



REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA
May 4, 2021
EDUCATION CENTRE 7:00 P.M.

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- I. Roll call
- II. Land Acknowledgement: Read by Trustee Sheryl Evans (Next Meeting: _____)
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Conflict of Interest

V. Education Topic and/or Delegation

	Superintendent
1. Leadership Learning: Sharing of Professional Learning	M.B./Supts.

VI. System Information

	Superintendent
1. Update on Distribution of Devices for Third Transition to Remote Learning	J.S.M.

VII. Minutes from Previous Meetings

Minutes to be Approved by the Board:

- 1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 2021 03 30

Minutes to be Received by the Board:

- 1. Special Education Advisory Committee (S.E.A.C.) Meeting Minutes of 2021 02 23
- 2. Special Education Advisory Committee (S.E.A.C.) Meeting Minutes of 2021 03 30

VIII. Student Trustees' Report

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IX. Reports from Committee Chairs, O.P.S.B.A.

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA
May 4, 2021
EDUCATION CENTRE 7:00 P.M.

B. ACTION ITEMS

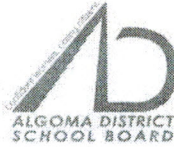
	Superintendent
1.	

C. INFORMATION ITEMS

1.	
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FUTURE MEETINGS AND LOCATIONS

2021 05 18 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Committee of the Whole Meeting – H.E. Crowder Board Room Closed Open
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ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR BOARD MEETING – CLOSED SESSION

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, March 30, 2021

Time of Meeting: ~~5:30~~ 4:45 p.m.

Location: EDUCATION CENTRE & MICROSOFT TEAMS

ATTENDANCE

Name	Abs/Pres	Late Arrival	Early Departure	Comments
Trustees				
Greg Bowman	Pres.			
Sandra Edwards	Pres.			
Sheryl Evans	Pres.			
Elaine Johnston	Pres.			
Marie Murphy-Foran	Pres.			
Susan Myers	Pres.			
Sheila Nyman	Pres.			
Brent Rankin	Pres.			
Russell Reid	Pres.		6:20-6:31 pm	Conflict
Jennifer Sarlo	Pres.			
Susan Thayer	Pres.			
Admin. Council				
L. Reece	Pres.			
J. Santa Maria	Pres.			
B. Vallee	Pres.			
J. Maurice	Pres.			
M. Bell	Pres.			
F. Palumbo	Pres.	at 5:51 pm.		Conflict
Others				
L. Aceti	Pres.	at 6:19 pm		In Camera.

Brent Rankin
 Chair or Trustee Designate



ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CLOSED SESSION

2021 03 30

4:45 p.m.

IN-PERSON & MICROSOFT TEAMS

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Sarlo.

A. (I) Attendance as per attached schedule.

(Resolution #029-2021)

On motion of Trustees Marie Murphy Foran and Susan Myers it was approved:

That the Board move into Closed Session at 4:48 p.m.

D. **Action Items**

Action Item D.1, & D.2, were discussed and approved in Closed Session and moved into Open Session and approved in Open Session as items B.5, Resolution #043-2021, B.6 Resolution #044-2021.


Trustee Russell Reid declared a Conflict of Interest on Item D.2 – *Ratification of Collective Agreement with the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario* and left the meeting.

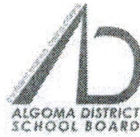
(Resolution #030-2021)

On motion of Sheryl Evans and Sandra Edwards it was approved:

That the Closed Session of the meeting of the Board adjourn at 6:58 p.m.


Chair


Secretary



ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR BOARD MEETING – OPEN SESSION

