



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019, Board Room, Education Centre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Pauline Fontaine, Jasmine Sgambelluri, Trustee Ryan Sitch, Donna Flasz; Fred Van Elburg, Ashley Nurmela, Dolores Wawia, Ardelle Sagutcheway, Board Chair Ellen Chambers, Leanna Marshall, Serena Essex; Sharon Kanutski, Anika Guthrie, Elder Isabelle Mercier, Dinah Jung, Elliott Cromarty, Mahejabeen Ebrahim; Noel Jones, Brittany Collins, Skylene Metatawabin, Elder Gerry Martin, Cheryl King-Zewiec, Kathy Beardy, Lawrence Baxter, Jane Lower

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Chris Larocque, AJ Keene, Lindsay Catlin-Gravelle, Mike Judge

GUESTS: **Students: Keira Essex, Emma Kaminawash; Nathaniel Moses TBIFC; Matthew Cromarty, Mason Forgues, and Darren Lentz – Kingsway; Kali Bernst and Jessica Lauzon - Algonquin; Jo Jo Guillet; Patti Pella, IEO – Ministry of Education**

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		ACTION
1.	Opening Ceremonies	Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked Elder Martin to conduct the opening.		
2.	Welcome and Introductions	<p>2.1 Sherri-Lynne Pharand thanked Elder Martin for the opening.</p> <p>She welcomed everyone and introductions were made. Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated.</p> <p>2.2 Election of Co-Chair</p> <p>Pauline Fontaine nominated Dolores Wawia for the position of Co-chair of AEAC for the 2019 – 2020 year. Dolores Wawia agreed to have her name stand.</p>		

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		ACTION
		<p>Sherri-Lynne called for other nominations.</p> <p>Moved by Gerry Martin and seconded by Serena Essex to close the nominations for Co-Chair. Carried.</p> <p>Dolores Wawia was acclaimed as Co-chair for the 2019– 2020 school year.</p> <p>She accepted the position and thanked the committee for their continued support.</p>		
3.	Agenda / Minutes			
	3.1 Approval of Agenda – Dec. 12, 2019	<p>Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Sharon Kanutski that the agenda for the Dec. 12th, 2019 AEAC meeting be approved.</p> <p>Carried</p>		Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – Nov. 14, 2019	<p>Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Gerry Martin that the minutes for the Nov. 14, 2019 AEAC meeting be approved as written.</p> <p>Carried.</p>		Sherri-Lynne Pharand
4.	Correspondence	The correspondence file was circulated.		
5.	Presentations			
	5.1 Drumming	<p>Drumming Partnership with TBIFC.</p> <p>Darren Lentz explained the partnership that Kingsway School has with the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre. The Grandfather drum used today for this presentation was made at the Mino Bimaadiziwin summer camp. The drummers, led by Nathaniel Moses drummed the Parent Song for the committee.</p>		<p>Darren Lentz Nathaniel Moses Kingsway Students: Matthew Cromarty, Mason Forgues</p>

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		ACTION
		<p>Nathaniel Moses spoke about his teachings with the students and how important it is to share the culture.</p> <p>Mason Forgues addressed the committee saying how amazing it was to be part of this drum group and how it has enhanced his life.</p> <p>As it was Sherri-Lynne Pharand's last AEAC meeting, Darren Lentz, principal of Kingsway presented her with a birch bark basket.</p> <p>All questions were answered.</p>		
	5.2 Aboriginal Achievement Program at Algonquin	<p>Kali Bernst explained the role of the Jessica Laurzon, the Aboriginal Achievement Tutor (AAT) at Algonquin Avenue Public School. She noted that this program, and Jessica in particular is changing the lives of their students – making a difference, every day.</p> <p>Sherri-Lynne reminded the committee that both the Aboriginal Tutor program and the Graduation Coach program have always been part of AEAC's budget deputation to the Board. Due to the success of these programs, AEAC should ask for continued support in the future.</p> <p>All questions were answered.</p>		Kali Bernst Jessica Laurzon
6.	Business Arising from Minutes			
	6.1 George Couchie	George Couchie with Red Tail Hawke Consulting continues to do Cultural Mindfulness Training with LDSB. At the most recent training, 27 elementary employees attended and learned about the catastrophic journey of a culture. To date, about 230 of our staff have had this training.		Anika Guthrie
	6.2 Coming Together to Talk:	Ardelle Sagutcheway gave a synopsis of the feedback from students who attended the recent Coming Together to Talk Conference. This conference hosted approximately 200		Ardelle Sagutcheway

