

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

2021 JUN 16

Jim McCuaig Education Centre  
Thunder Bay, Ontario  
VIA Microsoft Teams

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair  
Michelle Blackburn  
Lesley Harding  
Carey Murphy  
Trustee Sue Doughty-Smith  
Cynthia Gomez  
Angela Hill

Miranda Myers  
Mike Otway  
Trustee Marg Arnone  
Indigenous Student Trustee Essex  
Liz Tod  
Lori Carson

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Michelle Probizanski  
Maggie Fredrickson

Christine Jones  
Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis

**ABSENT WITH REGRETS:**

Ashley Etienne  
Kelly Matyasovszky  
Student Trustee Talpade

Tracy Paquette  
Wilma Kleynendorst  
Suzanne Posthumus, Chair

1. **Call to Order**

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair, welcomed Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Arnone

Seconded by Michelle Blackburn

*"THAT the agenda for the June 16, 2021 SEAC meeting be approved."*

**CARRIED**

4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Special Education Audit Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal, presented details on the Special Education Audit.
- 5.2 Lori Carson, Special Education Officer presented the 2021-2022 Special Education Plan. All questions were addressed.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Arnone

Seconded by Trustee Doughty-Smith

*“THAT the minutes of the May 19, 2021 SEAC meeting be approved.”*

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

- 7.1 Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair, reminded members that the Parent Involvement Committee is still looking for one SEAC member to join their committee.
- 7.2 Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair, reminded committee members to submit their input for the online survey to parents on what subjects parents would benefit from in the 2021-2022 school year. Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, suggested waiting until September 2021.
- 7.3 Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair, reminded members to confirm if their organizations would be interested in presenting at a carousel evening. The following organizations confirmed their involvement at the meeting:
- Autism Ontario (Awareness Month);
  - Dilico Anishinabek Family Care;
  - George Jeffrey Children’s Centre;
  - Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario; and
  - George Jeffrey Children’s Centre, Autism Program.

8. Correspondence

- 8.1. Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, announced the secondary students who received the 2020-2021 SEAC Leadership Awards;
- Mia Surkan, Hammarskjold High School;
  - Kendra Tienhaara, Westgate CVI; and
  - Simran Talpade, Superior CVI.
- 8.2. Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, advised that the committee was looking for a family for the SEAC video. Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal, confirmed a family from Vance Chapmen has offered to be involved in the SEAC video.

- 8.3. Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, congratulated Wilma Kleynendorst on receiving her OPSBA Achievement Award at the upcoming Regular Board meeting, June 22, 2021. Unfortunately, Wilma had sent her regrets in attending this SEAC meeting. Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, will be sending a live link to the committee members to watch Wilma Kleynendorst receive her award.
- 8.4. Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reminded everyone that they were emailed the 2021-2022 SEAC meeting schedule on June 16, 2021. Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, will be sending out future meeting invitations.

## 9. New Business

### 9.1 Lakehead District School Board COVID-19 Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, confirmed that we are still virtual learning across Ontario. Graduation ceremonies were well received among the community and well organized. Lakehead District School Board received COVID-19 summer learning money for summer programs and are hoping that they will be held face to face but awaiting confirmation from the Thunder Bay District Health Unit. A variety of virtual Mental Health camps will run, and there will be Social Work and Child and Youth Worker services. There will be SSPs for all day camps in July, Special Education programs, credit recovery and Coop for students. Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, will send a list of all summer camps to SEAC members. All member's questions were addressed.

## 10. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, asked for approval from the committee that the 2021-2022 Workplan stay the same as last year and the 2021-2022 Presentation Schedule will follow our first meeting in September 2021.

Anne Antenucci, Autism Ontario, Thunder Bay, & District, confirmed her organization is in the process of forming an advocacy campaign. There is some concern that Northern Ontario has been left out of the Ontario Autism Program trial study as it did not include one student north of Sudbury.

Liz Tod, Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, advised the one-time funding for Ontario Autism Program can be reapplied to.

## 11. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, confirmed that there is no change in the budget and that the balance of 2020-2021 will be carried forward to 2021-2022.

## 12. Board Update

Trustee Doughty-Smith, provided the following Board updates;

- At the Regular Board meeting of May 25, 2021, Anika Guthrie, LDSB Indigenous Education Lead, presented the Aboriginal Education Report by, which included the Indigenous Education action plan.
- On June 16, 2021, Trustee Doughty-Smith attended an Equity and Inclusive Education Advisory Committee Meeting, which included a presentation from Lisa McLeod and Tanya Moses, from the Indigenous Friendship Centre, on Hammarskjold High School with a special mention of the KZ Lodge. The alternative secondary school program partners with the Indigenous Friendship Centre.
- At the June 8, 2021, Standing Committee Meeting, the following reports were presented;
  - Approval of the new 7021 Teacher Hiring Policy and 7022 Conflict of Interest Policy;
  - French as a second language; and
  - Student Success Technology and Education.
- On June 10, 2021, Trustee Doughty-Smith attended the virtual Grade 8 Award of Excellence.
- Trustee Doughty-Smith extended her gratitude to all SEAC members.

## 13. Adjournment

Moved by Angela Hill

Seconded by Liz Tod

*“THAT we do now adjourn at 6:59p.m.”*

CARRIED