



Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on June 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams Meeting.

Present

Administration: Theresa Bitonti, Special Education Coordinator
Frank Ricciuti, SJSH – Special Education Curriculum Lead
Jody Weller, Superintendent of Education

Trustees: Barbara McCool
John Willemsen

Associations: Community Living – April Porter, Alternate
LDAO – Marie Derosier, Member
One Kids Place – Corry Thomas, Member

Regrets: NDSS - Jeannie Boissonneault, Member
Nipissing First Nation – Tracey Hanzlik, Member
Parent Representative – Mary Grise, Member

1. PRAYER

Ms. Weller shared a Prayer for Reconciliation.

2. ROLL CALL/TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE

Roll call was completed.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Barbara McCool and seconded by April Porter THAT the agenda of June 8, 2021 be approved as presented.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Corry Thomas and seconded by Frank Ricciuti THAT the minutes of May 11, 2021 be approved as presented.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Budget

- a) Ms. Barnhardt, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer presented the 2021-2022 Special Education Budget. Highlights included:
- Grants for Student Needs including Pupil Foundation Grant
 - Special Purpose Grants
 - 6 Special Education Grants:
 - Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA)
 - Differentiated Special Education Needs Allocation (DSENA)
 - Special Equipment Amount (SEA)
 - Special Incidence Portion (SIP)
 - Education & Community Partnership Program (ECP)
 - Behavior Expertise Amount (BEA)
 - Special Education Funding: Support for Students Fund
 - Additional Special Education Supports: COVID-19 Supports
- b) Ms. Weller presented the 2021-2022 Proposed Preliminary Special Education Budget. Highlights included:
- Special Education 2021-2022 Priorities
 - Special Education Programs and Services
 - Education and Community Partnership Program
 - Mental Health & Well-Being:
 - Student Support Services
 - NPSC Aspen Data
 - Breakdown of Exceptionality
 - Required Level of Support for 2021-2022
 - Programs and Services for 2021-2022

Motion

SEAC recommends the proposed preliminary 2021-2022 Special Education Budget be presented to the board. Moved by Corry Thomas and seconded by April Porter.

6. UPDATES

- a) Parent Guide

DEFERRED

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB – May 26, 2021

Ms. Weller shared The Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB letter endorsing Bill 172, the Education Statute Law Amendment Act regarding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). This proposed legislation will require all boards of education in Ontario to develop policies and guidelines with respect to FASD and require the ON College of Teachers and ECE programs to provide training with respect to FASD.

b) Durham District School Board – May 28, 2021

Ms. Weller shared the DDSB letter to the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services requesting clarification on the implementation of the needs-based funding regarding service provision for children with a diagnosis of ASD – New Pilot Program.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Board Report

i) Superintendent's Update

Youth Vaccine Program:

To ensure as many youth as possible are fully vaccinated before the start of the school year, the province is providing a first dose to all willing youth aged 12 to 17 during a two week period beginning June 14th, and a second dose before the end of August 2021.

End of Year Celebrations:

The Ontario Ministry of Education is working with school boards and the Ontario Ministry of Health to provide guidance on the implementation of end of year celebrations. Specific communication will be provided to school communities in the very near future.

2021-2022 School Year Survey:

The Ontario Ministry of Education has confirmed that school boards will provide an option to families for remote or virtual learning for the 2021-2022 school year. It is important to note that all NPSC schools are planning for a full in-person return to school in September. All parents and guardians are required to declare which learning mode they have chosen for their children by completing a survey (one survey, per child), which is open until June 9. The survey is available on [our website at npsc.ca](https://www.npsc.ca). If families are unable to access the survey online, please contact your child's school and a staff member will complete the survey with you over the phone.

Reopening Ontario – Step 1:

Ms. Weller shared that the Province of Ontario will be moving to Step 1 of the roadmap on June 11, 2021 at 12:01 AM. This is an initial focus on resuming outdoor activities with smaller crowds where the risk of transmission is lower, and permitting limited retail with restrictions. This includes: outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people, outdoor dining with up to four people per table and non-essential retail at 15% capacity.

ii) Coordinator's Update

Ms. Bitonti shared that NPSC is in the process of gathering referrals for the Special Education 2020-2021 Summer Programs:

Virtual Evidence – Based Reading Intervention

- early intervention for struggling readers for students entering Grades 1 to 3
- supporting students with special education needs who are struggling with reading
- embedding social emotional learning skills

Virtual Summer Programming for Students with Complex Needs

- offering hands on synchronous activities led by qualified teachers and a team of paraprofessionals
- provide opportunities to build communication and socialization skills geared to promoting continuity of success
- opportunities include baking, dance, crafts, music, yoga

On Site Transition Program

- will occur the last 2 weeks of August and provide in person opportunities for students with complex special education or well-being needs
- qualified teachers will facilitate exposure to classroom-based routines, expectations and learning opportunities to strengthen school readiness

iii) Secondary Lead's Update

- Jennifer Palangio award has been created this year and will be presented at this year's award ceremony
- Transition meetings occurring during the last week of school for incoming LAC students (virtually)
- Many students will be enrolled in summer programs being offered through NPSC
- 2 students will be graduating from the LAC program this year at SJSH

b) Association Reports

i) LDAO – Marie Derosier, Member

NIL report.

ii) Community Living – April Porter, Alternate

Community Transition Services provides students with an intellectual disability, a Transition Plan that is person-centered and is used to facilitate a smooth and successful transition from school to community life. Transition Coordinators can assist high school students ages 14-21 in the North Bay District and their families to plan for their future and set personal goals.

Visit our Website: www.communitylivingnorthbay.org

Email us: info@communitylivingnorthbay.org or call us at 705-476-3288.

The Home Style Cafe is operated by Community Living North Bay. All of the proceeds generated go right back into supporting our local Community Programs & Services. The Café strives to support local businesses, community initiatives and operate as an environmentally friendly restaurant. Currently services include: take out and frozen entrees.

iii) One Kids Place – Corry Thomas

NIL Report

9. QUESTIONS & ANSWERS / OTHER
NIL

10. DATE OF NEXT SEAC MEETING

The next SEAC meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Teams.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Corry Thomas and seconded by April Porter THAT the meeting of May 11, 2021 adjourned at 7:17 PM.