



Special Education Advisory Committee

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

OCTOBER 18, 2016

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Other Matters

1. SEAC Calendar for 2016/17 - Tentative Meeting Dates:

Adjournment

Resolution #06/16

Present

- Kerry Desjardins - Superintendent of Education
- Judy Wawia - Trustee - Aboriginal Representative
- Margie Rondeau - NOSP
- Helen Gibbons - CCAC/SNCDSB Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- Gilbert Rondeau - SLP George Jeffrey Children Centre
- Maureen Parkes - FASD Co-ordinator, NW Community Health Centre
- Jennifer Moore - Dilico

Regrets

- Fred Schmidt - Associate Director - Children's Centre, Thunder Bay
- Dean Burke - Principal
- Lynda Moffat - Parent
- Jennifer & Ray Ross - Parents
- Kristie Nicholas - Parent
- Jennifer Niskanen - Parent



- Marline Ilijow - Trustee

Welcome and Opening Liturgy

Kerry began and ended the meeting with a prayer and read the statement of acknowledgment:

“We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson Superior Treaty area. I wish to recognize the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario, and show respect to them today”.

AGENDA/MINUTES

Resolution #04/16

Moved By: Helen Gibbons moved to accept the Agenda as Amended

Seconded By: Judy Wawia

THAT the agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee teleconference meeting held on October 18, 2016 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Resolution #05/16

Moved By: Helen Gibbons

Seconded By: Gilbert Rondeau

THAT the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee teleconference meeting held on September 27, 2016 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED



Business Arising out of Minutes

Professional Learning

1. PPM 156: Supporting Transitions for Students with Special Needs

Opportunity was provided to discuss this PPM and how we need to understand that even student services from Year One Kindergarten to Year Two Kindergarten change. It was noted that we need to ensure that service providers share a copy of student reports when they transfer from one provider and need to be referred to another.

New Business

1. Learning for All Coordinator

The resignation of our Learning for All Coordinator was discussed, as well as the change in perception from looking at our Resource teachers as Special Education Teachers to Learning for All Teachers. The hope is to take the stigma out of Special Education and ensure that we are supporting ALL student.

2. Role of SEAC Members

The SEAC Membership handout was shared and discussed. We need to continue to look in our communities and at our service providers to determine if there are others that are willing to belong to this committee.

3. Role of SEAC Chair

Jennifer Moore will continue to serve as the SEAC chair as this position only began in January 2016.

4. Special Needs Strategy Update

This item will be carried over to our next meeting.

5. Child and Community Resource Meeting Update

There was a meeting held at Child and Community Resource centre on September 27, 2016 with 3 other sites on video-conference (Dryden, Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury). Kerry attending this meeting and the following was discussed:



- An overview of the New Autism Program that includes:
 - Accelerating the implementation of the new Autism Program (June 2017 instead of 2018)
 - Service Continuity for children so that children can be bridged into the New Autism program at 5 years of age
 - Improving access to earlier diagnosis
 - Enhancing resources, information, and support
 - Enhancing Autism supports for students transitioning into school
- There was also discussion around what Integrated Service looks like

6. Regional Special Education Council Overview

- The SEAC committee discussed how there is still a considerable wait time for a diagnosis with CCTB. There is a wondering on when students can be referred and who refers them. This is a conversation to further explore through the year as consistent access to Speech Language Pathology is a primary concern for many of our students
- As there is a lot of focus on Autism right now we need to still be aware of FASD (as this does not qualify as a category of exceptionality). It was discussed though how these two diagnosis's can co-exist and sometimes manifest into a communication exceptionality.
- It was identified that there are schools with students that have identified challenges but can not access extra support for their at risk students. Many of these students may or may not have been diagnosed with FASD and their communication difficulties are resulting in Behavioural issues.

Other Matters

1. SEAC Calendar for 2016/17 - Tentative Meeting Dates:

Meeting Dates will be as follows:



Dec. 6 January 10 February 7 March 7 April 4 May 2 June 6

Adjournment

Resolution #06/16

Moved By: Gilbert Rondeau

Seconded By: Judy Wawia

THAT we adjourn the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting at 10:50 am

CARRIED

SEAC Chairperson

Date

SEAC Member

Date