

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2021 JAN 20

Jim McCuaig Education Centre
Thunder Bay, Ontario
VIA Microsoft Teams

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Liz Tod
Michelle Blackburn
Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith
Suzanne Posthumus
Anne Antenucci
Kelly Matyasovszky
Mike Otway

Carey Murphy
Angela Hill
Trustee Marg Arnone
Wilma Kleynendorst
Tracy Paquette
Jennifer Bean
Miranda Myers

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Probizanski (acting Chair)
Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis (acting
Special Education Officer)

Christine Jones
Indigenous Student Trustee Essex

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Lesley Harding
Ashley Etienne

Student Trustee Talpade
Ruth Ann Fay

1. **Call to Order**

Superintendent of Education, Michelle Probizanski, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. **Election of Special Education Advisory Committee Chair**

Superintendent of Education, Michelle Probizanski, called for nominations for chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee. As no nominations were forthcoming, Superintendent Probizanski chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Election of Special Education Advisory Committee Vice Chair

Superintendent of Education, Michelle Probizanski, called for nominations for vice chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee. There were no nominations forthcoming.

3. Welcome and Introductions

Superintendent of Education, Michelle Probizanski, welcomed Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis as Lakehead District School Boards Acting Special Education Officer.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Wilma Kleynendorst

Seconded by Trustee Liz Tod

“THAT the agenda for the January 20,2021 SEAC meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

6. Presentations

Superintendent of Education, Michelle Probizanski, presented 8072 Policy and Procedure, Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity. This policy and procedure will be available on Lakehead District School Board’s website for constituent input.

7. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Wilma Kleynendorst

Seconded by Trustee Marg Arnone

“THAT the minutes of the December 9, 2020 SEAC meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

8. Business Arising From the Minutes

8.1 Community Engagement Online Event Update

Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, Acting Special Education Officer, provided an update on the community engagement online event. Our first event by Dr. Cunningham was very well received and had approximately 28 people in attendance. All positive feedback received from parents and staff. One parent shared their taking away as, “they had hope and their journey with their child was going to be ok”. The video will be uploaded to Lakehead District School Board’s website January 21, 2021 and be linked to our SEAC webpage. Principals have shared that they will use the video at their future school council meetings. Student support professionals and school facilitators were recommended to view the video and its benefits.

All member’s questions were addressed.

8.2 SEAC Presentations to School Council Update

Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, updated the committee with the upcoming Lakehead school council’s presentation schedule. Follow-up emails to the schools that needed rescheduling have been sent. Reminder emails to the schools have also been sent, that SEAC is available to present at their next school council meeting.

9. Correspondence

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reminded everyone of the correspondence on PAAC SEAC 2020 Survey results.

10. New Business

10.1 Lakehead District School Board COVID-19 Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, provided the committee with a LDSB COVID-19 update. Grade 1 to grade 3 must now wear mask. Virtual learning went extremely well during the shutdown after Christmas break and we received lots of positive feedback. Woodcrest School received minimal disruption from their most recent case. Secondary schools have moved to the Hybrid model, which is face to face as well as virtual. Approx. 350 secondary students to date have chosen virtual learning. This allows secondary students to attend their existing timetables and provides them the opportunity to continue their secondary pathway secondary. Parents are still required to report the students absent to their school if they can't attend in person but will attend virtually.

All members' questions were addressed.

11. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

Nothing to report.

12. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, confirmed there was no change, except for Christmas committee gifts and Parent Involvement Committee.

13. Board Update

Trustee Arnone provided an update on the following:

- On January 12, 2021, the Standing Committee Meeting was given the Health & Safety presentation. Aggression related injuries are no longer in the top 3 categories, Lakehead has had very little covid-10 spread and all online training has been completed.
- Early Learning report was also provided by Eric Fredrickson.
- Kindergarten registration begins virtually on February 1, 2021. Each school will also host their own virtual event.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Wilma Kleynendorst

"THAT we do now adjourn at 6:14 p.m."

CARRIED