



Office of the Director

Jim McCuaig Education Centre
2135 Sills Street Thunder Bay ON P7E 5T2
Telephone (807) 625-5131 Fax (807) 622-0961

STANDING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 12, 2021
Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Ian MacRae
Director of Education

Trudy Tuchenhausen
Chair

AGENDA

PUBLIC SESSION
7:30 p.m. – via Microsoft Teams

	<u>Resource Person</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1. Call to Order		
2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest		
3. Approval of the Agenda		
4. Resolve into Committee of the Whole – Closed Session		
5. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - Closed Session – 7:05 p.m. (SEE ATTACHED AGENDA)		
6. Land Acknowledgement		
7. Delegations/Presentations		
8. Approval of Minutes		
8.1 Standing Committee Meeting - November 10, 2020	T. Tuchenhausen	1-4
9. Business Arising from the Minutes		

Trustees (Chair and Vice-Chair) and presenters of reports will be available
for comment after the Board Meeting.

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION:

- | | | | |
|------|--|----------------|--------|
| 10. | Information Reports | | |
| 10.1 | Health and Safety Semi-Annual Report (010-21) | K. Alaksa | 5-9 |
| 10.2 | Early Learning Report (011-21) | AJ Keene | 10-12 |
| 10.3 | COVID-19 General Update | I. MacRae | Verbal |
| 10.4 | Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - November 5, 2020 | AJ Keene | 13-18 |
| 10.5 | Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - October 21, 2020 | M. Probizanski | 19-23 |
| 10.6 | Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2020 | M. Probizanski | 24-27 |
| 11. | First Reports | | |

MATTERS FOR DECISION:

12. Postponed Reports
13. Ad Hoc and Special Committee Reports
14. New Reports
15. New Business
16. Notices of Motion
17. Information and Inquiries
18. Adjournment

<p>Trustees (Chair and Vice-Chair) and presenters of reports will be available for comment after the Board Meeting.</p>



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STANDING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 12, 2021
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Ian MacRae
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AGENDA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Closed Session
7:05 p.m. – via Microsoft Teams

	<u>Resource Person</u>	<u>Pages</u>
5.1 Approval of Committee of the Whole - Closed Session Minutes		
5.1.1 Standing Committee Meeting - November 10, 2020	T. Tuchenhausen	1-2
5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes		
5.3 Consideration of Reports		
5.3.1 Legal Matter	I. MacRae/ M. Probizanski	Verbal
5.4 Information and Inquiries		
5.5 Rise and Ask Leave to Sit in Public Session		

Trustees (Chair and Vice-Chair) and presenters of reports will be available
for comment after the Board Meeting.

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Virtual
Via Microsoft Teams

2020 NOV 10
7:30 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Trudy Tuchenhausen (Chair)
Marg Arnone
Ellen Chambers

Sue Doughty-Smith
Ron Oikonen
George Saarinen

TRUSTEES ABSENT, WITH REGRET:

Deborah Massaro
Ryan Sitch
Scottie Wemigwans
Keira Essex (Indigenous Student Trustee)
Simran Talpade (Student Trustee)

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION:

Ian MacRae, Director of Education
AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education
Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education
Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business

FEDERATION/UNION REPRESENTATIVES:

Dave Covello, Managers

PUBLIC SESSION:

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Saarinen

Seconded by Trustee Chambers

"THAT the Agenda for Standing Committee Meeting, November 10, 2020 be approved."

CARRIED

2. Resolve into Committee of the Whole – Closed Session

Moved by Trustee Doughty-Smith

Seconded by Trustee Chambers

“THAT we resolve into Committee of the Whole – Closed Session with Trustee Tuchenhausen in the chair to consider the following:

- *Confirmation of Committee of the Whole – Closed Session Minutes*
 - *October 13, 2020*
- *Personnel Matter*
- *Legal Matters*

and that this meeting shall not be open to the public pursuant to Section 207 (2) of the Education Act as amended.”

CARRIED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CLOSED SESSION:

3. Committee of the Whole – Closed Session items were dealt with in their entirety.

PUBLIC SESSION:

4. Celebrating Student Achievement – Algonquin Avenue Public School

AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education, introduced Kali Bernst, Principal, Algonquin Avenue Public School, and Lana Deacon, Vice Principal, Algonquin Avenue Public School, to present information on *Building Relationships and Breaking Down Barriers*. All trustees' questions were addressed.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Trustee Chambers

Seconded by Trustee Arnone

“THAT the Standing Committee approve the Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting, October 13, 2020.”

CARRIED

MATTERS NOT FOR DECISION:

6. Student Achievement Report (081-20)

AJ Keene, Superintendent of Education, introduced Eric Fredrickson, Principal of Program and Early Years, and Nicholas Sacevich, Student Success Lead/MISA Board Lead, who presented the report. All trustees' questions were addressed.

7. Mental Health Strategy Report (082-20)

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, introduced Megan Tiernan, Mental Health Lead, who presented the report. All trustees' questions were addressed.

8. COVID-19 General Update

Ian MacRae, Director of Education, provided a verbal update on current COVID-19 related issues.

9. Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes – September 16, 2020

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the September 16, 2020 minutes for information.

10. Budget Committee Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2020

Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business, presented the September 9, 2020 minutes for information.

MATTERS FOR DECISION:

11. Policy Review – 1020 Equity and Inclusive Education (078-20)

Moved by Trustee Arnone

Seconded by Trustee Chambers

“THAT Lakehead District School Board approve 1020 Equity and Inclusive Education Policy, Appendix A to Report No. 078-20.”

