



KEEWATIN-PATRICIA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held via Google Meet

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 5:30 pm

<https://meet.google.com/tcr-bxot-amu>

Present	Evie O’Flaherty Shirley Jette Heather Bird Olivia Karl	Debbie Michaud Kari Couch Michelle Sanderson Emily Kaldeway	Chantal Moore Lana Goodman Terri Forster Brenda Barradell – recorder
Regrets	Gerald Kleist Nerina Facca	Pearl Alves Eric Bortlis	Darrin Head Jen Bachynski
Guest	Richard Findlay, Superintendent of Business		

Call to Order at The meeting was called to order at **5:30 CDT**

Welcome Evie O’Flaherty welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Chantal Moore, the new Superintendent of Education replacing Joan Kantola and Richard Findlay, Superintendent of Business.
Chantal addressed the committee, sharing her philosophy of education as it pertains to the special education program.

Approval of the Agenda Moved by: Debbie Michaud
Seconded by: Kari Couch

THAT the agenda for the November 18, 2020 meeting be approved.
CARRIED

Approval of the Minutes Moved by: Emily Kaldeway
Seconded by: Shirley Jette

THAT the minutes of the meeting on Oct. 21, 2020 having been circulated, be confirmed as amended with the following:
New Business – Topics for Presentation this year:

December will be a short, noon hour meeting and we will discuss SEAC Roles and Responsibilities – Evie will prepare material to be reviewed by members prior to the meeting

January's presentation topic will be Children's Mental Health.

CARRIED

Business Arising

December SEAC Meeting: The meeting invitation will be revised to reflect the early start time for the December meeting.

Presentations

- Superintendent of Business, Richard Findlay

Financial Update for 2020 – 2021 as it pertains to Special Education. Richard Findlay gave a comprehensive report on his portfolio and the financial update as it pertains to Special Education i.e. a guide to special education funding.

Richard will supply committee with a copy of his presentation.

COVID-19 School Update

- Emily Kaldeway

Emily Kaldeway presented the following report:

1. **Travel:** The protocols for TD, SLP, ABA and SEL visits to schools and travel outside their home community were approved by the Health Unit late last week. Visits and assessments have already begun. All are working on addressing the backlogs caused by the COVID closures.
2. **SLP:** the board has purchased virtual assessments to enable SLPs to assess when not in person (they are regulated health professionals and require an active screen). The virtual assessment allows for an assessment to happen when the active screen is not possible.
1. **VS Update:** The first set of transitions between Bricks & Mortar (physical schools) and the SDLS/EDLS (secondary and elementary Virtual School) happened this month. Staff members are working hard to ensure that students have smooth transitions if they have moved from one to the other. Families have to make difficult decisions around medical needs, mental health needs and educational needs for their children. We are working to collaborate with families to work in the best interest of students for each situation.
2. **Supporting Schools:** We have established virtual processes to keep support with schools consistent using Google Meet and Zoom. While SELs cannot be in schools as much as usual, we are working to stay connected and supportive.
3. **IPRCs:** The first rounds are starting this Friday. IPRCs will be held virtually for the time being.

Association Reports

Lana Goodman - Firefly

- FIREFLY clinicians continue to see all priority level clients. Clients are to be seen virtually whenever possible. If virtual is not possible, face-to-face is allowed (according to college regulations).
- FIREFLY is applying to become a Children's Treatment Centre (CTC) through Empowered Kids Ontario in December. This recognition does not come with

extra funding however once we have the designation, we can apply for specialty clinic funding. Currently our regions' CTC is George Jeffrey Children's Centre in Thunder Bay.

All questions were answered.

Olivia Karl – Kenora Association for Community Living

Same as normal – doing home visits with families and pushing virtual as much as possible.

Member Reports

Debbie Michaud told the committee about Bill 172 which has been introduced by Kathleen Wynne and has just gone through second reading. It is designed to make sure that teachers and people who work in daycares have training with regard to FASD before they start to work in the field and that there is ongoing training available to them as well.

Correspondence

- nothing

Other Business

Summary of Changes Made to Special Education Plan 2020 – 2021 – submitted at Sept. 16th meeting – change in name of Principal at Upsala/Ignace – just announced this week.

Chantal Moore announced that Adele Marth was the successful candidate and is now the Principal of Ignace PS and Upsala PS. This change will be made in the 2020 – 2021 Special Education Plan. Congratulations were extended to Adele from the members of the committee.

Next Meeting:

December 16, 2020 – NOON meeting

Adjournment

6:05 p.m. CDT