

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim McCuaig Education Centre
Thunder Bay, Ontario

2020 JAN 15

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Liz Tod (Chair)
Kelly Matyasovszky (Vice Chair)
Trustee George Saarinen
Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith
Wilma Kleynendorst
Mike Otway

Suzanne Posthumus
Cory Koski
Debby Dick
Angela Hill
Ashley Etienne (A)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Probizanski

Lori Carson

ABSENT:

Miranda Myers

Jennifer Bean

GUEST:

Terra Lofts
Leslie Hynes

A.J. Keene
Jeff Upton

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

The following additions and deletions were made to the agenda:

- Item 9.3 IEP/IPRC - deleted
- Item 9.7 School Year Calendar
- Item 9.8 OPSBA Achievement Awards

Moved by Trustee George Saarinen

Seconded by Mike Otway

"THAT the agenda for the January 15, 2020 SEAC meeting be approved as amended."

CARRIED

3. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. Presentations

4.1. Policy 4021 Assessment and Evaluation

A.J. Keene, Early Years and Program Principal presented the policy and procedures. Members were advised feedback can be submitted to the Director's office by March 25, 2020.

Mr. Keene was thanked for his time.

4.2. Policy 6050 Food and Beverage

Jeff Upton, Education Officer presented the policy and procedures. Members were advised feedback can be submitted to the Director's office by March 25, 2020.

Mr. Upton was thanked for his time.

4.3. EQAO Results for Special Needs Students

Lori Carson, Special Education Officer presented the EQAO results for special needs students at Lakehead Public Schools and outlines results for Lakehead Public Schools compared to provincial results. Discussion ensued.

4.4. Sherbrooke Public School JK/SK Pilot Project

Lori Carson, Wilma Kleynendorst, Terra Lofts, and Leslie Hynnes presented on the Sherbrooke Public School JK/SK Pilot Project. Highlights included: inception of the program, collaboration efforts between Board, school and agencies, overwhelming support for the program, improved outcomes for students, and next steps.

Presenters were thanked for their presentation.

4.5. Equity and Inclusion Working Group Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education noted the Equity and Inclusion Working Group structure is under review, and work is underway to create Terms of Reference for this group. Further information will be shared at the next meeting.

5. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Mike Otway

Seconded by Wilma Kleynendorst

"THAT the minutes of the December 11, 2019 SEAC meeting be approved."

CARRIED

6. Business Arising From the Minutes

6.1. 2019-2020 SEAC Draft Work Plan - Advocacy

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC provided an update and noted sub-committee members have been reviewing advocacy involvement of SEAC throughout the province. Ms. Tod also noted it is not a legislated requirement for SEAC members to provide individual advocacy as advocacy feedback is offered directly to the Board. Angela Hill noted of the Boards she has reviewed, no other SEAC provides the tools offered by Lakehead District School Board SEAC. Discussion ensued including the need to continue monthly tracking of advocacy. It was agreed SEAC would continue to post individual contact member on the Board website however; the practice of monthly advocacy tracking would be discontinued.

Moved by Mike Otway

Seconded by Cory Koski

“THAT the practice of monthly advocacy tracking will be discontinued effective immediately.”

CARRIED

6.2. SEAC Video

There were no updates to share. Robin Orr will send an email invitation to all SEAC members inviting them to attend a sub-committee meeting beginning at 5:30 pm, prior to an upcoming meeting. A future meeting date will be determined.

7. Correspondence

The correspondence folder was circulated for member's perusal.

8. Advocacy

8.1. Advocacy Tracking

Item removed from agenda.

8.2. Summary of Monthly Advocacy Tracking

Item removed from agenda.

9. New Business

9.1. 2019-2020 SEAC Workplan – Review Record of Progress

Item was deferred to the next meeting

9.2. School Awards

Cory Koski, tabled a suggestion to establish an award from SEAC to recognize students who demonstrate core values of SEAC, and what the nomination process and presentation could look like. Discussion ensued. Mr. Koski will prepare and submit an outline for the award, and send to Robin Orr prior to the next SEAC meeting. Item will be reviewed at the February SEAC meeting.

9.3. IEP/IPRC Materials

Item removed from the agenda.

9.4. SEAC / PIC Joint Engagement Event

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC noted as per workplan SEAC and PIC would host a joint engagement event. Members were asked if they are aware of potential guest speakers who may be presenting at other organizations, that SEAC could also invite to speak at a SEAC / PIC engagement event to advise Robin Orr. Additional suggestions for guest speakers can also be sent to Robin Orr.

9.5. February 2020 Meeting Date Change

Members were in agreement to change the February meeting from the 19th to the 26th. Robin Orr will send an updated meeting request.

9.6. February 2020 Meeting Location

Liz Tod, Chair of SEAC reminded members of potential locations to host a school meeting. The February meeting will be held at Hammarskjold High School. School Council members will be invited to attend the meeting.

9.7. School Year Calendar

Trustee George Saarinen noted a Google questionnaire was released to the public asking for input on the 2020-2021 school year calendar and encouraged all members to complete the survey, which can be found on the Lakehead Public Schools website.

9.8. OPSBA Achievement Awards

Members interested in submitting a nomination can email Liz Tod, Kelly Matyasovszky, Michelle Probizanski or Robin Orr.

10. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

There were no information/inquires or association reports.

11. Status of SEAC Budget

Item deferred to the next meeting.

Mike Otway left the meeting at 8:10 pm.

12. Board Update

Trustees George Saarinen shared highlights of the January 14, 2020 Standing Committee meeting including:

- Valley Central School Council Recognition Award;
- Valley Central Staff Recognition Award;
- Health and Safety Report;
- Arts Presentation; and
- Policy review.

Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith shared an update on Westmount Public School's "Project of Heart" mural made by grade 4 to 8 students using small wooden tiles made in the shape of the Sleeping Giant. The mural is a representation of reconciliation and what it means to the students.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Wilma Kleynendorst

Seconded by Cory Koski

"THAT we do now adjourn at 8:15 p.m."

CARRIED