

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Algonquin Avenue Public School

2023 JUN 14
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair
Amy Massalin
Lesley Harding
Michelle Blackburn
Miranda Myers

Tara Ingram
Indigenous Student Trustee Alexa Sagutcheway
Trustee Leah Vanderwey
Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen

OTHERS PRESENT:

Christine Jones
Maggie Fredrickson

Michelle Probizanski

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair
Andrea Stach
Brandon Robb
Carey Murphy
Liz Tod
Mike Otway

Sarah Niles
Student Trustee Mehar Mago
Trustee Patricia Johansen
Rosemarie MacLean
Wendy Carroll

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, welcomed the following guests:

- Darren Lentz, Principal, Algonquin Avenue Public School;
- Alexander Lod, Vice Principal, Special Education Facilitator; and
- Michelle Sauve, Special Needs Class Teacher.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Miranda Myers

Seconded by Trustee Tuchenhagen

“THAT the agenda for the June 14, 2023, SEAC meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Darren Lentz, Principal, Algonquin Avenue Public School, Alexander Lod, Vice Principal, Michelle Sauve, Special Needs Class Teacher, presented Algonquin Avenue Public School's special education classroom.

Following the presentation, members took a tour of Algonquin Avenue Public School's special education classroom. All members' questions were addressed.

- 5.2 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reviewed the 2022-2023 SEAC Workplan.

- 5.3 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the 2023-2024 SEAC Presentation Schedule and SEAC Meeting Schedule.

- 5.4 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, presented the amendments to the Special Education Plan. The check list was reviewed, and all members' questions were addressed.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Leah Vanderwey

Seconded by Miranda Myers

"THAT the minutes of the May 17, 2023, SEAC meeting be approved."

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, confirmed that SORA software text to speech is being looked into.

8. Correspondence

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

- Children's Health Care Canada Webinar, LDSB;
- Student Support Professional and Early Childhood Educators Video, LDSB: and
- Ontario Autism Coalition Exclusions Survey, OAC.

9. New Business

- 9.1 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, provided the following Special Education update:

- Pediatric Clinic has been a great program and extremely beneficial to many students;
- enrolment of special needs students is increasing for the fall;
- staffing shortages will be ongoing this upcoming 2023-2024 school year; and
- Confederation College has a virtual Student Support Professional program.

9.2 Tara Ingram provided the following update on the Parent Involvement Committee meeting of May 1, 2023:

- presentation on Human Trafficking from Collin Graham; and
- update on the Wellness Symposium held at Westgate Collegiate Vocational Institute that included nine booths and various speakers.

9.3 Amy Massalin, Children’s Centre Thunder Bay, provided the following updates on the Equity and Inclusive Education Advisory Committee meeting:

- presentation on the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA);
- Student Leadership Conference is to take place in the Fall of 2023, which will include 120 students from Grades 7 to 11;
- Student & Employee census data was presented;
- Human Rights & Equity Advisor;
- Mental Health services;
- Student Senate;
- gender neutral washrooms in secondary schools improving safety; and
- discussed the possibility of reviewing the 8072 Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification Policy.

10. Information/Inquiries & Association Reports

Maggie Fredrickson, Special Education Principal, discussed scholarship awards to be given to special need students that are graduating.

Maggie Fredrickson, Special Education Principal, confirmed that we have received wish lists from the special needs classrooms for the \$500 funding.

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, thanked all SEAC committee members for their support, efforts, and voices for all the special needs students in the 2022-2023 school year.

11. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reported there was no change to the budget.

12. Board Update

Trustee Tuchenhagen provided the following update:

At the June 13, 2023, Budget Committee Meeting, the 2023-2024 operational budget was passed.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Vanderwey

Second by Miranda Myers

“THAT we do now adjourn at 8:00 p.m.”

CARRIED