CARRIED

12. Policy Review – 3080 Research (079-20)

Moved by Trustee Doughty-Smith

Seconded by Trustee Chambers

“THAT Lakehead District School Board approve 3080 Research Policy, Appendix A to Report No. 079-20.”

CARRIED

13. Policy Review – 7030 Human Rights and Workplace Harassment Policy (080-20)

Moved by Trustee Oikonen

Seconded by Trustee Arnone

“THAT Lakehead District School Board approve 7030 Human Rights and Workplace Harassment Policy, Appendix A to Report No. 080-20.”

CARRIED

14. Policy Development – Hiring Policy (083-20)

Moved by Trustee Arnone

Seconded by Trustee Chambers

“THAT Lakehead District School Board approve the development of a Hiring Policy as indicated in Report No. 083-20.”

CARRIED

15. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Saarinen

Seconded by Trustee Arnone

“THAT we do now adjourn at 9:38 p.m.”

CARRIED

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2021 JAN 12
Report No. 010-21

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF
THE STANDING COMMITTEE – Public Session

RE: HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM – SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

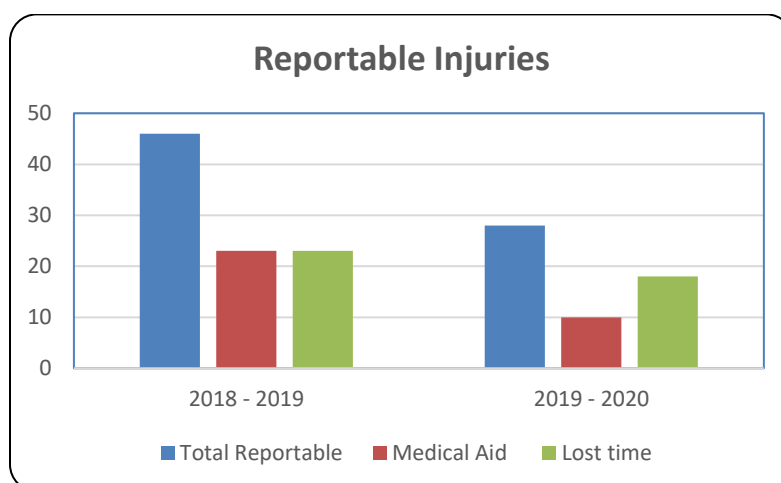
1. Background

This semi-annual report is to inform trustees of the current status of Lakehead District School Board's Health and Safety program and significant related activities. The Occupational Health and Safety Act requires directors and officers of corporations to take all reasonable care to ensure that the corporation complies with the Act and its regulations.

2. Situation

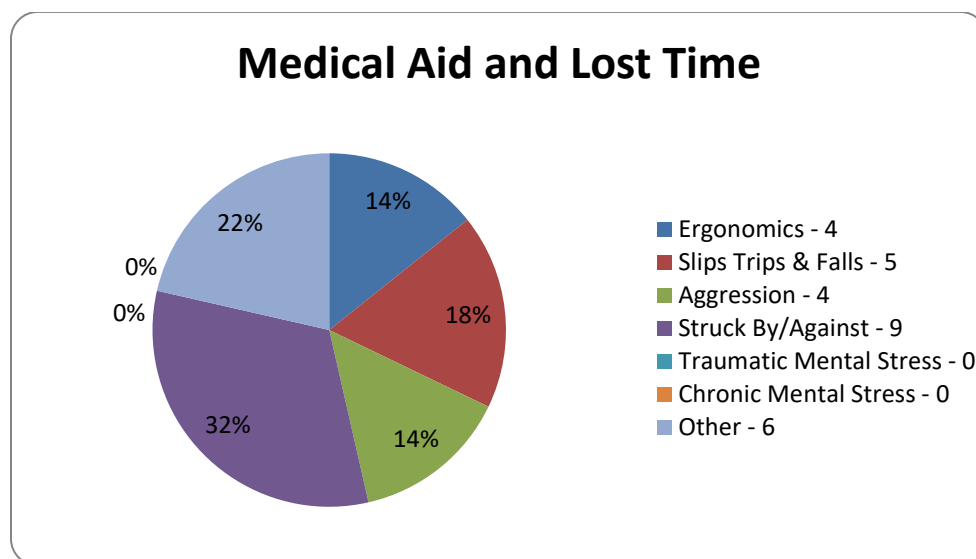
2.1 Accident Statistics

- 2.1.1 Over the 2019-2020 school year, employees recorded a total of 28 reportable injuries. Reportable injuries are defined as incidents that required medical aid or resulted in lost time. This was down from 46 reported the previous year. The number of incidents requiring medical care was 10, which is down from 23 in the previous year. The number of lost time incidents was 18, down from 23 the previous year.



Slips, trips and falls and ergonomics were the highest lost time categories of types of injury. It is important to note that aggression related injuries are not in the top three causes.

- 2.1.2 The graph below displays the cause of the injury, the total incidents per category and percent distribution of reportable injuries.



