



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held via Video Conference on Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

Present	Joan Kantola David Cornish Nerina Facca Sheelagh Reid Shannon Jeffers	Darrin Head Michelle Sanderson Shirley Jette Susan Ghazali	Evie O’Flaherty Heather Bird Pearle Alver Gayle Mutrie Richard Findlay
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Regrets	Kari Couch	Lana Goodman	Pearl Alver
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Call to Order at The Meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Welcome E. O’Flaherty welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Pearl Alver was noted as an official Committee member.

Approval of the Agenda THAT the agenda of the meeting, April 17, 2019 be approved.
Moved by: Shirley Jette **CARRIED**
Seconded by: Heather Bird

Approval of the Minutes THAT the minutes of the meeting, March 20, 2019 were reviewed and approved.
Moved by: Michelle Sanderson
Seconded by: Darrin Head **CARRIED**

Business Arising None

Presentation Richard Findlay, Superintendent of Business, presented on Special Education Funding.
Highlights were:

- Special Education Funding consists of 13 percent of the Board’s total budget.
- Approximately 24 percent of the total enrollment are Special Education Students.
- Board is committed to over-spending to maintain our current level of services to students.
- He described the GSN and EPO Grants and how they support our Board’s total budget.
- The Board has discretion to use all dollars in the way they choose to provide supports and services.
- Richard answered questions from Committee members.

Children’s Mental Health In Schools Update

Joan gave an update on Children’s Mental Health in Schools Program:

- Working tiers were initiated with Mental Health Champions
- MH leader has been busy supporting Administration in Schools.
- Rapid Response Northern Support Team is being supported on their return from the north.
- HR currently just rolled out new platform and Service Provider for Employees. We have partnered with Morneau Shepell.

CARRIED

Special Education In Schools Update

Nerina Facca, Special Education Leader for the Sioux Lookout region gave a report on the Special Education in Schools:

- In the Transitions North Classroom there is a transition of students in and out of the Sioux Mountain School Program.
- Finishing up scheduled IPRC’s in all areas of the Board.
- Clinic days are happening to do Teacher Diagnostic work and Education Assessments in all areas.

CARRIED

Association Reports

Shannon Jeffers, representing the Kenora Association for Community Living, noted there is an Infant and Child Development Conference now and it will affect the local child and youth programs in the future.

Member Reports

None

Correspondence

Two letters were reviewed from Durham Catholic DSB to the Minister of Education. Many groups are now becoming advocates for special education to the Government.

Other Business

Government announcements were discussed. Joan gave a brief Autism update. The recent Government announcement on a new funding plan for families with students with Autism. Beginning April 1, 2019 families will receive a direct allocation per household rather than have services flow out of regional hubs such as CCR (Child and Community Resources). There will be more information from the Government to MCSS and it will flow out to families so funding can be clarified.

Next Meeting:

April 17, 2019

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

CARRIED