



Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

S.E.A.C

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2020 (Moved to Wednesday, April 1, 2020)

Place: Teleconference (see dial in instructions at the end of this agenda)

Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Attendance: Rosanne Zagordo, Joe Chilelli, Theresa Coccimiglio, Gary Trembinski, Tina Newell, Lorna Connolly Beattie, Irma DiRenzo, Lori Ivey, Rose Burton Spohn, Sandra Turco, Jared Lambert, Marnie Yourchuk

SMC Student Trustees and Guests: Lorraine Belanger

Regrets: Marty Young, Suzanne Pleau, Sherri Kitts, Lynda Lewis, Lucas Morano, Anthony DeLorenzi, Paula Valois

AGENDA ITEMS		ACTION	WHO	WHEN
1.	PRAYER FOR SEAC Special Prayer - Prayer for Pandemic (R. Zagordo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We prayed Prayer for a Pandemic. 	Rosanne Zagordo	
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (February 26, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes for February 26, 2020 were accepted. 	Gary Trembinski Sandra Turco	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES			
4.	GUEST(s): REPORTS Student Trustees Wellness Coach-L. Belanger Supporting Student Mental Health - Jared Lambert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorraine Belanger, Wellness Coach responsible for the East schools explained her role. She works with students who are having a hard time self regulating, who may exhibit maladaptive behaviours, low self esteem. She uses strategies associated with the Zones of Regulation, and 	Lorraine Belanger	

		<p>mindfulness to support. She is available to all the east schools; one day a week at each school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jared referred to some of the mental health resources that we are using during this shutdown to support students. One of the ways we are supporting is compiling resources to put on the board website, example Kids Help Phone. • Counsellors are reaching out to our most vulnerable students via telephone to offer support. These are students that we have already obtained consent for and were in progress of receiving our services. • We are starting to use e-counselling with our students and now with the closure of the schools this platform is beneficial. This new way of supporting is going to continue to expand and enhance the way we support students. Program specifics and protocols were discussed. 	Jared Lambert	
5.	<p>MINISTRY UPDATES Rose Burton Spohn</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The closure of schools has extended until May 4, 2020 or possibly longer. • The board is trying to put as much resources and information as possible online. • A number of items were received from the Minister of Education surrounding areas such as: Content-Delivery and Technology and Equity, The board has conducted 2 surveys one for employees and one for students to inquire if they have access to technology. The board is looking at supporting students and staff with technology if they do not have access to it. 	Rose Burton Spohn	
6.	<p>SEAC BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Essex CDSB letter • Sub-committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The letter refers to the After School Program for students with ASD. They are asking for transportation to be covered for students to get the program along with offering the program during the March Break. • An April 8 meeting is set for the subcommittee. Details for the meeting will be sent out by Theresa. 	<p>Rosanne Zagordo</p> <p>Theresa Coccimiglio</p>	
7.	BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD			
8.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT AND COORDINATOR'S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuation of Learning during school Closure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of learning- the Learning at Home portal was launched a couple of weeks ago. We 	Joe Chillelli	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supports for Students with Special Needs - Department Plans during Closure - Autism Roadmap - Upcoming PD 	<p>have also put our own resources on the board website and will continue to do so.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SEA computers have been gathered at each school. The movement of this equipment will be happening shortly. ● Gift certificates and food orders for the next 2 months from the Breakfast Programs across the system were donated to Harvest Algoma. ● The Special Education Team continues to work at preparing PD and meeting with teams within the department such as the Mental Health Team, Behaviour Team, Speech/Language Team. ● All pre scheduled meetings need to continue as best as possible in a virtual session. ● Empower training sessions may occur virtually ● IEP Review team has met to review the IEPs and to provide feedback to school administrators. ● We are doing our best to stay connected and to support each other during this shut down. ● We are looking at ways to support our students with special needs with distance learning. ● EAs are being registered for the Registered Behaviour Therapist course which is 40 hours. Currently it is offered free of charge. ● Our Behaviour/ASD advisors are currently reaching out to our most vulnerable students who were on their radar. 		
9.	ASSOCIATION REPORTS			
i	North Shore Tribal Council (S. Kitts/ Marnie Yourchuk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Most communities have put their pandemic plan into action. Many offices are closed and working remotely. There are no current cases in the North Shore. Food banks and extra funding has been accessed. 	Marnie Yourchuk	
ii	AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● World Autism Awareness and Acceptance day will be virtual on April 2, 2020. There is a comprehensive list that Autism Ontario has put out. Rosanne will send the list out to the members. 	Irma Direnzo	

iii	ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFS has also put resources out to the community. They are also working remotely in this challenging time. Counselling is happening and is business as usual. Addictions may be on the rise during this time. E counselling is taking place as well. Kids Help Line has had a boost in funds. Alternatives for Youth has created a Facebook page with privacy features that helps with communication to their clients. 	Theresa Coccimiglio	
iv	SSM DOWN SYNDROME SOC. (S. Pleau)			
v	ALGOMA PUBLIC HEALTH (L. Ivey)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APH has been very busy during this time. Some services are working from home and minimizing visits to the office. More Than Words is continuing through Zoom. Dr. Korneluk will be conducting her work over the phone and then she will come to town. 	Lori Ivey	
vi	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE (T. Newell)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff are working from home. They are looking at our online options and that is PHIPA compliant. Looking at alternative ways to communicate with clients. The family assistance fund has been opened up for families in need. Respite options are a concern for families at this time. E counselling options are being considered along with involvement with Transition to School meetings. 	Tina Newell	
vii	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA (L. Lewis)			
x	MEMBER-AT-LARGE (P. Valois)			
xi	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (L. Connolly Beattie)			
xii	TRUSTEES REPORT (G. Trembinski)			
10.	NOTES	Meeting was adjourned at 5:46 pm	Gary Trembinski Lorna Connolly Beattie	

Next Meeting:

April 29, 2020

Place: Teleconference

Time: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Teleconference # From Sault Ste. Marie call **705-945-5633 and use code**

If calling long distance call toll free **1-800-267-0754** **When prompted dial extension **25999**
and then the participant code is 9029824