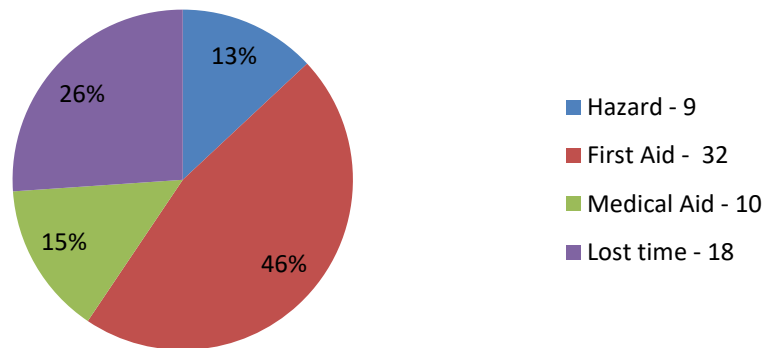
Note: Ergonomics – includes overexertion and repetitive motion strain Chronic Mental Stress (CMS) policy new in 2018 was retroactive to April 2014.

Other – MVA, heart attack, stroke, epileptic seizure, fainting (loss of consciousness), asthma attack, fire / explosion, exposure to hazardous material, contaminants and noise.

- 2.1.3 The total reportable injury frequency reflects the combined medical aid and lost time claim frequency compared to the educational peer group across the province and is based on claims per 100 staff. Lakehead District School Board's frequency rate is 2.52 compared to the provincial average rating of 3.09.
- 2.1.4 The total number of non-reportable incidents for the 2019-2020 school year was 41. Non-reportable injuries are defined as first aids and near misses (hazards). The number of incidents requiring first aid was 32 as opposed to 28 from the previous year. There were also 9 near miss (hazard) incidents reported in this period.
- 2.1.5 The graph below displays the cause of the injury, the total incidents per category and percent distribution of all health and safety incidents (includes all reportable and non-reportable injuries).

All Health and Safety Incidents

(reportable and Non-Reportable combined)



3. Health and Safety Initiatives

The emergency of the COVID-19 global pandemic has driven the need for new or updated protocols and equipment reviews.

It was important to also still work on decreasing the Board's injury rate, and to do so, a focus has been placed on employee training (in-person and online), equipment testing, and online reporting.

3.1 COVID-19

The health and safety of our staff is very important and essential to the learning experience of our students. Measures were put in place to for the protection of our school communities from the COVID-19 virus.

3.1.1 Protocols

- daily Pre-Entry Screening using the Provincial Screening Tool (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>);
- PPE protocol – masking and eye protection;
- floor and wall signage;
- hand hygiene (entry point hand sanitizing and in-room hand washing);
- class cohorting; and
- enhanced COVID cleaning procedures.

3.1.2 Equipment

- deployment of mobile HEPA air filtration units to all facilities;
- HVAC review completed by consulting engineer;
- HVAC duct cleaning by a third-party contractor;
- clorox fogger disinfection mobile unit; and
- increased number of water bottle filling stations.

3.2 Employee Training

The Health and Safety department continues to provide a number of important training sessions throughout the year. The cost for training, including supply staff coverage, is covered by the Health and Safety department budget.

3.2.1 Classroom Based Learning

First Aid Training

Standard First Aid, CPR/AED training certificates are only valid for three years at which time re-certification is required. Three First Aid courses were held, and 22 employees completed training in the 2019-2020 school year. The sessions were one and two day certification courses. Each school is well staffed with individuals certified in First Aid.

Joint Health and Safety Committee Certification Training

Each site is required to have a Joint Health and Safety Committee comprised of management and worker members as per the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA). At least one management and one worker member must be certified. To become certified, staff must complete a four day course, divided into two parts, covering a variety of topics. This past year, six staff successfully completed the certification course.

3.2.2 On-line Training

Since the fall of 2015, the Board has been using an on-line training platform. For the period of September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020, there was 13,578 online course completions.

New Hire On-line Training

All new Lakehead School Board employees receive the following mandatory training as part of the onboarding process:

- Workplace Violence and Harassment;
- Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS 2015) training;
- Occupational Health and Safety Awareness training;
- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act;
- Lakehead Public Schools Concussion Training (New 2020);
- Student Concussion Management Policy;
- Cybersecurity (New 2020);
- On-line Health and Safety Reporting Instructions (New 2020);
- Lakehead Public Schools Health and Safety Protocols for COVID-19 (New 2020);
- Ryan's Law; and
- Sabrina's Law.

Annually, all staff are required to complete training on Ryan's Law and Sabrina's Law.

3.3 Equipment Testing

To ensure compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the health and safety officer coordinates the annual testing and certification of the following:

- forty-four overhead cranes, hoists and floor jacks as well as three aerial lift platforms;
- nine mechanical lifts and related equipment used in special needs/multi needs classrooms;
- stage and drama room rigging and lighting in each secondary school;
- chemical fume hoods in the science areas; and
- dust collection and spark detection systems located in all technology classes.

3.4 On-line Health and Safety Reporting

As of September 1, 2019, Lakehead Public Schools converted to an all on-line reporting platform for all health and safety incidents.

The following forms are now available to staff:

- Safe Schools Incident Reporting (Progressive Discipline – PPM 145);
- Staff Violence/Harassment Reporting Form;
- Staff Accident/Injury Reporting; and
- Non-Staff Injury Reporting (OSBIE for Students, Volunteers and Public).

In the spring of 2020, an audit was completed of the staff violence and safe schools Incident reporting forms. Updates have been completed on those forms based on recommendations from the audit.

