She discussed how our models should ensure that they are based on inclusion rather than integration. Andrea Stach presented to the committee on the Entry to School Program. The Committee meets three times a year.

4. Professional Learning Opportunity for EA's 2022-2023

This information was shared with SEAC at our last meeting. This training is scheduled weekly from 3:30 to 5:00. There are eight staff members currently participating. There was a question regarding training for staff on students with behavioral issues.

5. After School Programming 2022-2023

We are very fortunate to be able to offer the After School Program at Our Lady of Lourdes School and St. Martin School. St. Edward School is beginning their After School program this month as well.

6. Correspondence Received: None received

7. Service Provider Updates (if available)

North of Superior Programs - Erin Montelpare

Not available for update.

Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Fred Schmidt

Not available for update.

Norwest Community Health Centre (FASD) - Maureen Parkes

Not available for update.

Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Jennifer Moore

Things are proceeding well.

George Jeffrey Children’s Centre - Andrea Stach

SMART Start Hub - Information is being shared with community partners and school boards. This is a Provincial initiative funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services and is the entry point for special needs service with early identification for student needs.

Future Agenda Items

Other Matters

8. Next Meeting Date: January 10, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. via zoom

Adjournment

Resolution #12/22

Moved By: Shirley Jean
Seconded By: Jennifer Moore

THAT we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:04 a.m.

Carried.

Originally signed by

SEAC Chairperson

Date

Originally signed by

SEAC Member

Date