

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim McCuaig Education Centre-MS Teams

2023 FEB 15

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amy Massalin	Alina Cameron
Carey Murphy	Tara Ingram
Liz Tod	Miranda Myers
Suzanne Posthumus, Chair	Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen
Student Trustee Alexa Sagutcheway	Student Trustee Mehar Mago
Trustee Leah Vanderwey	Michelle Blackburn
Trustee Pat Johansen	
Lesley Harding	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle Probizanski	Maggie Fredrickson
Christine Jones	Ruth Ann Fay – Guest
Dr. L. Bakovic – Guest	Megan Semeniuk – Guest

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Sarah Niles	Mike Otway
Brandon Robb	Trustee Donica LeBlanc
Andrea Stach	Rosemarie MacLean
Wendy Carroll	

1. **Call to Order**

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, welcomed the following:

- Ruth Ann Fay, Special Education Resource Teacher;
- Megan Semeniuk, Mental Health Lead; and
- Dr. Linda Bakovic, Paediatrician.

3. Elections

Election of Vice Chair

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, shared that a vice chair of the committee was needed and confirmed that there were no pre-nominations for the position. Trustee Tuchenhagen nominated Alina Cameron, Community Member; Ms. Cameron accepted the nomination. Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, called for nominations from the floor three times. There were no further nominations.

Moved by Trustee Vanderwey

Seconded by Liz Tod

“THAT nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed.”

CARRIED

Alina Cameron was acclaimed as vice chair of the SEAC Committee.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Alina Cameron

Seconded by Trustee Vanderwey

“THAT the agenda for the February 15, 2023, SEAC meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

6. Presentations

6.1 Dr. Linda Bakovic, Paediatrician, provided a presentation on Lakehead District School Boards' (LDSB) Paediatric Clinic.

6.2 Megan Semeniuk, Mental Health Lead, presented an update on LDSB's Mental Health team.

6.3 Ruth Ann Fay, Special Education Resource Teacher, presented LDSB's Lexia and Empower Reading Program.

6.4 Maggie Fredrickson, Special Education Principal, provided a presentation on the Special Education Review.

6.5 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the 8070 Safe Schools, System Expectations Policy, that is out for constituent input to be provided March 22, 2023.

All members' questions were addressed.

7. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Vanderwey

Seconded by Alina Cameron

“THAT the minutes of the January 11, 2023, SEAC meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

8.1 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair of SEAC, confirmed that a date is still to be secured with Dr. Mushquash for the SEAC Parent Evening and hope to have it confirmed for the next meeting.

8.2 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair of SEAC, asked if members would be part of an Advocacy sub-committee to review the existing advocacy material. The following members volunteered:

- Liz Tod, Learning Disabilities of Ontario;
- Alina Cameron, Vice Chair SEAC; and
- Tara Ingram, Easter Seals.

Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, will email the above members the existing advocacy material. SEAC members are asked to email Ms. Jones if they would like to be a part of the sub-committee.

9. Correspondence

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

- Entry into School Program presentation, GJCC;
- Partners for Planning website link, GJCC;
- Parent Lifeline of Eastern Ontario (PLEO), CCTB;
- MACSE Annual Report, LDSB;
- Funding letter to Minister Leece, LDSB;
- Policy Input, LDSB; and
- Transition to Highschool, LDSB.

All members' questions were addressed.

10. New Business

10.1 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, provided an update on the Special Education Review:

- Health and Safety Officer, Kyle Ulvang, is working with the Ministry of Labour on the initiative that is rolling out on Workplace Violence and Harassment; and
- Kim Pineau, After Schools Development Learning Support Resource Teacher, leads LDSB Transition to Kindergarten which is in full swing.

- 10.2 Tara Ingram, Easter Seals, presented an update on the January 16, 2023, Parent Involvement Committee;
- 10.3 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair of SEAC, asked if members had any names for the 2023 Ontario Public School Board Association Achievement Awards of Excellence to forward to Christine Jones, Executive Secretary.

11. Information/Inquires & Association Reports

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, shared that SEAC is looking for a new member to represent SEAC on the Equity and Inclusive Education Committee. Christine Jones, Executive Secretary, will email further details of the committee. Members are asked to email Ms. Jones if they are interested in representing SEAC.

12. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reported the budget currently sits at \$12,970.

Can funding be used for special needs classrooms?

13. Board Update

Trustee Leah Vanderwey provided the following update:

At the January 24, 2023, Regular Board meeting, the following reports were presented:

- Trustee Character Award presented to Lakehead Public Schools Summer Learning Program Staff;
- Student Trustee Report;
- Indigenous Student Trustee Report;
- Early Learning Report;
- Information Technology Report;
- Parent Involvement Committee Minutes;
- Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes;
- Establishment of Budget Committee Report;
- 3070 Allowance for Use of Personal Vehicles Policy;
- 1011 Access to System Programs Policy; and
- 9022 Library Resource Centre Policy.

All members' questions were addressed.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Amy Massalin

Second by Liz Tod

"THAT we do now adjourn at 8:29 p.m."

CARRIED