Date of Meeting: **Tuesday, March 30, 2021**

Time of Meeting: **7:00 p.m.**

Location: **EDUCATION CENTRE & MICROSOFT TEAMS**

ATTENDANCE

Name	Abs/Pres	Late Arrival	Early Departure	Comments
Trustees				
Greg Bowman	Pres.			
Sandra Edwards	Pres.			
Sheryl Evans	Pres.			
Elaine Johnston	Pres.			
Marie Murphy-Foran	Pres.	at 7:10 pm.		
Susan Myers	Pres.			
Sheila Nyman	Pres.			
Brent Rankin	Pres.			
Russell Reid	Pres.			
Jennifer Sarlo	Pres.			
Susan Thayer	Pres.			
Student Trustees				
Emily Hewgill	Pres.			
Amara Ruffo	Pres.			
Evan Tyler	Pres.			
Admin. Council				
L. Reece	Pres.			
J. Santa Maria	Pres.			
B. Vallee	Pres.			
J. Maurice	Pres.			
M. Bell	Pres.			
F. Palumbo	Pres.			
Others				
F. Walsh	Pres.			
L. Aceti	Pres.			
B. Kelly - Pres	Pres.			
Steve Fratesi	Pres.		7:21 pm.	

Marty Stillin Pres.
Lui De Dominicis Pres.

Brent Rankin
Chair or Trustee Designate



**ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES
OPEN SESSION**

2021 03 30

7:00 p.m.

IN-PERSON & MICROSOFT TEAMS

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Sarlo.

A. (I) Attendance as per attached schedule.

(Resolution #031-2021)

On motion of Trustees Marie Murphy Foran and Sheila Nyman it was approved:

That the Board move into Open Session at 7:08 p.m.

A. (III) **Approval of Agenda**

(Resolution #032-2021)

On motion of Trustees Elaine Johnston and Russel Reid it was approved:

That the Agenda dated 2021 03 30 be approved as distributed.

A. (V) **Education Topic and/or Delegation**

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Director's Update on Operations during COVID-19 outbreak | L.R. |
| 2. Update on Devices for Students to Support Learning | J.S.M |
-

A. (VI) **System Information**

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Update on Student Well-Being Survey | J.M. |
| 2. Distribution of Polices: | Supt. |
| 5.01 Pupil Accommodation Review | |
| 6.36 Equity and Inclusive Education, | |
| 6.45 Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Policy | |
| 3. Discussion of Policies: | L.R. |
| 4.01 Recruitment, Hiring and Promotion Policy | |
| 4.02 Conflict of Interest: Hiring and Assignment of Staff | |
-

A. (VII) Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

(Resolution #033-2021)

On motion of Trustees Sheryl Evans and Sheila Nyman it was approved:

Minutes to be Approved by the Board.

1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 2021 02 23

(VII) Minutes to be Received by the Board.

1. Special Education Advisory Committee (S.E.A.C.) Meeting Minutes of 2021 01 19.
-

A. Reports from Committee Chairs, OPSBA Items

(VIII) Student Trustees' Reports

(IX) Reports from Committee Chairs, O.P.S.B.A.

B. ACTION ITEMS

(Resolution #034-2021)

On motion of Trustees Greg Bowman and Brent Rankin it was approved:

B.1 APPROVAL OF POLICIES

1.4.0 Proposed Resolution

1.4.1 That the Board approve, as part of the regular review process, the following policies:

1.4.1 a 4.01 Hiring Policy

as outlined in the Director's Report of 2021 03 30.

(Resolution #035-2021)

On motion of Trustees Russell Reid and Brent Rankin it was approved:

B.1 APPROVAL OF POLICIES

1.4.0 Proposed Resolution

1.4.1 That the Board approve, as part of the regular review process, the following policies:

1.4.1 b 4.02 Conflict of Interest and Assignment of Staff

as outlined in the Director's Report of 2021 03 30.

(Resolution #036-2021)

On motion of Trustees Elaine Johnston and Russell Reid it was approved:

B.1 APPROVAL OF POLICIES

1.4.0 Proposed Resolution

1.4.1 That the Board approve, as part of the regular review process, the following policies:

1.4.1 c 6.49 Board Code of Conduct

as outlined in the Director's Report of 2021 03 30.

(Resolution #037-2021)

On motion of Trustees Greg Bowman and Sheryl Evans it was approved:

B.1 APPROVAL OF POLICIES

1.4.0 Proposed Resolution

1.4.1 That the Board approve, as part of the regular review process, the following policies:

1.4.1 d 6.49.01 Safe Schools Policy

as outlined in the Director's Report of 2021 03 30.

