

## **Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board**

## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE S.E.A.C Minutes Date: Wednesday, October 30, 2019

Place: Board Office - Mtg. Room 2 Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Attendance: Rosanne Zagordo, Theresa Coccimiglio, Suzanne Pleau, Tina Newell, Lorna Connolly Beattie, Irma DiRenzo, Sherri Kitts, Rose Burton Spohn, Paula Valois, Jared Lambert, Vicki Kearn, Jared Lambert, Lori Ivey

SMC Student Trustees and Guests: Anthony DeLorenzi, Lucas Marano

Regrets: Joe Chilelli, Sandra Turco, Gary Trembinski, Marty Young

	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION WHO	WHEN
1.	PRAYER FOR SEAC	SEAC prayer was said by all.     All	
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (September 25, 2019)	Minutes were accepted.     Sherri     Lori	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES	<ul> <li>Nick D'Amato was in attendance to share his role with the Board. He is the Special Education Consultant who supports the EAST schools on a weekly basis and visits the NORTH schools on a needs basis.</li> </ul>	
4.	GUEST(s): REPORTS • Student Trustees	SMC is hosting a special education basketball Anthony tournament. Specific student questionnaires have Lucas	

<ul> <li>Nick D'Amato- Special Ed. Consultant</li> <li>Vickie Kearn- Autism Ontario</li> <li>Sherri Kitts- Jordan's Principle</li> <li>Karen Dick</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>been developed for students who are participating so that all their needs are being met.</li> <li>Knights Armour is being run by 2 ILS students and continues to be a great success.</li> <li>The play 'In the Nick of Time' is being supported by students who are in the ILS program.</li> <li>Vicki Kearns, Autism Ontario Service Navigator who covers Hornepayne to Elliot lake including Chapleau. Previously, the Ontario Autism Program was accessed through Child and Community Resources who was the single point of access for families who have students with ASD. Families need to register with the Ministry if their child has received a diagnosis of Autism. The ministry says that within 18 months time, a child will be seen to determine their childhood budget. The letter is being sent out in phases.Under the age of 6 they are eligible for \$20,000 or over 6 they are eligible for \$200. Services are OT, PT, SLP, ABA services and training. Families can also use it for respite, technology and travel aids. More recommendations are to follow from the Ministry. Vicki is hosting 2 budget workshops per month to families. There are also social learning opportunities offered 2 times a month by Vicki. Families have 90 days to complete their budget, then there is an authorization to spend the money, it does not affect this budget.</li> <li>Letter from Autism Ontario will be drafted by Viicki Kearn to be sent to the school Board and then disseminated to the LRT. This letter will remind families to register their child with the Ministry if they haven't already.</li> <li>Letter will be sent to HSCDSB (Special Education Coordinator) by November 13, 2019.</li> </ul>	Vicki Kearn Sherri Kitt	February
	<ul> <li>Nick D'Amato introduced himself as our new Special Education Consultant. He supports LRTs, school teams, supports Assistive Technology, BMS training,ISET and IPRC meetings in the North and</li> </ul>		

5.	MINISTRY UPDATES	<ul> <li>East. He serves as a link to the Special Education Coordinator and supports the system initiatives.</li> <li>Jared Lambert, is our new Mental Health Lead for the Board. He oversees, the way Mental Health is intervened and handled at the board level including certain initiatives. He has a lot of involvement with community partners and school teams. He has a staff wellness approach and has started an emotional wellness newsletter that is sent to all staff. This newsletter will be sent to SEAC as well.</li> <li>There are no reports/updates at this time.</li> </ul>	
6. 7.	SEAC BUSINESS SEAC meetings Behaviour Team Referral Form SBRS- OT/PT/Speech BMS- New Trainers Wellness Coach-EAST BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD	<ul> <li>SEAC meeting in November will be hosted by Laurie MacEachern, principal of Holy Name of Jesus in Hornepayne.</li> <li>The behaviour team referral form was reviewed.</li> <li>THRIVE will begin taking referrals for OT/PT and Speech December 1, 2019</li> <li>Lorrain Belanger is the Wellness Coach for the East Schools.</li> <li>SEAC meeting in January will be hosted by Fil Lettieri, principal of St. Basil in Sault Ste Marie.</li> </ul>	Rosanne Zagordo
8.	SUPERINTENDENT AND COORDINATOR'S REPORT • EQAO	<ul> <li>In primary and junior literacy, our students with special needs outperformed the province (direct comparison)</li> <li>A better comparison might be to look at the gap between all HSCDSB students and those with special needs and compare to the province.</li> <li>For example, in primary reading and writing, the gap would be 18% and 9 % respectively. For the province the gaps are 25% and 22%. This shows we have done a good job in closing the gap for our students with special needs (relative to the province)</li> <li>Our Boards gap achievement gap between all students with special needs was</li> </ul>	Rose Burton Spohn

