



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 16, 2020

PRESENT: Committee Members: C. Smith, M. Guenette, T. Williams, A. MacKenzie,
L. Costello, N. Tabbert

Administration: B. Smith, M. Ingram, C. Barber, S. Smith, A. Hilts, L.
Rigby, A. Macdougall

Guests:

ABSENT: (With Regrets) B. Morris, D. Root, R. Bernard, L. Cobb, L. Hunt, J. Poirier

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair C. Smith called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF 16 September 2020

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

The motion was CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 17 June 2020

MOVED BY C. Smith, seconded by M. Guenette, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2020.

The motion was CARRIED.

4. STAFF UPDATES

B. Smith explained how the Return to School and Work under the guidance of the Renfrew County District Health Unit and Ministry of Education looks like from a Special Education standpoint.

Elementary and Secondary schools have Special Education support in their in person and remote learning classrooms.

- 7400 students chose to attend school in person
- 980 elementary students attending Remote Synchronous Learning
- 200 students in person with IEPs
- 130 students in Remote Synchronous Learning with IEPs

PPE has been difficult to source, currently clear masks are on backorder. Clear shields are being used at this time. Clear barriers are also used where assessments in person are taking place.

S. Smith shared that consultants have been collaborating together to create supports for schools. Funds were received by the Ministry to provide support teams to schools to provide in school tours, virtual tours and transition meetings.

C. Barber shared that teachers have the ability to access their remote or in class students IEP.

L. Rigby shared that new SERT training has been taking place virtually. Learning includes the use of IEP Writer, and procedures. The plan is to meet monthly as a group virtually like was done in the spring.

A. MacDougall-Popke shared that a lot of learning took place in the spring of new programs that are dual programs that work well in person and in remote learning environments.

There has been success in the literacy programs. A change of practice has been that there are no longer mixing of cohorts for training. Training takes place individually or in pairs to ensure students are learning how to use their equipment.

6. REPORT FROM THE BOARD

M. Guenette shared that initial numbers received from parents regarding in person and Remote Synchronous Learning was 80% of students were attending in person, and 20% opted to attend Remote Synchronous Learning . The challenge being faced is that those numbers are constantly changing. Two Vice Principals have been assigned to the Remote Synchronous Learning school. Staffing has also been a state of constant shift to accommodate the changing numbers.

Timetables at Fellowes High School have been completed three times in order to keep up with the evolving changes by the Ministry of Education.

The three pillars that staff are focusing on are Health and Safety, Academics and Wellness.

7. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

T. Williams introduced Leigh Costello to the SEAC. Leigh will be taking over as representative of the Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley.

Gold Day Fundraiser took place and sponsors were offered free holes this year, but some donated as well.

September 23rd The AGM is being held at the Pembroke Drive In, followed by the movie Raiders of the Lost Ark.

Staff are healthy and wanting to be back making connections with clients and other staff. Staff with children are finding it difficult to do so as they have to stay home with their children. We are currently working in safety mode.

A. MacKenzie shared that PMFRC is hosting their annual event in October, which would be the 7th Annual Special Needs Family Forum, it will be a virtual event this year.

8. NEXT MEETING

October 21, 2020

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by M. Guenette, seconded by T. Williams, that the meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm

The motion was CARRIED.