

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

Minutes

Date: Wednesday March 30, 2022

Location:

Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/nmy-cnwk-iyz

Attendance: Theresa Coccimiglio, Tina Coombs, Chelsy Hannah, Sherri Kitts, Jared Lambert, Fiil Lettieri, Jacques Ribout, Gary

Trembinski, Sandra Turco, Rosanne Zagordo

Student Trustees and Guests: Adam Morgenstern, Ellie McGoldrick

Regrets: Jenna Viotto, Irma Direnzo, Danny Viotto

	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION	WHO	WHEN
1.	WELCOME and PRAYER	 Lori Ivey- representative form Algoma Public Health has stepped down. A thank you card and small token of our appreciation was sent to her. Welcome Member at Large Chelsy Jane Hannah 	Rosanne Zagordo Fil Lettieri Theresa Coccimiglio	
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (February 23, 2022)	Minutes from February 23, 2022, were accepted.	Tina Coombs Sherri Kitts	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES			
4.	GUEST(s): REPORTS • SMC student trustees	 Inclusion is happening with multiple dress down days, where proceeds go to Share Lent. 	Adam Morgenstern	

	THRIVE -Coordinated Service Planning	Learners with special needs are helping with breakfast clubs and around the school, collecting money. LMS is offered to all students and helpful in the event they are absent from school. Highlights to ILS- ITP and IPRC meetings are happening in April. Many students are applying for summer employment programs. • Ellie McGoldrick displayed a powerpoint to SEAC to outline Coordinated Service planning-CSP • CSP is family centered, strength based, provincial initiative to help families with children with special needs. • It is a shared initiative of the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. • The principles of CSP are child, youth and family centered service, seamless service and information sharing and meeting diverse needs. • Currently there is one CSP at THRIVE with the possibility of another position being added.	Ellie McGoldrick Tina Coombs
5.	MINISTRY UPDATES	 The Ministry of Education recently released its 2022-23 Grants for Student Needs Funding (GSN) GSN funding is projected to be \$26.1 billion, which is an increase of 2.7%, while the average provincial per-pupil funding is projected to be \$13,059, an increase of \$339. The funding included target investments for a range of initiatives such staffing related student learning needs supporting de-streaming and learning renewal, enhanced supports for mental health and special education and implementing recently negotiated terms and conditions Local Special Education Priorities is being provided through the Differentiated Special Ed Needs Amount (DSENA), which is built into the GSN, to address local priorities 	Fil Lettieri

		such as staffing, evidence-based programs and interventions, etc. As it pertains to SEAC, the Northern Category Adjustment (East) will see an increase of 0.6 million Increased Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Per-Pupil Amount. The base is increasing to \$20,000 and the amount per pupil is increasing to 39.46	
6.	SEAC BUSINESS DDSB Letter Thunder Bay Catholic DSB DDSB Letter Letter to Community Partners Thank you card from the former Director. Sub committee for SEAC recommendations Discussion for Meeting Times	 DDSB commends the goals of PPM no. 81 but are concerned about the timeline for consultation and implementation. Key partners and persons with lived experience need to be consulted to develop a framework and implementation for PPM 81 that would be in the best interest and support of students. Thunder Bay CDSB reinforces their support for Bill 172- FASD-Education Statute Law Amendment Act. DDSB fully supports that the Ministry adopt the same definition of disability as written in the AODA-Accessibility for Ontarians Disability Act -moving from a medical model to a social model. Letter to Community Partners from APH states the changes that have taken effect. ICDP and PSLS programs are no longer being delivered by APH. Effective May 1, 2022, THRIVE will be delivering these above services. For those interested in joining the committee for SEAC sub committee recommendations, please submit your name to Rosanne Zagordo by April 8, 2022. There was a discussion about changing the SEAC meeting times. Input from members was received. Further discussion on this item will occur. 	Rosanne Zagordo Theresa Coccimiglio
7.	BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD	rataler discussion on this term will occur.	
8.	SUPERINTENDENT AND COORDINATOR'S REPORT • Projected Needs for 2022-2023	 Krista Abraham, our Student & Family Counsellor in the East, returned from Maternity Leave shortly after the March Break. With additional funds in our budget, we were able to keep Michelle Walsh, her 	Fil Lettieri

replacement, in place for the duration of the school year. Schools in the East are now receiving counselling services twice a week. This arrangement has enabled us to further support student well being and reduce any impact in services with a change in counselors this late into the school year.