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		ACTION
	Feedback	<p>Indigenous and non-Indigenous students. It was organized by adults but the workshop groups were led entirely by the youth themselves. They spent the summer processing the feedback and writing a report with many recommendations. The youth want to be a catalyst for change – to be seen as individuals and not as stereo-types.</p> <p>The report will be shared with the School Board at a later date.</p>		
7.	New Business			
	7.1 Community Visit	The community visit to Fort Hope will be rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances.		Anika Guthrie
	7.2 SAC Rep	<p>The Student Advisory Committee (SAC) committee meets with the Director and the advisory bodies (SEAC, AEAC and PIC) 3 to 4 times per year.</p> <p>Serena Essex volunteered represent AEAC once again this year.</p>		Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	7.3 Take Your Kids To Work Day	Nov. 6 was Take Your Kids to Work Day. On this day, grade 9 students job shadow a family member or friend. For 25 youth from Superior CVI and Hammarskjold CVI who didn't have someone to shadow, a skilled trades tour of Resolute Saw Mill was organized as was a trip to the Carpenters Union where they made bird houses. Westgate bundled credit group went to Confederation College where they met with faculty members and talked about their career pathways.		Jasmine Sgambelluri
	7.4 Indigenous Education Goals in SIPs	<p>Following Dr. Sinclair's recent workshop, principals were asked to include a goal regarding Indigenous Education in their School Improvement Plan (SIP) this year.</p> <p>Anika adapted a FNMI Education Learning Continuum (from a colleague in BC).and using this knowledge as guiding principles, she and Jasmine Sgambelluri worked with LDSB principals to develop a goal based on where their school is in</p>	Add this under Business Arising for Feb meeting. – Anika to lead this	Anika Guthrie

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		ACTION
		<p>the journey. Anika shared a copy with the group for their input. It will be discussed further at the February meeting.</p>		
	7.5 PIC Funding	<p>AEAC received \$1500 from PIC to be used to support Indigenous parents and families in the community. This money must be used by August 31, 2020. Several ideas were shared and it was decided that we would support two projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A film project to share with families during visits to northern communities (virtual reality). 2. An event to let the families in our community know what AEAC has done and is doing for Indigenous students. <p>Sherry-Lynne Pharand confirmed that we will find a way to do both projects.</p>		Jo Jo Guillet has information re a local Indigenous run company that specializes in Virtual Reality.
8.	Ongoing Business			
	8.1 Native Language Supports and Resources	<p>Anika Guthrie and Jasmine continue to support Native Language teachers. I-Pads that were purchased will soon be used in the classrooms. At the next native language PLC they will be looking at curriculum key concepts to ensure they are covering a continuum from gr 1-8.</p>		Anika Guthrie, Jasmine Sgambelluri
	8.2 Cultural Safety Plan	<p>-Liaison Advisory Group It was suggested that Ardelle Sagutcheway be part of this group. Information from the Coming Together To Talk report should be included.</p> <p>Ashley will be sending letters to community partners by the end of December asking for assistance. The role of this committee will be to share information and form new partnerships to advocate for all students.</p>		Ashley Nurmela

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9..	Information and Inquiries			
	10.1 OHRC	<p>Ontario Human Rights Commission: Right to Read Inquiry – LDSB was chosen as one of the Boards to take part in this inquiry.</p> <p>The main focus of the inquiry is “How do we teach children to read (in particular children with learning disabilities)”. The - report is due in mid December.</p> <p>Tribunal will review our practices and do a report on what we do well and where we need to improve. LDSB is quite advanced but we can always do better.</p>		Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	10.2 Student Initiative	Mahejabeen Ebrahim will report on this at the February meeting.		Mahejabeen Ebrahim
	Gift to SLP			
10.	Closing	Elder Martin closed the meeting with a prayer.		
11.	Next Meeting	Thursday, February 13, 2020		
12.	Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm		