

Special Education Advisory Meeting (SEAC)

Thursday, May 23, 2024 | 1:00pm
Zoom Online Meeting & North Bay Board Office

Present:

Tim Graves, Superintendent of Education
Krista Holmes, Executive Assistant
Alison Clarke, Acting Principal of Special Education
Caroline Labrecque, Nipissing First Nation
Chantal Phillips, Trustee and Chair
Chris Guillemette (Vice Chair), CLNB
Louise Sargent, Trustee
Jeanie Fuscaldo, Trustee
Carol Couillard, Nipissing Secondary
Laura Hansman, OPIC

Chris Walking, K-12 Student Achievement and Well-Being Principal, North Region

Regrets:

Candy St. Onge, Almaguin Highlands Community Living
Lisa Paradis, Spec Ed Coordinator – East & West Regions
Kimberly Gignac, Spec Ed Coordinator – North Region
Ashley St. Pierre, Board Chair

Land Acknowledgement by SEAC Chair, Chantal Phillips.

Call to Order at 1:03pm.

Attendance

Agenda Approval

Motioned by Chris Guillemette, Seconded by Jeanie Fuscaldo. *Carried*

Approval of the Minutes of the April 18, 2024 meeting.

Motioned by Louise Sargent, Seconded by Chris Guillemette. *Carried*

Business Arising from the Minutes

May 2024 SEAC Budget Recommendations Confirmation by Principal Clarke.

- Principal Clarke highlighted the changes made with the May 2024 Budget recommendations (as included in the SEAC package).

The SEAC confirms the May 2024 Budget Recommendations and forwards them to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

Motioned by Chris Guillemette, Seconded by Jeanie Fuscaldo. *Carried*

Presentation of Student Achievement Plan by Principal Walkling

- Principal Walkling answered questions from the SEAC members including:
 - ◆ Data tracking
 - ◆ Attendance data
 - ◆ Engagement and well-being
 - ◆ Making meaning of EQAO results
 - ◆ Cohort tracking
- Principal Walkling's presentation is attached to these minutes. He has agreed to return to a future SEAC meeting in the 2024/2025 school year.
- Trustee Fuscaldo acknowledged the hard work and wonderful job our teachers are doing, despite all the current challenges.

Standing Items

Spec Ed Plan updates – Principal Clarke

- Principal Clarke confirmed that members of the SEAC committee were given the opportunity to review recommended revisions to The Special Education Plan and provide feedback before today's meeting.
- It was noted that The Special Education Plan for 2024-25 reflects information and activities that occurred during the 2023-24 school year.

The SEAC accepts the Special Education Plan, as revised, for 2024-25 and forwards it to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Motioned by Chris Guillemette, seconded by Louise Sargent. *Carried.*

Community Partner updates

Community Living North Bay

- Month of May – Community Living – fun event on May 31st, Family Fun at 741 Wallace, from 4pm – 8pm, with w BBQ by Cafe, popcorn, cotton candy, art session, music, etc. A great inclusive event.

Correspondence Received: N/A

Ministry/MACSE updates: SO Graves

- Superintendent Graves was able to provide updates from the Ministry and noted recent public announcements related to cell phones and the new kindergarten curriculum.

Reports

Board report (oral) – (Board Trustee)

- Trustee Sargent – Noted a new Trustee on NNDSB’s Board; Caren Gagne welcomed at our recent meeting and is replacing the zone 2 Trustee. A new Chair, Ashley St. Pierre and Vice Chair, Howard Wesley were voted in during the May Board meeting. The Literacy Program Team were acknowledged for their recent Dyslexia award.
- Trustee Phillips – MYSP meeting coming up and encouraging everyone to attend.

Special Education Report – Alison Clarke

- Principal Clarke noted that the NNDSB Special Education Department is moving forward to implement RISE software, which is a cloud-based and all-encompassing student services software platform used for student and class profiles that provides tools and is rooted in current educational and evidence-based practices as well as is designed for all types of teacher, support staff and specialized services and administrators. Currently, the team is working with Learn Style to configure RISE for use.
- Principal Clarke noted that the NNDSB senior team has provided approval to create an additional self-contained special education class within our Senior Communication Program at Chippewa. Increasing numbers of students in need alongside parental demand allowed the Special Education leadership team to recommend an additional class be created within that program. The class will welcome students for the fall of 2024 through the IPRC process.

SEAC chair report

- Chair Phillips noted that she is always interested in how the Board interfaces with the parents and would like to continue her work with parents.

New Business:

- Draft EQAO Letter – This item will be discussed September 19, 2024.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 20th at 1pm.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.

Adjournment Motioned by Jeanie Fuscaldo, Seconded by Chris Guillemette. *Carried*