

MINUTES OF MEETING
Monday, November 28, 2016
D.T. Walkom Room
12:00 Noon

Present

Members: Pat Mick, Heather Marshall, Dan Morgan, Linda Graham, Amanda Gauthier, Marnie Yourchuk and Sarah Anich-Mansfield, Lori Lambert

Staff: K. Colter, B. Vallee, C. Phillips

Trustees: Bob McEachren, Russell Reid

Regrets: Janelle Martin, Morgan Levy, Helen Scott

1. **Chair Pat Mick called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.**
 2. **Round Table Introduction of members, staff and guests**
 3. **Pat Mick called for approval of June Minutes and September Agenda**
 - Agenda and –B. McEachren and seconded by L. Graham, all in favour
 - minutes H. Marshall and Second by Lori Lambert
- 1(b) **Correspondence- Letter:** Near North District School Board would like to lobby for a Northern Representative at MACSE (The Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education) and is willing to draft a letter in support. Currently Northern Ontario has more challenges to provide students with special needs what they require.
- 1(b) **Correspondence- Letter (follow-up):** Renfrew County District School Board discussed their practice of collecting data regarding employees with disabilities. Question arose as to ADSB practice. B. Vallee contacted Human Resources department and currently we do not collect statistics in regard to the number of board employees with disabilities. Accommodations take place on a case-by-case basis.
2. **Presentation- Jennifer Strand, Algoma Education Connection**
 - Jennifer Strand spoke about this amazing program
 - Several programs amalgamated to become AEC in 2010. Currently Principal Mark Zorzit and Vice Principal Ronnie DalCin are the administrators for the program, which is housed at three different sites.
 - The program offers students continuous enrolment with flexible start times. Students are able to work part time, attend another program half time while being enrolled in the AEC program.
 - Flexible programming provided on an individual basis may include locally-developed, work place, applied or academic credits.
 - All sites offer counselling. Drug and Alcohol counselling provided through Algoma Family Services, School and Attendance counsellor (T. Finlayson). Mental Health Nurses support monitoring medications, etc. Police Liaison Officer. Partnership with the Indian Friendship Centre which provides aboriginal students with cultural education.
 - Snack, lunch and/or breakfast programs using Algoma Family Services funding
 - SAL- supervised alternative learning - under 18, goal is to keep them connected – teacher meets with students regularly, part of program is learning outside of the school (e.g. work placement)

- Urban Aboriginal Program (Etienne Brule): 16 and above. Unique partnership with Indian Friendship Centre. Health care providers come. Media arts, food, teen parent program- parents with children, family literacy center, many courses have an FMNI focus (e.g. native art program). Open to all students outdoor programs , child minding programs
- Prince Charles- 16 to 21 years old, morning or afternoon program
- School College Connect- under 21, and 6 credits from graduating- tired of high school wants to move on. Move into college, classroom in the College. Compulsory, dual credits. Long hours flexible.
- Dual Credits- high school students go to the college, and get credits for both. Also familiarizes students with Sault College and it is not as scary for them when they do attend full time- up to 4 free credits, high school teacher supports them on site
- AEC has one SERT who splits her time between the 2 programs
We see success every day- 2013 -87 graduated

3. Member Association Updates

- **Pat Mick– Community Living Algoma-** Last meeting P. Mick presented information on flyer – “Together We’re Better” a contest inviting all elementary aged students to take part in, by creating a song, dance, poem, video story etc. Many cool prizes the school can win. Currently Community Living Algoma is exploring maybe canceling the contest and replacing it with another inclusion initiative. P. Mick spoke about the buddy benches that a few schools have recently added in there elementary schools, where students have a place to sit and reflect.
- **Linda Graham - Ontario Association for Families with Communication Disorders-** Nothing to report.
- **Heather Marshall – NECCAC**—nothing to add
- **Amanda Gauthier – Thrive-** nothing to add.
- **Sara Mansfield LDAO-** new parent support group - *We Are Not Alone*-all ages, a focus on identified students with IEP’s, IPRC is on the last Thursday every month starting at 6:30pm, located at Sault College.
- **Lori Lambert – Infant & Child Development Program:** Busy with transition meetings. Briefly spoke about the Ontario Special Needs Strategy (Algoma Coordinated Service Pilot program— pilot starting in January with 6-12 families, more information will be available in April)
- **Dan Morgan – Canadian Mental Health Association-** nothing to report
- **Marnie Yourchuk – North Shore Tribal Council** : nothing to report

4. Reports from Administration Brent Vallee, Superintendent of Education, Kelly Colter, System Coordinator Special Education Department

Brent Vallee and Kelly Colter:

- Superintendent Brenda O’Neill will be retiring on December 9, 2016, we welcome Carol Lucio as new Superintendent
- Algoma District School Board will be sending 5 staff to Toronto to attend the 2016 Geneva Autism Symposium.
- Jim White from the Ministry of Education presented an information session to all SERTs, and Special Education Assignment Teachers on application process for Special Incidence Portion (SIP’s) funding.
- While here, Jim White was able to tour our Care and Treatment programs with Kelly Colter. While on tour Jim White shared concerns that have arisen in other boards with Care and Treatment program staff. These included feeling alone, no or limited support available, staff work refusals and report card issues. Staff that he met in ADSB all had positive comments and enjoyed working in the program
- ADSB is currently transitioning to Behaviour Management Systems Training to replace the Non-Violent Crisis Intervention training offered in previous years. We have four trainers certified to provide training. Presently we have trained all staff at Michipicoten High school, Principals, Vice

Principals, Congregated Class teachers and Eastern area Educational Assistants. Educational Assistants in the Sault Ste. Marie and Central Algoma areas to be trained on February 3rd PD day, with SERTS and specific classroom teachers to follow

- B. Vallee provided a quick summary of October counts of IEP/IPRC numbers. Currently we have a decrease of approximately 40 IEPs from last October. He noted that while we have an increased in the number of identified students, we have a decrease in the number of non-exceptional IEPs. Currently we have approximately 9500 students enrolled at Algoma District School Board and 1824 have IEP's as of the end of October. 1511 of these have been formally identified through the IPRC process.
- K. Colter shared a handout on child development (birth to school-leaving age), which includes information on services.
- K. Colter spoke about PCODE workshop she attended where other boards came together and problem solved on issues for students who struggle with a learning disability and math instruction.

5. Report from the Board (Trustees) Bob McEachren and Russell Reid

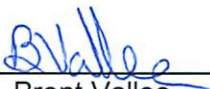
Currently a few of our schools are getting older and/or facing reduced enrolment. We are currently reviewing Blind River, Arthur Henderson and Sir James Dunn (Wawa) for ARC process.

6. Action Items: none

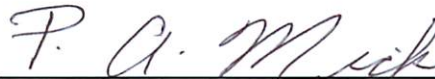
Next SEAC meeting date: Monday, January 30, 2016

Motion to adjourn

- B. McEachren , 2nd Lori Lambert, all in favour
- Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm



Brent Vallee
Superintendent of Education



Pat Mick
Chair