

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE S.E.A.C.

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 24, 2021

Google Meet: meet.google.com/nme-gkxp-vtf

Location:

Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Attendance: Rose Burton Spohn, Joe Chilelli, Theresa Coccimiglio,

Irma DiRenzo, Lori Ivey, Sherri Kitts, Jared Lambert, Tina Newell,

Gary Trembinski and Rosanne Zagordo

Student Trustees and Guests: Adam Morgenstern, Jenna Viotto, Laura Wing, Sister Pat Carter

Regrets: Jacques Ribout, Lorna Connolly Beattie, Sandra Turco

| | AGENDA ITEMS | ACTION | WHO | WHEN |
|----|--|---|----------------------------------|------|
| 1. | PRAYER FOR SEAC Welcome and prayer | Board prayer was said by all. | Rosanne Zagordo | |
| 2. | ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (October 27, 2021) | Minutes were approved | Sherri Kitts Gary Trembinski | |
| 3. | AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES | | | |
| 4. | GUEST(s): REPORTS SMC student trustees ELP Presentation OLOL presentation - | Inclusion at SMC was demonstrated through IMPACT, Knights of kindness, where the goal is to spread kindness. Students in grades 5-8 are coming to SMC. | Adam Morgenstern Jenna Viotto | |

| F. Spadafora • Focus on Faith report | ILS students helped to take down the lights off the Santa float. Popcorn was sold to school and staff Technology is being used through OSSLT and tutorials are being used for applying to university Students are involved in Heaven Cent and to support Advent outreach. Laura Wing spoke about the Enhanced Learning Program, ELP, Program at Holy Cross. This specialized program helps them to learn in a small environment to build on skills they may need to work on, example, self-regulation skills Students spend time with the ELP program, with the intention that they will transfer to the mainstream classroom. The program is individualized depending on their needs. | Laura Wing |
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| | Nurturing of our Catholic Faith In September, the parishes were able to hold Eucharistic liturgies with a targeted number of participants given the Covid-19 protocols and the space within the Churches. It was decided that schools would not attend Eucharistic liturgies in their parishes because it would be impossible to keep the number of participants within the protocols. So all liturgies for special days have taken place within classroom settings. Sister Pat has prepared slide shows for Remembrance Day for Kinder, Primary, Junior and Intermediate classes. She will do the same thing for Advent. Each month a Virtue of the month assemblies have been held in the classrooms too. In this way, all the students are able to participate in these liturgies if they are in attendance at school on the days they are held. Sister Pat did not attend the workshop entitled – Children and the Mental Health Crisis: The Role of Meditation. She has input on CDs from Father Laurence Freeman on this topic and listens to these CDs regularly. She has also heard Jean | Sister Pat Carter |

- Clinton a couple of times and has appreciated her input each time.
- At St. Mary's French Immersion and Holy Cross, the sacrament program is taking a turn to deal with sacramental preparation during Covid times. St. Jerome's and St. Gerard Majella parishes have found a program online which families can use to prepare the children in Grades 2,3, + for the sacrament of Reconciliation. St. Paul's school children would also be involved in this program. The program costs \$50 and the family has 3 months to complete the program modules. The children must attend mass 5xs during the preparation time, having Father Alex (St. Jerome's) or Father Charles (St. Gerard's) to sign their cards.
- Equitable Stewardship of our Resources
- Last year, when Holy Trinity joined the H-SCDSB family of schools, we purchased the digital resources for Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ and the Fully Alive programs from Pearson so the classes could access these resources online. GIF GIC is the RE program and Fully Alive is the Family Life program. There are portals for families to access both programs so parents can participate with their children. These programs were expensive, the licenses is good until 2025.
- Success and Well-Being of our Students
- As a member of the Board's Well-Being committee, Sister Pat works with Jared Lamberts to ensure that the success and well-being of our students is a focus, especially during the time of pandemic. With many students returning to in person delivery of education, we have more opportunity to check in to see the students daily, especially those who struggle. If the cause of the struggle is something to do with a psycho-sexual identification, Sister Pat works with the Family & Student counsellors to ensure that students are supported in the best way possible.
- Engagement with Employees and Partners
- The faith formation of staff is important to the Faith Animator (Sister Pat). Each week she provides a reflection (usually by Father Ron Rolheiser), the

