

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Westgate CVI Hybrid  
Via Microsoft Teams

2022 JUN 15

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair  
Trustee Marg Arnone  
Angela Hill  
Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen

Sarah Niles  
Liz Tod  
Michelle Blackburn  
Wendy Carrol

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Michelle Probizanski  
Christine Jones  
Ellen Chambers  
Kirsti Alaksa

Maggie Fredrickson  
Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis  
Mahejabeen Ebrahim

**ABSENT WITH REGRETS:**

Carey Murphy  
Miranda Myers  
Lesley Harding

Kelly Matyasovszky  
Mike Otway  
Anne Antenucci, Vice-Chair

1. **Call to Order**

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair of SEAC, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair of SEAC, welcomed the following guests:

- Madison Berardi, Junior Inclusion Coordinator, City of Thunder Bay
- Robyn Eady-Sitar, Vision Itinerant Teacher
- Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Human Rights and Equity Advisor
- Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal
- Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Angela Hill

Seconded by Trustee Tuchenhagen

*“THAT the agenda for the June 15, 2022, SEAC meeting be approved.”*

**CARRIED**

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Robyn Eady-Sitar, Vision Itinerant Teacher Vision Services, provided a presentation on Visions Services. All questions were addressed.
- 5.2 Madison Berardi, Junior Inclusion Coordinator, City of Thunder Bay, provided a presentation on Junior Inclusion. All questions were addressed.
- 5.3 Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business, provided a presentation on Lakehead District School Boards' (LDSB) 7005 Code of Conduct Policy and Procedure. All questions were addressed.
- 5.4 Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Human Rights and Equity Advisor and Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal, provided a presentation on the Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocol. All questions were addressed.
- 5.5 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, provided an update on the amendments to Special Education Plan. Specific changes in Early Identification Process and Intervention Strategies, Section 4 to ensure it aligns with the ministry requirements, equipment and SEA Funding. Section 14, will have minor edits to reflect guidelines, changes and coordination with other ministries and agencies. Entry to School Program, was added to Section 18, funded through the Ontario Autism Program. A review of the special education program will start the next school year to ensure the best programs and process are in place for our special education student needs. All questions were addressed.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Arnone

Seconded by Wendy Carrol

*"THAT the minutes of the May 18, 2022, SEAC meeting be approved."*

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, provided an update of the carousel evening and that many schools will be logging onto review the recording.

8. Correspondence

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair of SEAC, reviewed the following correspondence sent to all SEAC members:

- Near North DSB, supporting on-line learning;
- 0-6 CMH Northern Network presentation;
- Slide deck from Dr. Wittenberg;
- Invitation to office opening of École Elsie MacGill Public School; and
- Provincial Parent Association Advisory Committee.

9. New Business

9.1 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, provided an update on the multi-disciplinary team. A new support job posting position was created for a teacher to provide support in empower, traveling school to school for tier 3 in all our Lakehead District School Board (LDSB) schools. All members' questions were addressed.

9.2 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, provided a Special Education update. Shortages of staff to fill valuable positions continue to impact the board and community agencies. The challenge is very real and the continued concerns in meeting the growing needs for our special education students. A local ministry representative meeting was held to discuss the needs of our schools and the Director of Special Education for the Ministry of Education for Ontario. We hope to hear back from the Director of Special Education in the very near future with some answers to our concerns. A total of 14 elementary summer camps will be running throughout five school locations. All members' questions were addressed.

10. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

10.1 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair of SEAC, reminded the members to send their input to Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, before June 28, 2022, for the following documents emailed to them on June 14, 2022:

- 2021-2022 SEAC work plan;
- 2022-2023 SEAC presentation schedule; and
- 2022-2023 SEAC meeting schedule.

11. SEAC Budget Update

Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, reported that current 2021-2022 SEAC budget is at \$10,600 and next September amount will reflect the three SEAC scholarship awards.

12. Board Update

Trustee Arnone provided the following Board update:

At the May 24, 2022, Regular Board meeting, the following reports were presented:

- Trustee Character Award - Rebecca Cross, Crestview Public School;
- Aboriginal Education;
- Safe and Accepting Schools Committee;
- Mental Health Report;
- 2022-2030 Policy Review Schedule;
- Appointment of an External Member to the Audit Committee;
- Policy review – 8071 Bullying Prevention and Intervention;
- Policy review – 3093 Electronic Information Security; and
- Policy review – 3096 Information/Communication Technology Use.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Angela Hill

Seconded by Sarah Niles

*“THAT we do now adjourn at 7:32 p.m.”*

CARRIED