



KEEWATIN-PATRICIA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held via Google Meet
Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 12:00 pm CT

<https://meet.google.com/mik-vvrp-hxs>

Present	Evie O’Flaherty	Gerald Kleist	Jennifer Kitowski
	Lana Goodman	David Cornish	Chantal Moore
	Jill LaFreniere – Executive Assistant	Terri Forster	Shirley Jette

Regrets

**Guests / Members
of the Public** Jill Davies, Jennifer Peekhaus

Call to Order at The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm by the Chair, E. O’Flaherty

**Approval of the
Agenda** Moved by: D. Cornish
 Seconded by: L. Goodman

THAT the agenda for the November 17th, 2021 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

**Approval of the
Minutes** Moved by: G. Kleist
 Seconded by: L. Goodman

THAT the minutes of the meeting on October 20th, 2021 having been circulated, be approved as written.

CARRIED

Business Arising

- The results of the poll, regarding the best time for the Michael Jacques presentation, indicate that having a noon hour meeting was desirable.
- There was an inquiry regarding a letter of support being written to support Bill 172 – An Act in Relation to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Presentation
- **Chantal Moore**

Spoke to participation at an Ontario Disability Employment Network information session and recommended that ODEN speak at a SEAC meeting. There was a request for additional information-

Board Improvement Plan overview was provided. Goals and actions were reviewed. Additional information was requested in regards to data, and SMHO links.

Covid Update –
- **Chantal Moore**

C. Moore highlighted some important points in her COVID19 Update:

- There are no active advisories.
- Elementary schools are carefully returning to sports.
- High school sports programs are up and running.
- There have been requests for clubs to start up again.
- The focus is still on minimizing contacts between cohorts.
- It's wonderful to be back in schools and visiting staff and students.

Association Reports

Member Reports

Firefly Report – L. Goodman

- Counsellor vacancies in Kenora and SLKT – working to recruit and fill.
- New Regional Brief Model launched with new online referral. Improved/faster access to services (first appointment).
- Speech language pathologist vacancy in Red Lake starting in January. A Communication Assistant will continue to provide service during the mat leave

Correspondence

Reviewed letter from H. Bird regarding her vacancy. E. O'Flaherty responded with an email stating that a resignation would be needed. A letter of thanks will be sent. C. Moore mentioned that adds on the radio and promotion on social media has begun.

- A. Foucher will be the KACL Voting Member (she was the alternate) taking the place of O. Karle.
- D. Cornish stated that we should address the Ontario government's promise for funding to support our students and questioned how long students with ASD wait for service.
- T. Forester spoke to some of the supports students with ASD receive.

Special Education Team Report

T. Forster - Special Education Update:

- The team is really excited to be able to be back in schools to support students and staff this school year. They have been able to observe students and give recommendations to support programming and are able to complete assessments (especially for students who they were not able to assess virtually).
- The social skills programming for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder has started, and they have offered training opportunities an Autism for

classroom teachers through Sonderly and 11 teachers have signed up to take this (which is excellent).

- A large part of the work this year has been implementing a new IEP program, learning how it connects to the Student Information System, and navigating how it can support students and tracking of information in the bigger picture of special education (such as SEA equipment, transition planning, etc.). They have held many training sessions for SERTs on navigating the new program and developing IEPs, and have just started training sessions on the IPRC process. Our SLP team and Mental Health team have been implementing a new database to store their files electronically and have been learning how the program supports their work.
- They have taken a step back and have been reviewing our procedures and processes and are really taking a look at inclusion, accessibility of pathways, and whether our processes promote equity of outcomes for students.

Other Business none

Next Meeting: December 15, 2021 at noon

Adjournment Moved by S. Jette
That we adjourn at 1:05 p.m.



Evie O'Flaherty, Chair