

1. Call to Order – 1:02 pm

2. Attendance via TEAMS online meeting platform

Harry Fry (Chair)	Chris Guillemette
Alan Bottomley	Susan Wilson
Kimberley Gignac	Tracy Hanzlik
Barb Laverock	Melanie Gray
Candy St. Onge	Albina Lavictoire
Lisa Paradis	Laura Hansman
Louise Sargent	

Regrets: Nichole King, Karen Gratton-Miscio

3. Approval of Agenda:

January 21st, 2020

Moved – Chris Guillemette

Seconded – Alan Bottomley

Carried. No Conflict of interest

4. Approval of Minutes:

December 17th, 2020

Moved – Louise Sargent

Seconded- Candy St. Onge

Carried.

Behaviour Exceptionality and Behaviour Supports

- Lisa Mason, Behaviour counsellor for the East/West and Dawn McMillan, Behaviour counsellor for the North presented to the group.
- Behaviour Team includes: 2 Behaviour Counsellors, 4 Itinerant Behaviour EAs, 1 Board Certified Behaviour Analyst and 2 Behaviour Therapists.
- Behaviour management systems – is a program developed by educators for educators. The emphasis is on the prevention of challenging behaviour and includes personal safety and de-escalation techniques. Safe containment methods are only used as a last resort.
- ABA Analysis – Applied Behavioural Analysis – is an approach designed for students with Autism however it includes strategies that support all students. The program teaches new skills and maintains new or positive behaviours. Tools such as timers, establishing rules and routines, visual prompts and data collection are used and many of these are best practices.
- CPS – Collaborative & Proactive Solutions – is a program designed by Dr. Ross Greene and based on the philosophy that “kids can do well if they can”. The program is evidence-based and digs deep into the challenging behaviours based on students’ lagging skills. Staff work collaboratively with the student to understand the challenges they have and what they need to be successful.
- Enhancing Self-regulation Approach designed by Stuart Shanker – is an approach based on understanding and dealing with stress in the five domains of: biological, emotional, cognitive, social, and prosocial. A behaviour can look like misbehaviour when it is actually a reaction to stress.

- EA's are supporting multiple students and using best practices from these four approaches.
- The Behaviour Management Plan has been revised. This is a working document, which can be reviewed and adjusted as appropriate. It identifies who is involved and what behaviour services are in place for students with challenging behaviour.
- The plan includes classroom accommodation strategies, ABA strategies and self-regulation strategies.
- Imminent risk and best practices are considered when creating the plan. It is important to have consistent responses for a student in all environments to help students make a "real connection".
- Having this plan makes it easier for multiple staff members to keep consistent practices in place and if the student moves to a different school.
- Schools at the elementary and secondary level may complete referral forms for behaviour supports and submit this to Lisa and Kim who review referrals, engage in intake meetings, and create a plan for support in consultation with the behaviour team.

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

- Barb Laverock nominated Harry Fry for Chair and he accepted. Trustee Harry Fry was acclaimed Chair.
- Louise Sargent nominated Albina Lavictoire for Vice-Chair and she accepted. Albina Lavictoire was acclaimed Vice-Chair.

SEAC Binders – Highlight updates

- It is the understanding that SEAC binders are passed on to new members within the same agency.
- Updates are reviewed annually and available online.
- Additional copies will be made and distributed to members who do not have one.

COVID-19/ Stay at Home Order Update

- The Board received direction from the Ministry that in person learning would not resume after the Christmas break however special high needs students would return. The Board was able to get most students back in school by Tuesday.
- The next memo received was direction that all students would be returning to in person learning, however still under the stay-at-home order for staff. The Health Unit emphasized that any work that can be done virtually, should be done this way. The Board's mental health and itinerant staff have devised plans to work with this order and many happen on a case-by-case basis.
- The latest communication allows more school boards to resume in person learning. This does not affect our Board as we will continue with in person instruction, but with the exception of MacTier. Geographically, MacTier is part of the Muskoka Health Unit and will remain engaged in virtual learning until further notice.
- Masks are mandatory now for all students in grades 1-12. Masks are also encouraged in outdoor spaces where distancing cannot be maintained.
- Congregating at the Secondary level is discouraged.
- The Board continues to educate students and support their learning with all health protocols in place. The Health Unit continually provides postage, signage, and videos as constant reminders for students.

Review & Discussion of the 2020 PAAC on SEAC results

- Summary report and supporting documents are available in the SEAC package for committee members to review.

MACSE request for feedback discussion

Successful Practices

- The focus is around communication and collaborating with the community.
- NNDSB circulates the SEAC minutes and posts them to the website.
- Co-ordinated service planning network advisory with co-terminus Boards and community partners.
- Staff meet regularly with HANDS for Autism and behaviour supports.
- Special education collaborates with the Health Unit to ensure students have a safe and appropriate classroom placement.
- Expertise from our Board level is shared with SEAC monthly.

Challenges/issues

- Collecting data as many families are “surveyed out”.
- Recruiting new members for SEAC and engaging families in special topics.
- Difficulty sharing SEAC’s work outside of the SEAC committee.
- Changing leaders with community partners and agencies.
- Large catchment area and the time needed to travel.

Possible solutions/ future directions

- With a new Communication’s Officer in place, we can do a better job of using social platforms to share SEAC news.
- Partnering with PIC to determine topics to offer for parent sessions.

Other comments

- Online de-briefing during COVID overall was a positive experience. The feedback from staff, administration and parents were that they felt supported.
- Any comments can be sent to Melanie Allard.
- The form will be sent into MACSE for their review.

Board report

- Trustees are involved in PD sessions.
- Trustee representatives for SEAC are Harry Fry, Alan Bottomley, Nichole King and Louise Sargent.

Items for next Agenda

2020-2021 Budget Process Timeline

Special Education programs and services – Review any proposed changes.

Ministry Communications/PPM

Presentation – Special Education Support Roles/Resources

Standing Items:

1. Correspondence received requiring action.
2. Capital Plan and Accommodation Review
3. Special Education Plan
4. Special Education Budget
5. Question Period

Next meeting date: February 18th, 2021

Adjourned: 2: 25pm

Moved: Albina Lavictoire
Seconded: Chris Guillemette