(Resolution #038-2021)

On motion of Trustees Sandra Edwards and Susan Thayer it was approved:

B.1 APPROVAL OF POLICIES

1.4.0 Proposed Resolution

1.4.1 That the Board approve, as part of the regular review process, the following policies:

1.4.1 e 6.49.02 Progressive Discipline Policy Including Suspension and Expulsion.

as outlined in the Director’s Report of 2021 03 30.

(Resolution #039-2021)

On motion of Trustees Elaine Johnston and Sheryl Evans it was approved:

B.1 APPROVAL OF POLICIES

1.4.0 Proposed Resolution

1.4.1 That the Board approve, as part of the regular review process, the following policies:

1.4.1 f 6.49.03 Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy

as outlined in the Director’s Report of 2021 03 30.

(Resolution #040-2021)

On motion of Trustees Susan Thayer and Susan Myers it was approved:

B.2 APPROVAL OF REVISED 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

2.4.0 Proposed Resolution

2.4.1 That the Board approve the Revised School Year Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year, as contained in the Director’s Report of 2021 03 30.

(Resolution #041-2021)

On motion of Trustees Sandra Edwards and Sheila Nyman it was approved:

B.3 APPROVAL OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY 2021-2022 ORGANIZATION

3.6.0 Proposed Resolution

3.6.1 That the proposed JK-12 organization for September 2021 be approved as contained in the Director's Report to the Board of 2021 03 30 subject to funding, the budgetary process and any significant changes in school enrolments requiring organizational changes.

(Resolution #042-2021)

On motion of Trustees Russell Reid and Sheryl Evans it was approved:

B.4 APPROVAL OF NEW SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEMBER

4.4.0 Proposed Resolution

4.4.1 That the Board approve the appointment of Hilary Cutler to represent the interest of *Algoma Public Health – Infant & Child Development Program* on the Algoma District School Board SEAC as described in the Director's Report to the Board of 2021 03 30.

C. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Quarterly Report

J.S.M.

Future Meetings and Locations


2021 04 20 5:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Professional Development Workshop

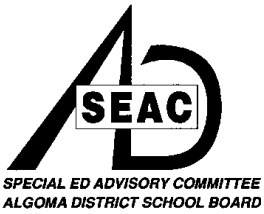
(Resolution #045-2021)

On motion of Trustees Sheryl Evans and Elaine Johnston it was approved:

“That the Board adjourn at 8:45 p.m.”

Chair 

Secretary 



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

MINUTES OF MEETING
February 23, 2021
Via MS Teams
12:30 Start Time

Present: P. Mick (Member-At-Large), H. Dionisi (Algoma Public Health - Infant Child Development Program), Amanda Gauthier (Thrive), S. Kitts (North Shore Tribal Council), M. Barbeau (Community Living Algoma)

Trustees: R. Reid, S. Evans

Staff: B. Vallee (Superintendent), C. Phillips (Recording Secretary), K. Viita (System Administrator)

Regrets: Marnie Yourchuck (North Shore Tribal Council - Alternate)

Guest:

1. **Chair Pat Mick called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. With the approval of Chair Mick, Superintendent Vallee to facilitate the remainder of the Teams meeting.**
2. **Round Table - Introduction of members, staff, and guests.**
3. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes (February Agenda- January Minutes).**
 - Agenda approval. Moved by S. Kitts. Seconded by S. Evans. All in favour.
 - Minutes approval. Moved by A. Gauthier. Seconded by M. Barbeau. All in favour.
4. **Correspondence-** nothing to report
5. **Discussion: Feedback on Multi- Year Accessibility Plan and discussion on PAAC on SEAC (Results for Survey) distributed electronically**

Accessibility Plan Discussion:

- *Process of establishing the Committee:* The Accessibility Committee was formed in 2003. Committee members are chosen to ensure representation from across the Board. In some cases, staff in specific roles are part of the committee as the nature of their role is directly connected with accessibility work (e.g. Teacher of the Blind, Teacher of the Deaf, Health and Safety, Human Resources, Plant Dept). There is also a community representative, which will be Lisa Henderson, CEO at Thrive.

