

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2024 JUN 12
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair (virtual)	Sarah Niles
Brandon Robb	Scott McBean
Michelle Probizanski	Trustee Leah Vanderwey (virtual)
Michelle Blackburn	Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen
Suzanne Posthumus, Chair	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Christine Jones

ABSENT WITH REGRET:

Liz Tod	Tara Ingram
Mike Otway	Miranda Myers
Maggie Fredrickson	Wendy Carroll

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

There were no introductions.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Tuchenhagen

Seconded by Scott McBean

“THAT the agenda for the June 12, 2024, SEAC meeting be approved.”

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. **Presentations**

4.1 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the 2024-2025 Special Education Plan. This plan will be posted on the boards' website. All members questions were addressed.

4.2 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the 2023-2024 SEAC workplan for members' input. All members questions were addressed.

- transition program will also run again this year;
 - offering summer literacy camp, SNAP camp with Dilico; and
 - the 2023-2024 Empower Program, completed in a secondary school was successful and hope to rollout to the remaining secondary schools. Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, will ask Ruth-Ann Fay, Special Education Resource Teacher, to present on it this year.
- 8.2 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, asked members to share any advocacy. Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, shared that she had three families reach out to her. It has been suggested that we look into the possibilities of SEAC committee members attend some school parent council meetings and also providing principals with information that can be shared with their staff. Trustee Vanderwey suggested the possibilities of changing the SEAC Advocates title to read SEAC Navigators. Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, will discuss more at the next meeting.
- 8.3 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, asked if anyone would join the 2024-25 Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). Christine Jones, Executive Assistant, will follow-up with Tara Ingram to see if she is interested.
- 8.4 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, reported that SEAC will be asking for a carry-over of the 2023-2024 PIC funding.
- 8.5 Suzanne Posthumus, Chair, asked if any members were interested in attending the Equity and Inclusive Education Advisory Committee. Their next meeting October 9, 2024.

9. Information/Inquiries & Association Reports

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, shared that there were 70,000 students registered for the Ontario Autism Program (OAP) and in March 2024 only 14,886 registered are accessing core funding. Many families have reached out to the Ontario Autism Coalition (OAC) regarding lack of transportation for special need students, lack of class room placement and the declining supports.

10. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reported the balance of the SEAC budget is \$11,265.

11. Board Update

Trustee Vanderwey, provided the following May 28, 2024, board update;

- OPSBA Take your MPP to School day at Kakabeka Falls Public School and Whitefish Valley Public School with MPP Holland
- Pride flag raising at the board office on June 3, 2024;
- Communication on recent ministry changes on Transportation posted to Facebook;
- Indigenous Peoples Day is on June 21, 2024;
- 9030 Playground Structure Policy approved;
- 3093 Electronic Information Security approved;

- 8020 Access to Schools Policy approved;
- 3061 Reclamation of Properties Policy approved;
- 2024-2025 Board Advisory Committee approved;
- 2024-2025 Regular Board Meeting Schedule approved; and
- 2024-2032 Policy Review Schedule approved

12. Adjournment

“THAT we do now adjourn at 6:52 p.m.”