

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Superior CVI, Library  
Thunder Bay, Ontario

2019 MAY 15

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Liz Tod (Chair)  
Kelly Matyasovszky (Vice Chair)  
Miranda Myers  
Lesley Harding (A)  
Carey Murphy (A)

Suzanne Posthumus  
Trustee George Saarinen  
Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith  
Mike Otway  
Angela Hill

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Colleen Kappel

Lori Carson

**ABSENT REGRETS:**

Wilma Kleynendorst  
Danielle Miller  
Therese Zaroski  
Ruth Vannieuwenhuizen (A)

Jennifer Bean  
Cory Koski  
Debby Dick (A)

1. **Call to Order**

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee George Saarinen

Seconded by Miranda Myers

*“THAT the agenda for the May 15, 2019 SEAC meeting be approved.”*

**CARRIED**

3. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. **Presentations**

4.1. **Visual Resume**

Liz Tod shared a sample visual resume and outlined potential details (e.g. volunteer work, hobbies, QR codes) that can be included on the resume. Ms. Tod noted how this tool can assist students with disabilities introduce themselves to potential employers. For those interested in including a QR code on a visual resume, free apps are available to create a code. It was proposed the visual resume can be shared with secondary school staff; Colleen Kappel will follow up.

5. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Mike Otway

Seconded by Suzanne Posthumus

*“THAT the minutes of the April 17, 2019 SEAC meeting be approved.”*

CARRIED

6. Business Arising From the Minutes

6.1. Letter to Minister of Education

Colleen Kappel, Superintendent of Education referenced the letter circulated in the correspondence folder at the April 17, 2019 SEAC meeting from Durham Catholic DSB and noted a letter of support from the LDSB SEAC is included in the meeting package.

Members by consensus approved the content of the letter, which will be forwarded to the Board for approval. Following Board approval the letter will be sent to the Minister of Education.

6.2. SEAC Video

Colleen Kappel, Superintendent of Education advised a meeting was held with Generator on May 3, 2019 and SEAC's recommended changes to the video were shared. A progress update will be brought to the June 19, 2019 SEAC meeting.

7. Correspondence

The correspondence folder was circulated for members' perusal.

8. Advocacy Tracking

The advocacy tracking template was circulated for member completion.

9. New Business

9.1. SEAC Representative on Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC noted PIC has requested a SEAC representative and an alternate representative for the term November 15, 2019 to November 14, 2020. Mike Otway agreed to remain on as the representative and Miranda Myer will continue as the alternate representative. Robin Orr will confirm representatives with Judy Hill.

9.2. Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Report

Mike Otway shared highlights of the May 6, 2019 PIC meeting.

10. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

Mike Otway noted local teachers for the hearing impairs attended the VOICE conference held in Toronto in May 2019.

Trustee George Saarinen shared that the Grade 8 Awards of Excellence were presented last week, and the student chosen to receive the award from McKellar Park School has autism. One student is selected from each school to receive this award based on academic achievement, who is involved and demonstrates leadership at the school and within the community, and personifies Lakehead Public Schools' core values of Integrity, Acceptance, Empathy, Respect and Responsibility.

Angela Hill asked if SEAC requested, and members agreed to prepare a letter of support related to data collection on children excluded from schools, as outlined in the letter from Toronto District School Board, which was included in the correspondence folder. A draft letter will be brought to the next SEAC meeting for members' approval.

11. Board Update

Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith shared a letter that Lakehead Public School Trustees submitted to the Minister of Education, which outlines concerns regarding recent cuts proposed in the last budget.

Trustee Doughty-Smith provided updates on the following:

- Grade 8 Award of Excellence;
- Northwestern Ontario Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards;
- Ontario Secondary School Teacher Awards;
- New Teacher Induction Program Report from the April 19 Standing Committee Meeting;
- Vance Chapman Public School presentation shared at the April 23 Regular Board Meeting; and
- The St. James Public School presentation shared May 14 Standing Committee Meeting

12. Adjournment

Moved by Miranda Myers

Seconded by Mike Otway

*"THAT we do now adjourn at 6:40 p.m."*

CARRIED