

Special Education Advisory Minutes (SEAC)

Thursday, January 19, 2023, | 1:00 p.m.
Zoom Online Meeting & North Bay Board Office

Present:

Tim Graves, Superintendent of Education
Krista Holmes, Executive Assistant
Kim Pauli, NNDSB staff
Candy St. Onge
Albina Lavictoire
Chris Guillemette
Louise Sargent, Trustee
Jeanine Fuscaldo, Trustee
Lisa Paradis, NNDSB staff
Kimberly Gignac, NNDSB staff
Caroline Labrecque

Regrets:

Ashley St. Pierre
Chantal Phillips, Trustee
Laura Hansman
Carol Couillard

Land Acknowledgement

Call to Order @ 1:07pm

Agenda Approval

Approved with amendments (item under new business), Chris Guillemette moved, Trustee Sargent seconded. Carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the December 15, 2022, meeting.

Motioned by Chris Guillemette, seconded by Caroline Labrecque. Carried.

Business Arriving from the Minutes

Presentation: LearnStyle (Assistive Technology)

- Team from LearnStyle made a presentation to the SEAC committee.
- NNDSB works with LearnStyle leads as part of the presentation team.
- LearnStyle noted the excellence and professionalism of the NNDSB Central team, and the overall reception of the NNDSB schools is an appreciated partnership.

IEP Presentation: Kim Pauli, Kim Gignac, Lisa Paradis and Lisa Gaw

- It is valuable to have a DLRT online for the presentation to share an IEP of and LD student that she works with.
- A sample IEP was shared on screen, and reported on, with details on each subheading, as applicable to each student.
- Lisa reviewed the NNDSB Tools and Resources that we offer.

Special Education Funding Letter

Motion by Chair Lavictoire that the letter from our Near North DSB SEAC to Minister Lecce regarding SIP funding dated January 9th, 2023, be forwarded to our Board of Trustees for their consideration at the next Board Meeting.

Motioned by Candy St. Onge and seconded by Chris Guillemette. CARRIED.

Follow-up on request for FASD presentation

- Digital communication with Jeff Noble, right after the meeting. Principal Pauli then reached out to Michelle Irvine, as she thinks that her presentation would be quite fitting for our committee.
- We will have the presentation from Michelle at our next meeting.

Follow-up on the inquiry about accessibility at SEAC meetings

- Ensuring that we have closed captioning option available for our SEAC meetings.

Standing Items

Community Partner updates

- From Community Living North Bay - Spread the Word – starts March 1st. It encourages an inclusive society. There is going all in. Will share more info in the next month.
- From Community Living Almaguin Highlands – partnering with Hands to do an Autism clinic day, and Feb 13th from 9am – 7pm; walk-in basis and workshops (poster circulated by email).

Correspondence received:

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (Ontario Plan to Catch Up carried over from December meeting)

- Last month when a motion came and we didn't get a seconder, we wanted to revisit this dialogue.
- Concerns with space, staffing and philosophy, but our capacity within our school board would make this challenging.
- The Chair and Vice-Chair agree to wait since we only had one committee member that wanted to motion, and we want to wait and see if/when we get more letters of support, and then review it again.

Ministry updates – SO Graves

- K-12 level to make recommendations to the Ministry, re accessibility standards. They met earlier this month, and those recommendations will now go to the Ministry.
- Boards are waiting to hear about the next Ministry requirements.
- The Ministry is well aware of the many big capital projects that the aging schools are dealing with.

Special Education Plan/Budget

- Lexia follow-up questions and Principal Pauli has now connected with our Finance Dept.
- In 2021-2022, 611 three-year board wide costs were \$53,675

- An additional 225 licenses were purchased for \$30,000 the following year. 175 were purchased with Spec Funds in Sept 2022, and all the rest were purchased through our Program dept.
- Sept 2024 will be when every one of the above Lexia licenses is going to expire.

Reports

Board report

- Trustee Sargent – renaming of schools; 2 committees that are starting up. WJ Fricker will meet this week for their inaugural meeting. Through a board motion, the renaming and rebranding of Chippewa School will also proceed.
- Trustee Sargent outlined the Committee of the Whole and Board Meeting monthly schedules.

Special Education Report – Kim Pauli

- Organizing for EAs for their PD Days, happening on Feb 3rd. It will take place in Parry Sound. In the East it will consist of staff wellness in the morning, and in the afternoon understanding and supporting kids with autism. In Sundridge and North Bay, an FASD presentation – Michelle Irvine morning, afternoon Equity Session.
- Ministry AQ funding for the next 2 school years is coming.
- Louise Maughan and her team are piloting her Selective Mutism project at three of our schools.
- 71 Learnstyle coaching sessions were provided to NNDSB students in Dec, and 520 in total for this school year.

New Business

- Trustee Sargent (sharing on behalf of Trustee Fuscaldo) outlined areas of concern related to accessibility standards including:
 - Reviewing physical accessibility on a school-by-school basis
 - The Board website
 - Board-wide accommodation in communication

The 2022-2025 Ontario Public Service Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, Accessible by Design, supports the OPS Leadership Pledge to build an equitable, accessible, and anti-racist public service by outlining clear goals and actions to further our progress towards an accessible Ontario." It was suggested that a board committee be struck to address this issue.

- SO, Graves acknowledged there is work to be done on the in this area. It is a bigger issue than SEAC alone.

Next meeting

February 16, 2023 @ 1pm

Adjournment Motion Chris Guillemette, seconded by Trustee Sargent. Carried.