4. Conclusion

Lakehead District School Board continues to promote a safe learning and working environment for all students and staff. A continuing commitment to education, training, and health and safety promotion, will ensure that Lakehead District School Board remains compliant with all acts and regulations and, in turn, reduce operating costs. This commitment to safety will also make our schools and facilities the best place for students and staff to work and learn.

Respectfully submitted,

KYLE ULVANG
Health and Safety Officer

JIM DESAULNIERS
Manager of Property Services

KIRSTI ALAKSA
Superintendent of Business

IAN MACRAE
Director of Education

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2021 JAN 12
Report No. 011-21

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF
THE STANDING COMMITTEE – Public Session

RE: EARLY LEARNING

1. Background

- 1.1 The Lakehead District School Board, in its Strategic and Operational Plans, identifies the commitment to high levels of personal and academic excellence for every student, as well as a continued commitment to student success. Success in school in the Early Years can impact and predict future success; therefore, early learning programs must provide strong foundational skills.
- 1.2 *The Kindergarten Program, 2016*, sets out the principles, expectations for learning and pedagogical approaches that are developmentally appropriate for four and five-year old children.
- 1.3 *Growing Success, The Kindergarten Addendum, 2016*, describes the policy for assessment, evaluation and reporting for Kindergarten.
- 1.4 The Lakehead District School Board encourages effective and efficient supports and services for students and families by enhancing communication through the strengthening of community relationships. We continue to consult with our local District Social Services Administrative Board (DSSAB) in relation to providing childcare services in our schools, and maintain a seat on the district community partners table, which serves to address childcare needs and services for both Pre-K and school aged learners.

2. Situation

- 2.1 In order to support strategic planning, program quality and evaluation and communication, there continues to be an Early Years lead position.
- 2.2 The New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) provides mentorship and professional learning opportunities for new Kindergarten teachers. Although we have no new permanent early childhood educators (ECEs) hired this year, we do have a training/mentoring plan for when new positions become available.
- 2.3 *Key Messaging for Kindergarten* is a resource developed for school principals and Kindergarten teams and continues to be a guiding document to clarify shared roles, program components, outdoor play and more. This resource was co-created by a team of teachers and ECEs and our program department staff in the fall of 2019.

- 2.4 Kindergarten Registration will look different this year for Lakehead District School Board, beginning with a virtual system information night launching on February 1, 2021 with plans for schools to host virtual open houses sometime in the subsequent months. The virtual Kindergarten information night will combine our new Kindergarten video as well as video welcome messages from our chair, director, senior administration and an educator team. Students and families will have been provided with a book and other activities in advance of the live virtual event, and a team of Kindergarten educators will read to and interact with children and their parents and guardians.
- 2.5 We continue to advocate for childcare centres and recreation programs to meet the demands of the need for before and after school care for children. An annual survey will be sent out in the spring, and the results will determine if we need to expand our current childcare programs in schools.
- 2.6 The Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) has been identified by all agencies and community partners as the single tool to be used to screen children aged six to 54 months old. This tool identifies areas of need that may require referrals to school and community partners for supports (e.g. speech and language, occupational therapy, etc.). School staff have been trained to administer the screen and a referral process has been standardized.
- 2.7 The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted teaching and learning for all Lakehead District School Board students and staff. Despite this impact, our Kindergarten programs continue to thrive and provide rich, experiential learning opportunities for students. Teachers and ECEs have adapted to these changes and are supporting our youngest learners with engaging and meaningful learning opportunities in both in-person and virtual classrooms.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 To continue to support educators and administrators in providing exemplary Kindergarten programming.
- 3.2 To prepare and deliver a professional development day for school administrators and Early Years educators to identify and explore trends, key messages and responsibilities with respect to the Kindergarten program. This includes a review of recent Ministry documents and Board policies, as well as training on developing the ECE/teacher relationship.
- 3.3 To create a training plan for educators and administrators that focuses on physical literacy and outdoor play-based learning, including supporting documents. There is a strong connection between current research in outdoor play in the early years and Indigenous ways of learning. Our training and resources will reflect that connection.
- 3.4 To investigate the amount of time our Kindergarten students spend viewing screens each week (iPads and interactive white boards/panels). There may be an opportunity to make recommendations around an appropriate balance of technology use in Early Years programs.
- 3.5 To continue to work with community partners to meet regulations that require before and after-school programs for four to 12 years old at every publicly funded school serving children from JK–Grade 6 where there is sufficient demand.

- 3.6 To annually update the *Lakehead Public School and Child Care Handbook* to reflect new initiatives and policies.

4. Conclusion

Lakehead District School Board believes in establishing a strong foundation for learning in the Early Years. We believe in the potential and possibilities provided for our youngest learners, when we collaborate with our community partners to meet the varied and changing needs of early learners. Lakehead District School Board recognizes that positive experiences set a child on a path of lifelong learning and nurture competencies that they will need to thrive in the world of today and tomorrow.

