



KEEWATIN-PATRICIA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held via VC, September 16, 2015.

Present:	Heather Bird	Holly Szumowski	Michelle Henry	Terri Forster
	Sheelagh Reid	Karlyn McDonald	Shelley Seymour	Barbra Nelson
	Natasha Menard-Mousseau	Jennifer Manitowabi	Rhona Karschti	Nicole Perron-recorder
Regrets	Joan Kantola			
	Shirley Jette	Joanne Kay	David Wilkinson	Andrew Kivell

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 5:43 by Rhona Karschti.

Welcome There were introductions as there are some new faces.

Approval of the Agenda The agenda was reviewed by the Committee and recommended for approval.
Moved by: Shelley Seymour
Seconded by: Sheelagh Reid

Approval of the Minutes Minutes from June were reviewed by the Committee and recommended for approval.
Moved By: Heather Bird
Seconded By: Shelley Seymour

Business Arising None

Presentation None

Special Education Plan Update Joan gave an ABA Leader update. She explained that it is now a Board position as opposed to a contract position. Pam Fregeau was hired and will start in January, until then Kim Remus is contracted to fill in until January.

Children's Mental Health In Schools Update

Joan also noted that we have interviewed for a Children's Mental Health Lead, however, she discussed the situation with the Principals. They all agreed to wait and not fill the role at this time due to the sensitive situation we are in with the current staff.

Special Education In Schools Update

Natasha gave an overview for the Committee:

- staff are going to rotate coming to these SEAC meetings and will collaborate to give an update each month.
- There are several new students within the Board and it is great to see.
- New Spark classroom in Red Lake. A program description was given. There are currently only two students but it is expanding.
- She noted the new Hockey Skills Academy and said that several of the students with Special needs have applied.
- Noted revisions were made to the SEAC Brochures and the Committee will be able to see them in the near future.
- The Section 23 Classroom in Kenora, called the ACE Program. Joan described the Kenora Attendance Centre and the new classroom.
- She will send out the grand opening invitation to the SEAC Committee in the near future.

Association Reports

Sheelagh Reid did an informal update on KACL and Youth employment Program.

Rhona noted they are excited about the new SPARK Program and all of the positive things about the children involved. The team is starting to come together. Firefly is already feeling the benefit of this program.

Joan noted that for the last two years we have had two MHAN Nurses and noted that Sioux Lookout and Red Lake have the greatest needs for nurses. Noted that the MHAN in Red Lake has resigned. So after some reflection the position was reposted to be positioned at BBSS in Kenora to make it easier to retain staff. The balance is that we now have a Mental Health Counselor that will service the High School.

Correspondence

Discussion on two letters regarding regulation 274 from Wellington Catholic DSB to Minister Sandals.

Other Business

Special Education Plan

Joan reviewed the changes to the plan with the Committee.

A Motion was put forward:

Moved by: Shelley Seymour
Seconded By: Michelle Henry

“That the SEAC Committee approve the 2015-2016 Spec Ed Plan changes and forward the plan summary to the Board on October 13, 2015 for review.”

Carried

Recruitment for SEAC was discussed.
Sheelagh noted KACL is running a parent advocacy group and is hoping that parents will step forward and volunteer to sit on the SEAC committee.

Further recruitment was discussed for the region. It was recommended that it go out in newsletters for schools and a letter from our chair go out to families.

Next Meeting

October 21, 2015
Whether or not to do a face to face was discussed.
It was decided to do a VC and have a face to face in the spring.

Adjournment

Moved By: Michelle Henry

That the meeting be adjourned at 6:39 p.m.