

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 15, 2023

PRESENT: Committee Members: M. Guentte, L. Boland, D. Lacombe, N. Tabbert, A.Mackenzie, S. Tait
Administration: A. McGregor, C. Brash, S. Smith, L. Rigby, M. Wagner, J. Francis, S. Ward, A. Hilts
Guests:

ABSENT: (With Regrets) J. Smith

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. MacKenzie called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF 15 November 2023

MOVED BY A. Derochers, seconded by D. Lacombe, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda for today's meeting.

The motion was CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 18 October 2023

MOVED BY M. Guenette, seconded by D. Lacombe, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2023

4. STAFF UPDATES

A. MacGregor and S. Smith shared a presentation on the Annual Action Plan Summary

C. Brash shared that she has spent a lot of time recently in school reviewing small classes and sharing information on supports and resources that are available. She also was ensuring that programming is individualized.

S. Ward shared that she has been meeting with a number of individuals across the district this month. She has been searching for opportunities in post secondary options for all individuals. S. Ward has also been researching and planning how to make Options accessible to all levels.

The group confirmed that transportation is a barrier for all

M. Wagner shared that the first round of SEA applications have been submitted, and she will be spending the next few weeks receiving the applications.

L. Rigby shared that our 2 panels elementary and secondary together to collaborate, share and learn about foundational math skills taught by our math coaches.

We are working on BMS training this week for our EA's, and SSC's.

Lastly, she has been supporting class teams, discussing IEPS and supporting students in their classrooms.

6. REPORT FROM THE BOARD

M. Guenette shared that today was a board meeting to determine who sits on what committees for next year. M. Guenette also shared that the Student Achievement Committee also discussed the math action programming plan.

7. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

A. Derochers shared they are hiring new supervisors, the individuals we support are having difficulty finding housing. Transportation is also an issue for our clients.

S. Tait shared that Easter Seals sent our surveys to Easter Seals families regarding their equipment needs, equipment that Easter SEals has provided and that which they have had to acquire elsewhere.

S. Tait shared that she recently met with all the SEAC members that also sit on Easter Seals to compare our schools.

S. Tait also shared that after our last SEAC meeting I met with S. Ward and discussed transitioning. In terms of what transitioning can look like for our families, it is not just school, post secondary education, it is also transitioning to staying home.

D. Lacombe shared that the waitlists for ASD Core Clinical Services via the Ontario Autism Program are very long. We are going through a process of looking at what services are available to families while they wait within our county.

A. MacKenzie shared that our families are overwhelmed and strained financially and looking for respite.

N. Tabbert inquired about an accessible ramp to the stage at Rockwood PS. A MacGregor indicated that they are looking at options.

M. Guenette stated that there is an idea in progress and he will reach out to H & S officer regarding the ramp.

N. Tabbert also inquired about accessible playground equipment. Is there funding available specifically for play equipment that is accessible. A MacGregor shared that school council groups fundraise for it.

N. Tabbert also shared recent struggles faced by his family and meeting the needs of his daughter.

8. NEXT MEETING

December 20, 2023

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by N. tabbert seconded by D. Lacombe that the meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm

The motion was CARRIED.