

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 26, 2019

Board Room

12:00 Noon

Present

Members: P. Mick (Member-At-Large), H. Marshall (Local Health Integration Network), A. Gauthier (Thrive), T. Bagnall (Learning Disabilities Association SSM), C. Nadeau (Child & Community Resources) L. Lambert (Infant Child Development Program), S. Kitts (North Shore Tribal Council), D. Morgan (Canadian Mental Health Association),

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

Trustees: R. Reid, C. Evans-Price, S. Myers (Alternate)

Regrets: M. Barbeau (Community Living Algoma)

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 February agenda and January minutes**
 - Agenda approval - Moved by R. Reid. Seconded by L. Lambert. All in favour.

B. Vallee- Election for new Chair for SEAC. Requested nominations.

- R. Reid nominated Pat Mick for chair and D. Morgan- Vice chair
- B. Vallee asked for any other nominations
- Group approved: Pat Mick - Chair and D. Morgan - Vice Chair for the next term
- **Minute approval - Moved by C. Evans- Price. Seconded by T. Bagnall. All in favour.**

4. **Correspondence:**

Letter from Durham DSB SEAC members with regards to Special Incidence Portion (SIP) funding. The letter focused on the changes in the maximum amount of SIP funding. During the spring, it was announced that SIP funding was to be increased to a maximum claim of \$38,000. In September, however, the Ministry announced that the maximum would shift to \$27,405 instead. This is a much smaller increase than was anticipated, which is problematic as boards budgeted in anticipation of a \$38,000 maximum. This left a significant gap between anticipated funding and actual funds received. A slight increase in per-pupil funding (as shared in the fall) did occur as a partial offset but this left many boards with hundreds of thousands of dollars in shortfalls. Algoma District School Board has submitted approximately 1.4 million in claims this year.

Letter from Peel DSB SEAC. Same topic as above. Conversation with SEAC Members about preparing a letter of support. Members agreed that it would be a good idea to prepare a supporting letter to address Northern Ontario concerns and how the funding change affects northern boards.

5) Presentation: Sara Anich-Mansfield (ADSB Learning Disabilities Facilitator) - Introduction to the Learning Disabilities Waterfall Chart Resource

Designed by the York Region District School Board, the *Understanding Learning Disabilities: How Processing Affects Learning* resource (commonly referred to as the Learning Disabilities (LD) Waterfall chart) is a starting point to:

- understand, plan, and implement programming in response to a student's areas of strength and need
- help support the process of aligning a student's assessment with IEP development and program implementation
- create more personalized IEPs that accurately reflect the specific accommodations required to address individual student needs
- Develop a learning plan to help students recognize their own learning profile, self-advocate, and play an active role in their own learning.

Students do not have to have an identification for the resource to be utilized. A copy of the chart and related professional development resources can be found on the LD@School website: The chart is also available on the LD@School website:

https://www.ldatschool.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2014/06/UnderstandingLearningDisabilities_Waterfall_Mar2014_Web-1.pdf

5. Member Association Update

Pat Mick - Member at large:

- Nothing to report

Lori Lambert– Infant & Child Development Program:

- Waiting to hear from the Ministry about new guidelines and expectations. Students will no longer receive services upon reaching school age. ICDP believes that students are really going to be impacted by this. Should have SEAC members prepare a letter to the Ministry, notifying about what an impact the new guidelines are going to have on students.

Heather Marshal– North East Local Health Integration Network

- Nothing to report

Amanda Gauthier- Thrive nothing

- Nothing to report

Carolyn Nadeau- Child & Community Resources

- Changes to autism services were announced on Feb 6 2019. Still some uncertainty about details regarding these changes and the effect on families as well as schools. Ministry is looking at changing the funding to a "Childhood Budget" available for students who access behavior therapy. They are looking at moving towards having families using funding to access private providers rather than the current model. Current contracts remain in place (3-6 months) until completion. By April 1, 2019 families will have to complete applications for services and equipment. Amount of funding available based on household income. Currently CCR Director is talking to families. Waiting to see what direction things will go.

Tiffany Bagnall – Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario

- Unfortunately, Angie DeMarco had to cancel previous session. Still successful - great turn out.
- Still looking to secure money from the Ministry.

Dan Morgan- Canadian Mental Health Association

- Shadows of the Mind Film Festival - spotlight on mental health and addictions.

Sherry Kitts - North Shore Tribal Council

- Nothing to report

6. Report from the Board (Trustees)

- Lots of working on reviewing and refreshing policies
- School year calendar 2019- 2020. One of the new items has been to place a PD day on Tuesday after Labour Day. School year ends on June 26, 2020. Christmas break starts Dec 23, 2019. Calendar is available on the Board website.
- 2017-2018 Graduation Rates. ADSB is doing very well. Unfortunately, the Ministry only recognizes students who graduate in 5 years. (Some ADSB students take 6 years). Also concern that the Certificate is not recognized as graduation.
- February Committee of the Whole cancelled due to inclement weather. Next Board meeting takes place tonight.

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

- **Waterfall Chart Resource:** PD on the Waterfall Chart was provided to Administrators and Special Education Resource Teachers. They will be rolling out the resource to school staff over the coming weeks as staff meetings occur.
- **Mental Health Assist** meeting in Toronto early February. Darryl Fillmore and Brent Vallee attended. Some of the focus areas are:
 - Increasing Tier one services focused on promotion and prevention. Some Tier One supports in ADSB include *Everyday Mental Health in the Classroom (EMHC)* and the *Mind-Up* curriculum. *EMHC* is an on-line resource that teachers are able to access. The *Mind-up* resource for JK to Grade 8 provides different lessons/strategies to promote positive mental health in classroom.
 - Pathways to Care for students that require Tier 2 and 3 supports. ADSB has a great protocol in place with Sault Area Hospitals. When students attend at Crisis or have an admission to the Child & Adolescent Psychiatry unit, a process is in place to ensure an effective transition back to school. A Home Instruction teacher also works on the unit every afternoon to ensure continuity in academics.
- **February 1st PD Day:** The special education department provided training for Educational Assistants and Occasional Teachers on the February 1st PD Day. Topics for Educational Assistants include *Cultural Competency Training*, re-Certification in *Behavior Management Systems (BMS)* training, and an *Autism Awareness* course that supplements the BMS training. Following the PD day, the majority of our EAs have now completed all three training opportunities. Occasional teachers participated in sessions on *Trauma-Informed Classrooms* (conducted by Board Mental Health Leader Darryl Fillmore) and an *Introduction to the Learning Disabilities Waterfall Chart* resource.
- **Special Education Survey-** Survey is now live. We look forward to collecting some valuable feedback.
- **Pink Shirt Day** in support of anti-bullying initiatives is scheduled for February 27, 2019 Anti Bullying Campaign
- **Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) Meetings:** SERTS are broken into small groups for professional learning and updates from the special education department. Topics

over the past month have focused on the Learning for All document, assistive technology, and program development. Our secondary group have rotated among different sites to increase familiarity with programs offered in each setting.

8. Next SEAC meeting date: April 2, 2019

9. Motion to adjourn at 1:30 pm

- Moved by D. Morgan. Seconded by T. Bagnall. All in favour.



Brent Vallee
Superintendent of Education



Pat Mick
SEAC Chair