Respectfully submitted,

ERIC FREDRICKSON
Principal of Program and Early Years

AJ KEENE
Superintendent of Education

IAN MACRAE
Director of Education



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, November 5, 2020 – 9:30 am – 12:00pm - Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

CO-CHAIRS: Anika Guthrie
Serena Essex

MEMBERS PRESENT: Elliott Cromarty, Trustee Ellen Chambers, Pauline Fontaine, Sharon Kanutski, Cheryl King-Zewiec, Leanna Marshall, Elder Gerry Martin, Skylene Metatawabin, Ardelle Sagutcheway

ALTERNATES: Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith, Elder/Knowledge Keeper Renee Tookenay

RESOURCES: Brittany Collins, AJ Keene, Eric Fredrickson, Anna Fern Kakegamic, Nick Sacevich, Ashley Nurmela, Fred Van Elburg

GUESTS: Scottie Wemigwans, Keli Cristofaro, Shy-Anne Bartlett

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Lawrence, Baxter, Kathy Beardy, Kristy Boucher, Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Donna Flasz, Keira Essex, Mike Judge, Dinah Jung, Anna Fern Kakegamic, Emma Kaminawash, Patti Pella, Trustee Ryan Sitch, Sophie Sutherland, Yolanda Wanakamik

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		ACTION
1.	Opening Ceremonies			Elder Gerry Martin
2.	2.1 Land Acknowledgement	Anika Guthrie acknowledged the lands and traditional territory.		Anika Guthrie

2.	2.2 Welcome and Introductions	<p>Anika introduced Serena Essex as the new co-chair of AEAC.</p> <p>Serena introduced and welcomed Indigenous Trustee Scottie Wemigwans.</p> <p>Serena had all members attending introduce themselves to the committee.</p>		Serena Essex
3.	Agenda / Minutes			
	3.1 Approval of Agenda – Nov. 5, 2020	<p>Moved by Elder Gerry Martin and seconded by Sharon Kanutski that the agenda for the November 5, 2020 AEAC Microsoft Teams meeting be approved.</p> <p>Carried</p>		Anika Guthrie
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – Sept. 17, 2020	<p>Moved by Elliott Cromarty and seconded by Elder Gerry Martin that the minutes for the September 17, 2020 AEAC meeting be approved as written.</p> <p>AJ Keene, on behalf of Mahejabeen Ebrahim, made a correction to the minutes. The Student Census pilot project is being funded by the Ministry of Education and is in accordance with the Education Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. The data from the census will be used to identify disparities and promote equity of access and outcomes for students as well as racial equality.</p> <p>Carried.</p>		Anika Guthrie
4.	Business Arising from Minutes			
	4.1 Dolores Wawia's Commemoration	<p>Serena introduced AJ Keene who informed the committee that Director's Council has approved the commissioning of the painting to commemorate the late Co-Chair Dolores Wawia.</p> <p>Serena reminded the committee about Dolores' writings and the creation of book was being looked into.</p> <p>Sharon Kanutski suggested that a picture of Dolores Wawia be placed in every school. Superintendent Keene would bring that suggestion back to the senior team for a decision.</p>		Anika Guthrie/ Serena Essex

		<p>Trustee Ellen Chambers requested a letter be sent to trustees regarding the final plans to commemorate Dolores Wawia.</p> <p>Elder Gerry Martin suggested that friends and members of the community should be able to submit a story or a one liner of their memories of Dolores and have it included in the booklet.</p> <p>Cheryl King-Zewiec suggested that a write-up from Chief King be included in the booklet.</p> <p>Superintendent Keene promised to find the financial means for the booklet and to find the outside support to create the resource.</p> <p>Elder Gerry Martin suggested an award in Dolores' name be given to an Indigenous student with the most improved attendance. Superintendent Keene will look into how this award can be created.</p>		
	4.2 AEAC Member Attending PIC Meetings	<p>Anika announced that Sharon Kanutski would be the AEAC representative for the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). Serena would be the alternate member from AEAC to attend PIC meetings.</p> <p>If any other member would like to volunteer to attend the PIC meetings, please contact Anika or Michelle Tavares, Executive Secretary.</p>		Anika Guthrie
5.	New Business			
	5.1 8061 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Policy/ Procedure	<p>Anika reported to the committee that a subcommittee to review the 8061 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Policy/Procedures was established at the last AEAC meeting. The subcommittee consists of Co-chairs Guthrie and Essex, Yolanda Wanakamik and Ashley Nurmela.</p> <p>The subcommittee will be looking at policy, procedure and guiding principles. Reflect the changes with the Ministry and the Board and educating all students. Renee Tookenay and Sharon Kanutski also volunteered to be on the subcommittee. The meetings will be held virtually in the near future.</p>		Anika Guthrie

	5.2 AEAC Committee Membership Update	Serena updated the committee on the new members that will be joining AEAC. Yolanda Wanakamik will be a new parent member, Keli Cristofaro, Councillor at Large, Thunder Bay Métis Council, will be a new community member, and Renee Tookenay will become the Alternate Community Elder/Knowledge Keeper. A report will be brought forward to the Board at the next Regular Board meeting notifying them of the new appointments		Serena Essex
	5.3 Four Directions Rooms	Anika updated the committee that each of our secondary schools has a graduation coach and an Aboriginal achievement tutor that work together in a Four Directions room. They have been offering, for those students that need to stay at school in the afternoons, the usage of the rooms to complete their virtual learning with the assistance of the tutor.		Anika Guthrie
6.	Presentation			
	6.1 Student Census	Ashley Nurmela presented the committee with a viewing of the video that was made to support the upcoming Student Census. The pilot will begin on November 5, 2020 at Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute and at Woodcrest Public School.		Mahejabeen Ebrahim/ Ashley Nurmela
7.	Information and Inquiries			
	7.1 COVID-19 Update	<p>AJ Keene informed the committee that there will be a new guideline memo with changes regarding school closures being released in the near future. He informed the committee that the Grade 9 Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) testing will be conducted virtually this year. The test will be for data purposes only. He also notified the committee that the Grade 12 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) will not be conducted this year.</p> <p>AJ Keene recognized Anika Guthrie and Ashley Nurmela for all their hard work with the remote students. He announced that there is a new teacher in Gull Bay. He informed that committee that Whitesand First Nation has support and he hoped for a solution in the near future regarding a new teacher. He mentioned that remote communities are a struggle for a number of different reasons but that there will be two Alternative Education teachers in place for Quad 2 for all remote students and they will receive paper packages.</p>		AJ Keene

