



## **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

February 15, 2023

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: M. Guenette, A. MacKenzie, D. Lacombe, N. Tabbert, S. Tait,

Administration: J. Smith, A. McGregor, C. Brash, S. Smith, L. Rigby, A. Macdougall-Popke, M. Wagner, A. Hilts

Guests:

**ABSENT:** (With Regrets) B. Morris, A. Desrochers

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

A. MacKenzie called the meeting to order.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF 15 FEBRUARY 2023**

MOVED BY M. Guenette, seconded by N. Tabbert, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda for today's meeting.

The motion was CARRIED.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 18 JANUARY 2023**

MOVED BY M. Guenette, seconded by N. Tabbert, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2023.

#### **4. STAFF UPDATES**

A. MacDougall-Popke shared that every 6 weeks the entire central Special Education department meets to build capacity and collaborate. Staff recently met.

L. Rigby shared that she has recently been working with elementary teams on IEP's, case conferences and updating independent rubrics. Currently Mini Enrichment Program registration is happening.

S. Smith shared that she is a member of the Coordinated Access Committee, which provides a variety of support within one location. The committee focuses on complicated student cases.

C. Brash shared that integrated transition meetings have begun. These ensure that students are connected with a Disability Coordinator or have the opportunity to be connected.

M. Wagner shared that they have received and have been reviewing 40 SEA applications. M. Wagner also shared that she has been traveling within the board meeting with students and staff building capacity.

J. Smith reported that the Board recently completed the Secondary Review. Most grade 9 classes have been destreamed. Schools have been provided information regarding the Locally Developed pathway for students. It is encouraged that families and schools understand where that pathway will lead. Choices are based on IEP's or if a student would be more successful with accommodations and modifications.

#### **6. REPORT FROM THE BOARD**

M. Guenette reported that he has heard from families of FSL elementary students who have concerns about students having multiple teacher changes through their day and are concerned with the challenges this presents to students who struggle with changes. A. MacDougall-Popke stated that yes FSL students may have 1-3 teacher changes throughout their day depending on the school, but schools and staff try to mitigate changes to as few as possible, or make accommodations such as teachers moving, but students staying in the same classroom.

#### **7. ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

D. Lacombe shared that ITP's are taking place, they are coordinating with schools.

S. Tait reported that at the recent Easter Seals meeting the following updates were provided: March is Easter Seals month, support for red shirt day was sent to school boards, future virtual workshop offerings and a report on school boards who have received funding from Easter Seals via a grant for ITP transition support. S. Tait also shared that scholarship opportunities for secondary students are available on the Easter Seals website.

S. Tait asked if RCDSB had received the funding. A. Macdougall-Pooke shared that yes the board did receive the funding, but we have not been able to fill the position that the funding is for. Our board has requested the funds for the beginning of the next school year.

A. MacKenzie reported that they are busy supporting members and families with deployment services. There are large deployments taking place in the upcoming months. PMFRC also has numerous activities for families and students over the March Break.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

March 22, 2023

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by N. Tabbert, seconded by S. Tait that the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

The motion was CARRIED.