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	better than the province in all categories and all	
	grade levels except academic mathematics.	
	Both at the board and provincial level, students	
	with special needs did not fare as well.	
	Writing is a real strength for us, especially at the	
	junior level, where the full benefits of assistive	
	technology are realized.	
	<ul> <li>Something odd happened at the secondary</li> </ul>	
	academic level. This may be related to students or	
	parents who selected the incorrect stream.	
	<ul> <li>Next steps include working closely with our</li> </ul>	
	numeracy team who are providing targeted	
	support.	
	<ul> <li>It is important to recognize that the scores for</li> </ul>	
	students with special needs will typically be lower,	
	as they encompass students with varying	
	exceptionalities, including those working on	
	modified or alternative programs.	
	<ul> <li>How do we account for our gap closing for</li> </ul>	
	students with special needs? Accommodations	
	vary from student to student, but some include the	
	following:	
	Use of assistive technology	
	<ul> <li>Accommodations such as large print or audio</li> </ul>	
	version	
	<ul> <li>Additional time, providing a quiet area to write.</li> </ul>	
	Use of scribes	
	<ul> <li>Preexposure to testing situations so students know</li> </ul>	
	what to expect -reduce anxiety.	
	Provide time to build relationships with adult scribe	
	so students feel comfortable	
	<ul> <li>Preparations occur all year – our students</li> </ul>	
	particularly benefit from the use anchor charts for	
	writing	
	Practice with inferencing and making connections	
	Providing some problem solving frameworks	
	Practice with multiple choice type questions	

9.	ASSOCIATION REPORTS		
i	North Shore Tribal Council (S. Kitts)	<ul> <li>Natalie Barry and Diane Roach are filling in for Sherri Kit. Marney Yourchuk will be in attendance for the next meeting.</li> </ul>	Sherri Kitts
ii	AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (I. DiRenzo)	<ul> <li>November 4-7 there will be an ultra informative . workshop The website will be sent out to Rosanne to forward to SEAC and others.</li> </ul>	Irma Direnzo
iii	ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio)		
iv	SSM DOWN SYNDROME SOC. (S. Pleau)	<ul> <li>November 1-7 is National Down Syndrome Day.</li> <li>TED talk by Karen Gaffney has been recommended.</li> </ul>	Suzanne Pleau
V	ALGOMA PUBLIC HEALTH (L. Ivey)	<ul> <li>Transition meeting was held today at APH for new students with special needs moving to the school board. HSCDSB will be attending transition meetings starting January 13-17, 2020.</li> </ul>	Lori Ivey
vi	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE ( T. Newell)	<ul> <li>CEO of THRIVE, Christianne Monico has resigned.</li> <li>Susan Vanagas Cote has agreed to step in for a short while until a new CEO is hired.</li> </ul>	Tina Newell
vii	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA		
x	MEMBER-AT-LARGE (P. Valois)	<ul> <li>Paula may be planning a visit to St. Joseph school. She said the librarian at that school is a welcoming provides a positive and inviting place to work and learn. The librarian runs a girls groups. There are roughly 60 students who attend St. Joseph School</li> </ul>	Paula Valois
xi	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (L. Connolly Beattie)		
xii	TRUSTEES REPORT (G. Trembinski)		
10.	NOTES	Adjournment @ 6:05 pm	Suzanne Pleau

		Sherri Kitts
Next Meeting:	November 27, 2019	
Place:	Board Office - Meeti	ng Room 2 (SKYPE with Holy Name of Jesus Principal, L. MacEachern)
Time:	4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	
Teleconference #	Toll Free: Conference ID:	1-866-602-6731 4626234

\* Please submit Association Report one week prior to scheduled SEAC meeting.