

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Virtual
Via Microsoft Teams

2022 APR 20

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair
Trustee Marg Arnone
Angela Hill
Mike Otway
Liz Tod
Lesley Harding

Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen
Carey Murphy
Michelle Blackburn
Wendy Carrol
Miranda Myers

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Probizanski
Christine Jones
Lydia Wiita

Maggie Fredrickson
Kim Pineau
Corrine Russell

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Sarah Niles
Kelly Matyasovszky

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair

1. **Call to Order**

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, welcomed the following guests:

- Kim Pineau, Special Education Resource Teacher;
- Lydia Wiita, Special Needs Class Teacher; and
- Corrine Russell, Principal, Vance Chapman.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Angela Hill

Seconded by Trustee Tuchenhagen

“THAT the agenda for the April 20, 2022, SEAC meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Lydia Wiita, Special Needs Teacher and Corrine Russell, Principal, provided a presentation on the special needs class Life Skills Program. All questions were addressed.
- 5.2 Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, provided a presentation on the Autism Ontario report. Kim Pineau, Special Education Resource Teacher, also provided an update on the Lakehead District School Boards' direction after the report was released. All questions were addressed.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Mike Otway

Seconded by Trustee Arnone

"THAT the minutes of the March 9, 2022, SEAC meeting be approved."

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, confirmed the carousel evening is tentatively planned for June 1, 2022. Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, will email Stephanie Rea, Communications Officer, with the details. Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair, will provide more information at the May 18, 2022, SEAC meeting.

8. Correspondence

Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, reviewed the following correspondence sent to all SEAC members:

- Early Years Mental Health Post Pandemic Webinar, Dilico;
- Correspondence from Autism Ontario;
- 2022-2023 Special Education Grant Funding Memorandum SB08;
- York Catholic DSB, Impact of Nursing shortages in Schools; and
- York Catholic DSB, Special Incident Portion Claim Inadequate Funding.

9. New Business

- 9.1 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, provided an update on the multi-disciplinary team. Approximately 150 referrals have been received to date. Lakehead District School Boards' special education summer camps will be open for registration. All members' questions were addressed.
- 9.2 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, provided the following updates:
- COVID-19 continues to show shortages of staff at LDSB with approximately 50% related to COVID-19;
 - Student Support Professionals continue to be our greatest shortages;

- the Ministry of Education provided funding for school boards to provide tutoring services to students for COVID-19 recovery;
- the Ministry of Education implemented de-streaming of Grade 9 math for 2021-2022 school year. Only Grade 9 math and science for the 2022-2023 school year will be de-streamed while all other streamed Grade 9 courses will be at the academic level only – which means no applied level;
- masks in schools are being worn, approximately 50% of the time and they will continue to be strongly recommended; and
- the next SEAC meeting will be held at the library at Westgate CVI and will include a tour of the special needs/multi-needs room. More details to follow.

All members' questions were addressed.

10. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

10.1 Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, announced that she was elected to the position of Chair for the City of Thunder Bay Accessibility Advisory Committee.

10.2 Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair of SEAC, suggested the following future presentation:

- Junior Inclusion; and
- Canadian Tire Jumpstart on the fully accessible playground that is scheduled to be installed at Boulevard park, Thunder Bay, in the near future.

11. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reported that there was no change to the 2021-2022 SEAC budget.

12. Board Update

Trustee Arnone provided the following Board update:

At the March 22, 2022, Regular Board meeting, the following reports were presented:

- Approval of Appointment to the Special Education Advisory Committee;
- Appointment of an External Member to the Audit Committee;
- Indigenous Trustee March Report;
- Student Trustee March Report;
- Ontario Public School Boards' Association Report;
- Indigenous Student Trustee Report;
- Bus Transportation Final Costs for 2021-2022;
- Celebrating Student Achievement – Algonquin Avenue Public School; and
- Procedural By-Law Ad Hoc Committee.

At the April 12, 2022, Standing Committee meeting, the following reports were presented:

- Semi Annual Student Achievement Report;
- New Teacher Induction Program;
- Trustee Honorarium (Election Year);
- Policy Review – 7020 Equitable Employment;
- Policy Review – 3060 Leasing Space;
- Policy Review/Development – 8066 Safe Arrival;
- Celebrating Student Achievement;
- By-Law Alternative Voting Methods for Elections; and
- Policy Review Request – 3001 Governance.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Mike Otway

Seconded by Liz Todd

“THAT we do now adjourn at 7:17 p.m.”

CARRIED