		<p>AJ Keene informed the group that the Board is participating in a Ministry Survey regarding its Readiness Plan that will have details if there is a shutdown with a school or the Board has to go to full remote learning. The Ministry was giving a deadline of 24 hours to switch to remote, which was unrealistic, a 48-72-hour deadline was more reasonable. Switching secondary students to remote would be easy as they are all remote learning in the afternoons. Elementary students would be more difficult to switch quickly as devices would have to be distributed.</p> <p>Anika reported to the committee that a new Indigenous Youth Engagement Worker was hired and they would be connecting with the students who have disengaged and are not active in the Virtual Elementary School.</p> <p>AJ Keene informed the committee that there were originally about 300 elementary students virtually learning that were not engaged and now there are about 150 elementary students who are not attending consistently</p> <p>Anika shared that in discussions with other Indigenous Education Leads across our region, the number of virtual learners are much smaller. More students are attending in person, and there are less concerns with attendance because of less virtual learners.</p>		
	7.2 Student Trustee Update	Student Trustee Keira Essex sent her regrets.		Keira Essex
	7.3 Native Language Supports and Resources	<p>Anika reported to the committee that there is a virtual class that has started for Lakehead Virtual Elementary School. The class runs from 11:10 to 11:50 am every day. Corine Bannon is the teacher for this virtual Native Language class. Ms. Bannon has taught Native Language to Grades 4-8 at Algonquin Avenue Public School.</p> <p>Tyler Armstrong is teaching the new program at Sherbrooke Public School with the assistance of community partner, Ron Kanutski, two days a week. Really great things are happening with these programs.</p>		Anika Guthrie

	7.4 Updates	<p>Ashley Nurmela reported to the committee that the FMNI education team is meeting student needs. She also informed the group that National Indigenous Peoples Day planning has begun for 2021 whether it will be virtual or on the mountain. IYARA will be conducting its upcoming event virtually in the new year. IYARA partnered with the United Way and had a successful event in September.</p> <p>Anika informed the committee that she and Ashley Nurmela went for a community visit to Gull Bay First Nation last week and that a teacher had been hired for that community.</p>		Ashley Nurmela
8.	Information and Inquiries			
		<p>Serena informed the committee that the annual report for AEAC would be presented at the Board's Annual Meeting on December 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. She asked if a member would like to assist in presenting the report. The meeting would be held virtually. Please let Michelle, Anika, or Serena know if you are interested in presenting.</p> <p>Trustee Chambers informed the committee that the Board's Strategic Planning Sessions will begin November 12, 2020. The sessions would be held virtually with small groups of participants from the community. The strong focus is on reconciliation with Niigaan Sinclair and Sheelagh Hendrick as the facilitators of our planning process.</p> <p>Trustee Chambers inquired from the committee on how Elders were coping with working in the virtual world. Elder Martin responded that he is participating in ZOOM with the college and university. Anika informed the group that guests were allowed to meet in the schools with one cohort at a time.</p>		
9.	Closing	Elder Martin closed the meeting with a prayer.		
10.	Next Meeting	Thursday, December 10, 2020		
11.	Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.		

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2020 OCT 21

Jim McCuaig Education Centre
Thunder Bay, Ontario
VIA Microsoft Teams

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Liz Tod (Chair)
Kelly Matyasovszky (Vice Chair)
Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith
Suzanne Posthumus
Jennifer Bean

Carey Murphy
Angela Hill
Trustee George Saarinen
Miranda Myers
Wilma Kleynendorst
Mike Otway

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Probizanski
Lori Carson

Christine Jones
Ruth Ann Fay

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Lesley Harding
Ashley Etienne
Stephanie Rae

Michelle Blackburn

GUESTS, SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT COMMITTEE:

Dr. Rawana, Lakehead District School Board's Consulting Psychologist
Anne Marie McMahon Dupuis, Principal, Vance Chapman School
Andrea Pugliese, Principal, Ogden Community Public School
Kali Bernst, Principal, Algonquin Avenue
Public School
Mark Moorehouse, Principal, Westmount Public School
Lauren Currie, Special Education Manager, Hammarskjold High School
Laura Bortolin, Special Education Manager, Westgate CVI
Nina Niemisto, Facilitator Superior CVI

1. **Call to Order**

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee George Saarinen

Seconded by Wilma Kleynendorst

“THAT the agenda for the October 21, 2020 SEAC meeting be approved as amended.”

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Presentations

5.1 Introduction of Special Class Placement Committee

Andrea Pugliese, Principal of Ogden Community Public School, and Chair of the Special Placement Committee, provided introductions to the committee team and their roles.

Information about the committee was provided. Meetings are held once a month, referral's come from the school to the committee after school meetings with parents identifying a need. A case conference is set up once the referral is received and the committees' evaluation takes place to confirm if the student would benefit from a special class placement. Meetings are set up with the receiving and descending school to set up an IPRC and transition times.

