

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2023 SEP 13
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Suzanne Posthumus, Chair	Liz Tod
Amy Massalin	Sarah Niles
Brandon Robb	Tara Ingram
Michelle Blackburn	Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen
Miranda Myers	Alina Cameron, Vice Chair (on-line)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Charity Rydholm	Michelle Probizanski
Maggie Fredrickson	

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

Andrea Stach	Rosemarie MacLean
Carey Murphy	Trustee Leah Vanderwey
Lesley Harding	Trustee Patricia Johansen
Mike Otway	Wendy Carroll
Christine Jones	

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 Special Education Team.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Amy Massalin

Seconded by Miranda Myers

“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 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, introduced the following Special Education Team members;

- Ruth Ann Fay, Special Education Resource Teacher;
- Kim Pineau, ABA/ASD Learning Support Resource Teacher;
- Carly Hubbard, Special Education Secretary;
- Kim Hoogsteen, SEA Learning Support SSP;
- David Farrish, Learning Support Resource SSP;
- Vanessa Brescacin, Behaviour Resource Teacher;
- Marie Fontaine, Learning Supports Resource Teacher;
- Ariana Price, Early Years Supports Resource Teacher;
- Jennifer Muir, Learning Supports Early Childhood Educator; and
- Megan Major, Special Education Math Support Resource Teacher.

5.2 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the 2022-2023 Lakehead District School Board's (LDSB) Operational Plan. Christine Jones, Executive Assistant, will email the plan once it is fully complete. All members' questions were addressed.

5.3 Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, presented highlights of LDSB 2023 Summer Camp. All members' questions were addressed.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Sarah Niles

Seconded by Trustee Tuchenhagen

"THAT the minutes of the June 14, 2023, SEAC meeting be approved."

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

7.1 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, discussed the scholarship for students with special education needs.

Moved by Trustee Tuchenhagen

Seconded by Miranda Myers

"THAT SEAC committee create an award for each secondary school in the amount of \$200, for students with special education needs."

CARRIED

7.2 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, updated the committee regarding the parent evening taking place at Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute on October 11, 2023. Dr. Mushquash will provide a presentation, subject to be confirmed.

- 7.3 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the 2023-2024 SEAC workplan for members' input. C D. Howe School and Thunder Bay Regional Health Science Centre are two possible sites to visit. Additionally, explore the possibilities of having the Connections Program and College Links provide presentations to SEAC. Will re-visit the 2023-2024 SEAC Workplan at next meeting.

8. Correspondence

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

- SEAC Scholarship thank you; LDSB; and
- Exclusion article and survey, OAC.

9. New Business

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

- received many new student registrations with special education needs;
- Student Support Professional (SSP) interviews continue in order to decrease the shortage; and
- the program department will be providing targeted training to various special education needs staff.

All members' questions were addressed.

- 9.2 Tara Ingram provided the following update on the Parent Involvement Committee meeting:

- PIC Bylaw renewal;
- recruiting new members;
- Aboriginal Equity Advisory Committee changed their name to Miiniwewinan Indigenous Education Advisory Committee;
- upcoming policy reviews;
- funding for SEAC: and
- the Annual Golf Tournament, raised approximately \$30,000.

- 9.3 Amy Massalin, Children's Centre Thunder Bay, confirmed the next Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee doesn't have their first meeting until October 5, 2023. Amy asked members if any members would be available to attend on her behalf as she leaves for maternity leave to contact Christine Jones, Executive Assistant.

10. Information/Inquiries & Association Reports

- 10.1 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, congratulated Amy Massalin, Children's Centre Thunder Bay on behalf of the committee.
- 10.2 Alina Cameron, OAC, provided a Ontario Autism Coalition update.

- 10.3 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, shared that LDSB policy and procedures that are up for review can be found listed on the board's website and to email Christine Jones, Executive Assistant with any policies that they would like the committee to have presented.
- 10.4 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, shared that she attended and spoke at the recent FASD Awareness Day on behalf of LDSB.
- 10.5 Michelle Blackburn, George Jeffrey Children's Centre, shared the Cerebral Palsy Net day (CP-NET) is scheduled for October 6, 2023, it is free, virtual and will share more details by email.

11. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reported the SEAC budget is currently at \$9428.93

12. Board Update

Will be provided at next meeting.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Tara Ingram

Second by Michelle Blackburn

"THAT we do now adjourn at 7:23 p.m."

CARRIED