- Krystina Drager, a Behaviour Coach, has returned to work from her Maternity Leave. We were able to retain her replacement for the remainder of the school year, allowing us to benefit from an additional coach in our schools. The coaches provide job embedded professional learning, which builds capacity in our staff.
- March 28, 2022, we welcomed back Desire Mackenzie, our System Autism Spectrum Disorder and Behaviour Advisor.
- Projected Needs for 2022-2023: Rosanne and I are
 in the process of scheduling meetings with school
 principals and Learning Resource Teachers to
 review our projected needs in order to plan for EA
 support and school based programming, such as
 the Enhanced Learning Program. For example, I
 will be visiting Elliot Lake on Friday.
- The Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC)
 released its Right to Read inquiry report on human
 rights issues affecting students with reading
 disabilities, calling for critical changes to Ontario's
 approach to early reading, in areas such as curriculum
 and instruction, screening, reading interventions,
 accommodations and professional assessments.

- Right to Read includes recommendations to the Ministry of Education, school boards and faculties of education on how to address systemic issues that affect the right to learn to read, including:
- Adopting a new Kindergarten Program and Grades 1 to 8 Language curriculum that features direct and systematic instruction in foundational reading skills, and preparing current and future teachers on evidence-based approaches to teaching students to read
- Screening every student, at least twice a year from Kindergarten to Grade 2, to identify students at risk for reading difficulties, using standardized, evidence-based screening tools
- Standardizing and providing stable funding for evidence-based reading interventions
- Making access to interventions equitable for all students
- Providing and supporting timely and effective accommodation, including greater access to evidence-based software and assistive technology
- Improving access to professional assessments and ensuring greater consistency and transparency in the assessment process
- Setting clear and consistent standards for school boards and mandating better data collection, analysis and reporting
- Improving communication with students and parents
- Working with experts in the science of reading to implement the OHRC's recommendations.
- The OHRC calls on all partners in Ontario's education system to meet their responsibilities and legal duties under the Ontario *Human Rights Code* to remove barriers that limit students' opportunities to learn and succeed. This work will require many partners to collaboratively implement system-wide changes. It will also require sufficient, stable and ongoing funding.

i	North Shore Tribal Council (S. Kitts)	 Sherri has been busy replacing van drivers who are ill. 	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)	 Connection and support groups are running monthly. Northern Outlet is running- such as a wellness walk and movie night. There is no cost. Children's mental health week April 29-May 9, 2022 May 3 FASD presentation The agency is up and running and all services are moving forward. 	Theresa Coccimiglio
vi	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE (T. Coombs)	 May 1, 2022, services will be going live, that were formerly APH- ICDP and PSLS Intake coordinator positions are posted. Entry to school program -OAP initiative, 12 students are in the program and housed at SMFI and started this week. 	Tina Coombs
Viii	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA (J. Ribout)	 CLA had a contest -Together we are Better and the 2 awards are going to OLOF and OLOL schools in Elliot Lake. There is a virtual assembly this week to announce the winners. 	Jacques Ribout
ix	MEMBER-AT-LARGE (C. Hannah)	 Chelsy attended a workshop that discussed an App that people with disabilities can use to help find a job with approved employers The app is called Alibi and is free for job seekers to register: https://jobsability.ca/ 	Chelsy Hannah
Х	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (I. Direnzo)	No report at this time.	Irma Direnzo
xi	TRUSTEES REPORT (G. Trembinski, S. Turco)	 Presentation from MLL program from Holy Angels and new learners. We have a new First Nations Trustee: Ogimaa Brent Bissaillion SEAC minutes were approved Motions were passed for renovations at St. Augustine and St. Basil in White River Sault Ste. Marie, will be handling their portion of the elections. 	Gary Trembinski Sandra Turco

		 We welcomed Chelsy Hannah as a Member at Large to the Board Some trustees will be attending the OCSTA conference in Ottawa. Adam Morgenstern will be attending the OSTA meeting. 		
9.	Adjournment: Minutes by: Rosanne Zagordo	Meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm	Gary Trembinski Jacques Ribout	

Next Meeting: April 27, 2022

Location: Google Meet

Time: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.