Parent's preferences are always taken into consideration when placing the child, in addition to many other requirements that the committee reviews.

Parents are supported at IPRC meetings by their home school and they are always welcome to bring advocates to support them.

Member's questions were addressed.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Kelly Matyasovszky

Seconded by Mike Otway

“THAT the minutes of the September 16, 2020 SEAC meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

7. Business Arising From the Minutes

7.1 SEAC 2020-2021 Funding

The amount of \$5,928.29 will be carried over into 2020-2021 budget and the additional funds of \$2,000 for 2020-2021.

8. Correspondence

A letter was emailed by Christine Jones to the SEAC committee on October 15, 2020 from Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board that was dated February 14, 2020.

Action: Michelle to confirm if special needs are exempt from eLearning and to confirm the Ministries position on this.

9. New Business

9.1 2020-2021 SEAC Presentation Schedule

No input was received to add to the 2020-2021 presentation schedule.

Action: Christine Jones to send a copy of the current presentation schedule with the minutes of meeting October 21, 2020.

9.2 Lakehead Public Schools COVID-19 Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, provided the committee with the current COVID-19 updates. Elementary face to face deadline has passed and we received an additional 60 students who changed from face to face to virtual learning. Currently there are 1000 remote learning students including those with special needs. Our home school facilitator is in charge of students' files that are virtual to enable home school connection. Individual Education Plans are still being written and we are still following the ministry's submission deadlines. Students IPRC's are held by the home school administration for consistency purposes. The remote school has a special education teacher in place as a liaison to assist students who have chosen remote learning to ensure every student's needs are being met. Student Support Professionals are going between both home school and remote learning to ensure support of all students are being met. Teacher shortages are essentially reduced to none and the occasional teachers list is at a healthy number so we don't run short on a day to day basis. We still have a shortage of SSP's at times and we are still redeploying to other schools as agreed with their union. A SSP rover has been created to cover any shortages. SSPs are continually being hired as the posting is open at all times. Normally, the SSP assigned to a class would stay with the class and the school staff is surrounding the students to buffer the student's transition.

October 23, 2020 is the deadline for secondary students to change from virtual learning or face to face.

Member's questions were addressed.

Action: Michelle Probizanski will confirm how many secondary students are virtual or face to face.

Action: Michelle Probizanski will confirm how many occasional teachers/SSPs/ECEs and full time teachers/SSPs/ECEs have been hired since the start of COVID-19.

9.3 Community Engagement On-line Event with PIC

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, confirmed the event will go ahead on-line. Potential speakers mentioned were Dr. Tranter, Dr. Mushquash, Dr. T. Cunningham, Jim Lees and Annie Kitters. Trustee Saarinen, Angela Hill and Lori Carson offered their assistance in subcommittee. The suggested timeframe of winter 2021 and possibly again in the spring of 2021. Carey Murphy explained what quick snappers are 20minutes of speaker with a 5 minute question and answer. Possibilities of combining more than one speaker into the one night event and not just have one speaker. Speaker fees should be reduced due to no travel or accommodations needed.

Action: Mike Otway to confirm if Parent Involvement Committee would like to join us in planning this event.

Action: Wilma Kleynendorst, will confirm Dr. Mushquash's availability and for how long.

Action: Angela Hill will confirm when Jim Lees availability.

Action: All to email Christine Jones with any additional speaker ideas.

9.4 SEAC Video

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, asked for participants to create a video and will be working with Stephanie Rae. Carey Murphy, Wilma Kleynendorst, Suzanne Posthumus and Trustee Saarinen offered to assist.

Action: Christine Jones to send the above list of names to Stephanie Rae, Communications Officer.

9.5 SEAC Presentations to School Councils

Confirm if any school councils would like a presentation from SEAC and they can be invited to a Teams meeting.

Action: Christine Jones

10. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

- Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, informed the committee that Lori Carson has accepted the temporary role as acting principal at Kakabeka Falls Public School and in the interim, Ruth Ann Fay has accepted the temporary role as acting special education officer.
- Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, announced David Wright, Superintendent of Business, has left Lakehead District School Board and Kirsti Alaksa was appointed as our successful candidate as our new superintendent of business for LDSB.

11. Board Update

Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith provided an update on the following:

- At the September 22, 2020 Board meeting they presented Trustee Recognition Awards to staff members: Milt Martyn – Head Custodian, Westmount Public School (formerly Head Custodian of Edgewater Park Public School) and Jessica Lauzon – Indigenous Achievement Tutor, Algonquin Avenue Public School.
- Our Indigenous Student Trustee Essex and Student Trustee Talpade are doing a great job at the Board meetings. Discussions included: The Declining of Mental Health in our Students, Looking at Healthy Living, Better Communication amongst the Students and Building Connections through Social Media.
- The Empower Presentation given by Superintendent Probizanski and Ruth Ann Fay was well received and greatly appreciated.
- Trustees also thanked the senior staff, administrators, students and staff for all they continue to do in keeping our students safe getting through COVID-19 times.

Trustee George Saarinen confirmed the next Budget meeting will be next week and hoping that the 2020-2021 budget gets approved.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Saarinen

Seconded by Angela Hill

“THAT we do now adjourn at 7:13 p.m.”

