

**ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE S.E.A.C**



MINUTES OF MEETING
October 30, 2018
D.T. Walkom Room
12:00 Noon

Present

Members: Pat Mick, Heather Marshall, Amanda Gauthier, Sherry Kitts (Alternate), Sarah Mansfield, Dan Morgan, M Yourchuk

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

Trustees: R. Reid, B. McEachren

Regrets: L. Lambert, Linda Graham

- 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 September agenda and June minutes**
 - Agenda approval - Moved by B. McEachren. Seconded by H. Marshall. All in favour.
 - Minute approval - Moved by R. Reid. Seconded by A. Gauthier. All in favour.
- 4. Correspondence- nothing to report**
- 5. Presentation: Review of the SEAC Nomination Process (Brent Vallee)**
 - SEAC Representatives serve for a term of four years, identical to that of the Board of Trustees. Next term for SEAC will be 2018 -2022.
 - With the municipal election occurring on October 22nd, it is now time for organizations to either nominate their members for renewal, or to nominate new members.
 - Members of SEAC represent local organizations affiliated to a provincial organization dedicated to special needs.
 - Regulations provide for a maximum of 12 organizations represented on SEAC. If nominations are received from more than 12 organizations, the Board of Trustees would have final approval on which organizations were to be represented. Organizations may also nominate an alternate member, who is welcome to attend all meetings (with the provision that only one vote per organization is recognized).
 - SEAC may also include one or more members at large, who hold appropriate qualifications, but do not represent an organization.
 - Qualifications for members representing organizations or members-at-large include the stipulation that the member must direct their tax support to the Public Board (and

therefore be eligible to vote for Public Board Trustees), and must be resident in the geographic area of the ADSB. Members may not be employees of the ADSB.

- There is also provision for SEAC to include a member to represent the interests of First Nations pupils. As ADSB has one First Nations Trustee, there would be one position on SEAC, as well an alternate member. North Shore Tribal Council (Mamewesan) is the nominating body for this member.
- SEAC members cease to be members if they are convicted of a criminal offense, miss three consecutive meetings without a resolution by the committee excusing their absence, or cease to have the qualifications (e.g. public school supporter, resident in district) to be a member.
- The Special Education Advisory Committee:
 - ❖ Makes recommendations to the school board with regard to special education.
 - ❖ Participates in the Board's annual review of its Special Education Plan.
 - ❖ Participates in the budget process as it relates to special education.

Discussion around the presentation included:

- Pat Mick: What do you need from organizations for nominations?
- B . Vallee: Nomination /Application forms must be completed and submitted by November 16, 2018 to go to the Board for approval at its November 27th meeting.
- December 4, 2018 is the inaugural meeting of the new Board of Trustees. First meeting of the new SEAC committee will be the January meeting as there is no December meeting currently scheduled.

6. Member Association Update

Pat Mick– Community Living Algoma:

- October 18th 2018 was the first meeting of the Education Committee.

Heather Marshall – North East Local Health Integration Network

- Vacancy for a Speech-Language Pathologist position

Amanda Gauthier- Thrive

- Nothing to report
- Early Education position

Marnie Yourchuk/Sherry Kitts- North Shore Tribal Council

- Mamie Yourchuk is hosting Attendance Matters workshops to look at why students are not attending and what can be done. 2 meetings have taken place. Another meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2018
- 6 Keys to Thriving. January 30th 2019. All are welcome.
- Funding via Jordan's Principle is available for behavior and speech assessments.

Dan Morgan – Canadian Mental Health Association:

- November 12, 2018 Free flu shot clinic taking place.

Sarah Mansfield LDAO-

- Tiffany Bagnall has taken over as the Resource Facilitator, but Sarah remains in the Chair position.
- Still trying to secure additional funding for the Resource Facilitator position as this runs out in March.
- October is Learning Disability Awareness Month. Mini flags placed at Sault College to represent number of students with an LD in the Algoma District.
- November 26th Brunch at Grand Garden- You're Not Alone campaign.

7. Report from the Board (Trustees)

- **Regular Board Meeting** – Positive start-up and positive enrolment increase. Eight additional classrooms opened. We are seeing many local teachers getting off the supply list and into contract positions
- **Committee Of the Whole Meeting** – received an update on Skills Canada Competitions. We are very excited with the positive feedback.

8. Reports from Administration (B. Vallee and K. Viita)

K. Viita, System Administrator:

- **Principal's Meeting** – The Special Education component of the October Principal's meeting focused on developing more effective *Individual Education Plans (IEPs)*. All principals brought redacted IEPs (representing students with three different exceptionalities) to work on. Principals worked from a checklist of IEP requirements to review their school's IEPs.
- **Geneva Symposium**- A team from the Special Education Department attended this three-day symposium in Toronto. This event occurs every second year. Speaker topics included personal experiences, depression and/or anxiety linked to ASD, Transitions between services, and school-based ideas and strategies.

B. Vallee Superintendent of Education:

- **Autism Pilot Projects:** Pleased to have funding once again this year for two provincial pilot projects. ADSB participated in projects to provide designated space in schools for therapists to work with students, as well as advanced training for Educational Assistants.
- **Empower Project.** Empower is an intensive reading intervention program developed by SickKids. A provincial pilot project including the use of Empower has been ongoing for several years. We have selected 5 schools for implementation including Ben R. McMullin, River View, Eastview, Isabel Fletcher, and Northern Heights. Staff received two days of training in late September. All students participating in the project have completed pre-testing prior to participating. Further testing will occur at the mid-point of the project, and post-testing will take place after completion. Parents must provide written permission for students to participate in the program. All schools have now selected their groups, and implementation has begun.
- **Specialized Program PD:** A half-day session took place at Boreal for teachers and educational assistants in our Intensive Communication Classes, Supported Learning Classes, and Integrated Behaviour Programs. Focus areas included IEP development, creating vision statements for long-term success, and an overview of the DARE program at White Pines.

- **Early Childhood Educator PD:** Members of our multi-disciplinary team, including Lianne Vezeau (Speech-Language Pathologist), Diana Lauszus (Applied Behaviour Analysis Support) and Chris Bartko (Board-Certified Behaviour Analyst) presented a workshop to our Early Childhood Educators on a team approach to encouraging the development of language skills.

9. Next SEAC Meeting Date: November 27, 2018

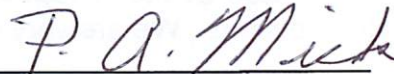
10. Motion to adjourn at 1:10 pm

- Moved by R. Reid. Seconded by D. Morgan. All in favour.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10.



Brent Vallee
Superintendent of Education



Pat Mick
Chair