| | | Catholic Culture Update and a cartoon commentary on the Gospel of the weekend. In this way, staff are encouraged to grow in their faith. Sister Pat also provides a Lectio Divina weekly for the SMC students taking Religious Education and one for the Intermediate students. These are a means for the students to engage with the gospel in a meaningful way appropriate for their age group. | | |
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| 5. | MINISTRY UPDATES • Rose Burton Spohn | Oct 29 the Ministry of Education as outlined in PPM 81- Provision of Health Services in schools Assessment and Evaluation, quadmester there is no need to do mid term reports. Nov. 1- Ministry of Education. remote guide was released, helpful to students transitioning Nov. 10 a memo about next steps about destreaming, additional courses as well Nov. 15- a memo was released on SIP claims Nov. 18 updated health and safety for schools to abide by- rapid antigen test information Nov. 19- vaccinations will be available ages 5-11. First clinic is on Friday Nov. 26 for pharmacies, and doctors offices. | Rose Burton Spohn | |
| 6. | SEAC BUSINESS • Letter from WRDSB • Update on survey | This letter reinforces the commitment to ensure that all online and e-learning courses are consistently maintained with enabled links and resources that meet accessibility standards ex. close caption SEAC survey has now gone live on the Board website as of Nov. 22, 2021. Consultation was provided and questions were developed. Jared shared the survey to SEAC. More information to follow once results are in. | Rosanne Zagordo Irma DiRenzo Jared Lambert | |
| 7. | BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD | Presentation by OLOL is being deferred until December. | Franca Spadafora | December |

| 8. | SUPERINTENDENT AND COORDINATOR'S REPORT SIP update Transition to school notices | MInistry sent a memo about Special Incidence Portion claims. This year the claims do not need to be submitted however, the money will be allocated to the school board with a slight increase attached. Transition to school meetings are set to take place the week of January 31- Feb. 4. These meetings are critical for school boards to best prepare for EA projections and in school support. | Joe Chilelli Rosanne Zagordo |
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| i | North Shore Tribal Council (S. Kitts) | Offices in Garden River are shut down due to Covid. | Sherri Kitts |
| ii | AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (I. DiRenzo) | No report at this time. | Irma DiRenzo |
| iii | ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio) | AFS is closed due to construction in the building. Some agencies are offering support for AFS to work in their buildings. Holder place and the Genesis office on Chapple St . Services are still moving. | Theresa Coccimiglio |
| iV | Community Living Algoma (J. Ribout) | Sergio lacoe, Change Facilitator reporting to Tania Gagnon, Director of Supports and Services will be assuming a lead role for our children and youth services as well as being designated the staff support to the Education Committee and meeting with the CLA-designated SEAC representatives to ensure that Jacques and Margaret are informed about CLA updates to share at the SEAC meetings. Sergio has joined the CLA team after a 30 year career within the local education system Angela Taylor-Bennett is a new manager recently hired by Community Living Algoma. Angela will be our Manager of Children and Youth Services reporting to Sergio lacoe. Angela is a new resident of the Algoma District and brings many years of experience within the education system in southern Ontario, other parts of the world as well as her recent role within the education system in Yellowknife. We finally have reached a point of stability with our leadership infrastructure for children and youth services. The next step is to move forward with our realignment plans to shift resources from case management/service coordination to direct | Jacques Ribout |

| | | support for children and youth. The CLA Board of Directors will be receiving a presentation from staff regarding the realignment of children and youth resources at their December 2, 2021 meeting. We would be very pleased to attend a SEAC meeting in the future to share our realignment plans for children and youth services and the reasons why we are moving in this new direction | |
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| V | ALGOMA PUBLIC HEALTH (L. Ivey) | Waiting for Dr. Lui to provide more guidance on face to face visits vs. virtual. | Lori Ivey |
| vi | THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE (T. Newell) | Second office location on Queen is opened along with the Johnson Avenue building. Virtual intervention is a first choice if at all possible. Planning for drive thru Christmas event on Dec. 2 | Tina Newell |
| х | MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (L. Connolly Beattie) | No report at this time. | |
| xi | TRUSTEES REPORT (S. Turco, G. Trembinski) | No report at this time. | Sandra Turco Gary Trembinski |
| 9. | NOTES | Adjournment: 5:40 pm | Tina Newell Irma DiRenzo |

Next Meeting: December 8, 2021

Location: Google Meet

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.