CARRIED

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2020 NOV 18

Jim McCuaig Education Centre
Thunder Bay, Ontario
VIA Microsoft Teams

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Liz Tod (Chair)
Kelly Matyasovszky (Vice Chair)
Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith
Suzanne Posthumus
Wilma Kleynendorst

Carey Murphy
Angela Hill
Trustee George Saarinen
Miranda Myers
Mike Otway

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Probizanski
Student Trustee Essex
Stephanie Rae

Christine Jones
Ruth Ann Fay

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Lesley Harding
Ashley Etienne
Jennifer Bean

Michelle Blackburn
Student Trustee Talpade

1. **Call to Order**

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee George Saarinen

Seconded by Wilma Kleynendorst

"THAT the agenda for the November 18, 2020 SEAC meeting be approved as amended."

CARRIED

4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Presentations

Alternative Schools Policy

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the Alternative Schools Policy and Procedure. Feedback can be submitted to the Director's office by December 2, 2020.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Wilma Kleynendorst

Seconded by Kelly Matyasovszky

"THAT the minutes of the October 21, 2020 SEAC meeting be approved."

CARRIED

7. Business Arising From the Minutes

7.1 Community Engagement On-line Event update

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, discussed options of speakers. Angela Hill, Wilma Kleynendorst and Ruth Ann Fay will meet and report back. Survey monkey suggested by Mike Otway to confirm what presentation would be of interest. Angela Hill emailed the committee with Jim Lees presentation topics.

Action: Angela Hill, Wilma Kleynendorst, Mike Otway, Ruth Ann Fay will form a sub-committee and update committee at the next meeting.

Action: Mike Otway will email the Parent Involvement Committee to confirm their involvement.

7.2 SEAC Video update

Stephanie Rae, Communications Officer, accepted the lead with the sub-committee and provided the committee with an update. Meetings are scheduled next week with members who have previously confirmed their commitment in this sub-committee.

Action: Stephanie Rae will update committee at next meeting.

7.3 SEAC Presentations to School Council Update

Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, updated the committee with upcoming dates Lakehead Public Schools would like to have a presentation on SEAC. Members offered to present at next school council; Angela Hill, Ruth Ann Fay, and Michelle Blackburn. Mike Otway offered to review the presentation.

Action: Liz Tod will send presentation to Mike Otway for review and input.

Action: Christine will confirm with schools, the members that will be presenting. Angela Hill confirmed presenting December 14 at Westgate CVI. Angela Hill, Ruth Ann Fay and Michelle Blackburn to do a dry run.

Action: Christine Jones to contact Elsie McGill to confirm December meeting date and email committee with date to see who can attend the presentation with Liz Tod.

Action: Kingsway Park Public School requires confirmation of who will present at their next school council meeting in January 2021. Michelle Blackburn offered.

7.4 Actions update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, updated the committee with the actions from October 21, 2020 SEAC meeting. All questions were answered.

8. Correspondence

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, reviewed the correspondence that was emailed by Christine Jones to the SEAC Committee. Correspondence included: LDSB 2019 Annual Report letter, letter from Ministry FASD Bill 172 and thank you card from SEAC leadership award.

9. New Business

9.1 Multi-Disciplinary Team

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, provided the committee with the new LDSB Multi-Disciplinary Team. Ruth Ann Fay provided additional input. Questions were addressed.

9.2 Lakehead Public Schools Covid-19 Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, provided the committee with the current LDSB Covid-19 updates. All members' questions were addressed.

10. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

- Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, shared that Autism Ontario will be replacing their current nomination. Lakehead District School Board will then approve the new SEAC appointments and invite the new members once approved.
- Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, updated the committee on the Ontario Human Rights Commission with regards to right to read. Recommendations are reschedule to Spring 2021. OHRC online video will be shown at next meeting. All questions were addressed.
- Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith, received a SEAC invitation to the Open House at Confederation College December 6 or 8, 2020. Program is designed to assist anyone in learning social intellectually challenges find their ways to overcome them.

- Wilma Kleynendorst, Dilico Anishinabek Family Care, advised that Children's Mental Health Ontario has a large conference in Toronto every year and this year it is being held on-line and is free. CHMO.org to find virtual conference. Starts week of November 23, 2020. Wilma added the link of CMHO virtual conference to the chat.
- Carey Murphy, Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, recommended the Dyslexia Land book as a great resource for those interested.
- Ruth Ann Fay, Acting Special Education Officer, provided an Empower Program update. All questions were answered.
- Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education advised that the SEAC Annual meeting is coming quickly, and nominations of 2020-2021 SEAC Chair & Vice-Chair will be on our next meeting's agenda, December 9, 2020.
- Angela Hill, Children's Centre Thunder Bay Counseling, reminded the committee that daily walk-ins sessions are welcome. Immediate access, cradle to grave.

11. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, confirmed there was no change.

12. Board Update

Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith provided an update on the following:

- The presentations provided at the November 10, 2020 Board meeting on the Multi-Disciplinary Team contained a wealth of knowledge.
- Senior team, staff and programming team is wonderful.
- Trustees have been working on a Four Year Strategic Plan that will be presented to the Board in the new year. A video was sent to stakeholders and their input will be included in the plan.

Trustee George Saarinen provided the following update:

- Confirmation that the Lakehead District School Board's 2020-2021 budget was approved and has been sent to the Ministry for approval.
- At the end of the month, trustees get to reselect their committees and that it has been an honour to be part of the committee.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Saarinen

Seconded by Mike Otway

"THAT we do now adjourn at 7:22 p.m."

CARRIED