



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Special Education Services

June 17th, 2021

1. Call to Order – 1:00 pm

2. Attendance via TEAMS online meeting platform

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

Regrets: Nichole King, Barb Laverock, Karen Gratton-Miscio, Candy St. Onge

3. Approval of Agenda:

June 17th, 2021

Moved – Alan Bottomley
Seconded – Louise Sargent
Carried. No Conflict of interest

4. Approval of Minutes:

May 20th, 2021

Moved – Chris Guillemette
Seconded – Alan Bottomley

Summer special education learning supports

- The Board will be offering summer learning programs.
- Three CDC's, four EA's and a DLRT have been hired for the summer to help support elementary & secondary and the program team.
- The Board has been working alongside LearnStyle and six virtual camps will be offered over the summer. This will be geared towards grade 4-8 students.
- A descriptor has been sent out to principals who will follow up with their families. There is one LearnStyle coach for five or so students. These sessions will be offered in August so not to disrupt any summer learning programs in place in July.
- Ministry dollars have been received for student transition activities the last few weeks of August to help prepare students for return to school in September.
- Transition activities will include students in regular classes with anxiety, students with EA support and special education classes.

Land acknowledgement

- The Board's Indigenous lead Tracy Hendrick has been working hard to put together a land acknowledgement guidebook.
- This will best support schools and staff in creating their own.
- We as a SEAC committee can develop our own to start our meetings.

- The land acknowledgement is not a script but evolves with time. It should be tailored to the land and the situation currently being experienced.
- The group discussed ideas and thoughts around the introduction, recognition of land and what is authentic to SEAC. Any follow up ideas can be emailed to the group.
- It was suggested to have an education piece with this, so people have a better understanding of the history of a land acknowledgement. A guest speaker could be asked to join the next SEAC meeting who could help provide a better insight into this.

Climate Change

- There is much misinformation out there on climate change.
- Trustee Bottomley spoke about the increased carbon dioxide production, the reliance on fossil fuels and global warming.
- It has become a crisis and our students will inherit our footprint.
- Trustee Bottomley relayed to the group his wanting for more electric cars and the immediate need for climate change to be a priority for our government.
- The group was encouraged to reach out to Trustee Bottomley for any follow up.

SEAC annual agenda and goals for 2021-2022

- The group reviewed the annual agenda and goals for 2021-2022.
- The left side presents all the annual activities with the right side more tailored to local activities.
- Presentations are spread throughout the year.
- Community reps are welcome to do presentations on their organizations.
- A suggestion was to reach out to see if there could be a representative for Autism.
- A land acknowledgment presentation will be added.

COVID-19/ Ministry updates

- June 21st is Indigenous Peoples Day; however, the Board is recognizing this on June 18th. Several partners will join the day to share greetings, songs, and teachings. This will take place in a virtual format.
- It was hoped that summer learning camps would take place face to face, however the latest communication received is that they are to be held remotely. The program team is working hard, to pivot back to this model.
- Mental wellness summer camps will take place in support of students in all three regions. Drop-in clinics will also be available to support students.
- The special education plan was approved at the June Board meeting. This will be updated and available on the website.
- Student transition activities will be planned for August to support return to school.
- The octomester model is planned to continue for this September and the Board is in the process of creating a virtual school.

Correspondence

- Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic DSB – available in the SEAC package.

Capital planning and accommodation updates

- There have been several consultation meetings for the new JK-12 build, including presentations to town council, community and families and staff.
- Questions are to be focused on how to best support student programming.

Special Education Budget

- The budget was approved, and staffing is almost complete.

Board report

- The budget was passed at the last Board meeting.
- Trustee Sargent offered best wishes to Trustee Fry. His vacancy will be filled by September, however there are still three Trustee voting members on SEAC.
- There will be a Board meeting late July/ early August as there are still constant changes at the Provincial level and this way Trustees can address it before September.

Special Education Report

- Available in the package with updates on the four areas of focus:
 - Better understanding and Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities
 - Enhancing Skills in Applied Behaviour Analysis
 - Supporting Students with Challenging Behaviour
 - Supporting Students with High Needs

New Business

- Chris discussed the community transition services through Community Living. Most of the support they have offered has been virtual during COVID. Any questions can be directed to Chris.
- Laura discussed the survey sent out by VIEWS to all Ontario funded school Boards. The purpose of the survey is to document the professional supports available in Ontario-funded schools for students with vision loss

Items for next Agenda

SEAC annual agenda/goals
 SEAC schedule for the year
 Board's PD day plans for the year
 MACSE minutes (if available)
 Ministry Communications/ PPM
 Membership Review
 Update Special Education Staffing and Programs
 Presentation – Land acknowledgement presentation

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: September 16th, 2021

Adjourned: 2:31pm

Moved: Alan Bottomley
Seconded: Harry Fry

Official