



Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee information meeting held on September 10, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Board Office.

**Present:**

**Administration:** Theresa Bitonti, Special Education Coordinator  
Jody Weller, Superintendent of Education

**Trustees:** John Willemsen  
Barbara McCool

**Associations:** Marie Derosier, LDAO, Member  
Tracy Hanzlik, Nipissing First Nation  
Mary Grise, Parent Representative, Member  
Dan Lachance, Community Living, Member  
Jeannie Boissonneault, NDSS, Member

**Regrets:**

Jennifer Palangio, Shannon O'Connor, Susan Wright, Tammy Rheaume-Fortin

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**1. PRAYER**

Ms. Weller led the committee in prayer.

**2. ROLL CALL/TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE**

Roll call was completed.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Barb McCool and seconded by Dan Lachance THAT the agenda of Tuesday, September 10 2019, be approved as amended under Section 6, to include sub-section c. SEAC Action Plan.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Dan Lachance and seconded by John Willemsen THAT the minutes of Thursday, June 13 2019, be approved as presented.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### a) Catholic Education Week: “Igniting Hope” May 3-8, 2020

The new school year offers us an opportunity to reflect upon our personal, professional and spiritual growth and to set some new goals. Ms. Weller shared that the theme chosen for the upcoming 2020 Catholic Education Week is: **Catholic Education: Igniting Hope**. Catholic Education Week is held each year in May within 29 Ontario Catholic school boards. It will run from May 3 – May 8, 2020.

## 6. UPDATES / CORRESPONDENCE

### a) Carousel – Feedback

Ms. Weller provided SEAC a collation of Carousel 2019 feedback and allowed time for the committee to review. SEAC was encouraged to provide comments. Planning of Carousel Evening 2020 will begin in December 2019. This year is the 20th annual.

### b) Special Education Consultation Audit

The Special Education Consultation Audit has been completed. Ms. Weller thanked SEAC for their very positive participation. The final report will be shared with the board’s audit committee. Feedback has been very positive in regards to the programs offered within NPSCDSB.

### c) SEAC Action Plan

Ms. Weller provided a 2018-2019 copy of the SEAC Action Plan. Ms. Weller recorded SEAC brainstorming and will update the Action Plan. The revised SEAC Action Plan will be shared at the October SEAC meeting and will continue to serve as a working document.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Nil

## 8. INFORMATION ITEMS

### a) Board Report

#### i) Superintendent’s Update:

Highlights of the NPSC Superintendent’s report included:

- Health & Physical Education: The revised Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1 -8 2019 curriculum document was released on August 21, 2019.
- EQAO: Comprehensive details for the 2018-2019 EQAO will be shared once released.
- Ontario Autism Program & Behavioral Clinicians: In July 2019, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services announced next steps in the government’s plan to support a needs-based and sustainable Autism program.
- 2019-2020 Professional Activity Days were shared with SEAC.

Ms. Weller encourages SEAC to review regular updates provided by the Ontario government at: <http://news.ontario.ca/newsroom/en>. This site will provide updates to all government programs and services, including education.

ii) Coordinator's Update

August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019:

System EA & DECE BMST

Behaviour Management Systems Training (BMST): BMST is a course developed to ensure a respectful learning environment at school. It provides training and support systems for enhancing desirable behaviour and for understanding, preventing, and coping with undesirable behaviour. It emphasizes prevention of disruptive behaviour through awareness of factors affecting behaviour, recognition of early warning signs, and the use of calming / de-escalation techniques, but also teaches personal safety techniques for the rare instances when they are required.

b) Association Reports

i) Community Living – Dan Lachance, Member

October is Disability Employment Month and various activities are occurring to support this initiative (i.e. October 3 – Battalion Hockey Game).

The local Smile Cookie Campaign is under way to assist in supporting Community Living North Bay.

ii) Nipissing First Nation – Tracey Hanzlik, Member

NIL Report

iii) LDAO – Marie Derosier, Member

Although the LDAO office in North Bay is closing, the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury continues to be dedicated to supporting all individuals in the northeast region with Learning Disabilities in reaching their potential.

iv) Parent Representative – Mary Grise, Member

NIL Report

v) NDSS – Jeannie Boissonneault, Member

NDSS held an Annual BBQ & pool party for their membership.

**9. QUESTIONS & ANSWERS / OTHER**

NIL

**10. DATE OF NEXT SEAC MEETING**

The next SEAC meeting will be on October 8, 2019 in the Board Office Board Room at 5:30 p.m.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Dan Lachance and seconded by Tracey Hanzlik THAT the meeting of September 10, 2019 adjourned at 6:54 p.m.