- *Role of SEAC in reviewing the document:* The Accessibility Committee always looks for broader perspectives to review the document with fresh eyes. SEAC is an advisory committee for matters pertaining to special education, and the accessibility plan affects our special education students, which means there is a clear connection to SEAC's work. Review by representatives of multiple organizations helps ensure that nothing is missed. Part of our review process also focuses on reviewing plans from multiple school boards across the province to provide us with a provincial perspective. R. Reid mentioned that this is a document mandated by the province, and Algoma District School Board wants to ensure that we follow ADOA guidelines - agrees that having more external eyes reviewing the draft will benefit our plan and that having the SEAC viewpoint is very important.
- Focus of our accessibility work. Prior to COVID-19, much of our focus looked at physical barriers (e.g. universal design concepts to ensure that are schools are accessible for all students, staff, and parents). Algoma District School Board has been spending a lot of money on capital upgrades to our school, and part of this process is to make them more accessible while renovations are happening (e.g. Ed Centre has a new ramp was installed as part of the upgrades being worked on). While this work continues, changes in operations due to COVID-19 has helped broaden some perspectives about accessibility – for example, a big focus over the past year has been on equity of access to technology and wi-fi connectivity.
- B. Vallee reported that, once it has been reviewed, a copy of the multi-year plan is for the document to be presented to the Board of Trustees, after a final review by the Accessibility Committee to update any further changes that may come forward. Should anything else comes up from SEAC members' review of the document, please reach out via email so that we are able to incorporate your suggestions.

PAAC on SEAC Survey Results:

- A letter and the package of survey results were distributed via email to all SEAC members
- P. Mick commented that, while reading, it seemed to be very critical regarding SEAC practices, while noting that this is a province-wide survey, and not necessarily related to the perspective of the ADSB SEAC.
- R. Reid and S. Evans spoke about the positive relationships in place with SEAC, Trustees and Algoma District School Board as compared to some of the information that they receive from colleagues around the province. Many school boards do not have the same working relationships and the survey seems to be more reflective of relationships and practices in larger Boards.
- B. Vallee also confirmed that this is reflective of comments he hears from colleagues around the province. For example, it is worth noting that our Trustees are *always* in attendance at SEAC meetings (and the alternate trustee or chair of the Board attends if a conflict arises for the trustees that are regular members) – which the survey data indicates to be a concern in the province. B. Vallee also commented that our SEAC members appear to be comfortable asking questions or bringing forth discussions about special education practices in the ADSB and/or information from their organizations. This is helpful to us as a school board - there is always room for improvement, and we value this

feedback as we are always trying to improve our practices.

- There are some good potential take-aways for our SEAC. P. Mick wondered about incorporating a review of SEAC handbooks, etc. as a good refresher for all members – this is a great idea moving forward! B. Vallee also commented that this would be a good opportunity to reach out to some other organizations in our community as there are a few key stakeholder organizations that do not currently have a representative on our community.

6. Member Organization Updates

P. Mick– Member at large:

- Nothing to report.

H. Dionisi -APH Infant Child Development Program

- H. Dionisi's last day will be on February 26th, 2021. APH will seek to nominate a new alternate member. We wish her well in retirement!
- Still providing virtual support to families - a few families been provided with in-centre services, but this is not widespread at this time.

A. Gauthier (Thrive)

- Have begun to provide on-site services
- Excited to be offering training for parents and respite workers
- Created RESPITE 101 for Parents and Caregivers to support our families. Thrive is offering this virtual education during the day and in the evening to fit family schedules. The link below provides more specific information about the training as well as dates/times and how to sign up.
- <https://offers.kidsthive.ca/parents-caregivers>
- The link for more information on Respite Provider training:
- <https://offers.kidsthive.ca/respite-providers>

M. Barbeau -Community Living Algoma

- No meeting last month
- Next online session with Dr. Al Condeluci is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. The topic is "*Understanding the Social Infrastructure*"
- Currently most things are being done online.

S. Kitts North Shore Tribal Council

- Busy preparing packages for funding applications under Jordan's Principle.
- Staff time is being split - some time working from home and some time working in the office.

7. Report from the Board (Trustees)

- Board meeting on Jan 19 included an update on initiatives related to Mental Health, presentation of the Director's Annual Report
- February Community of the Whole meeting included policy review (Accessibility Standards, School Councils).
- Announced a change in the 2020-2021 school year calendar as the March Break has been shifted to April upon Ministry of Education direction. ADSB and our co-terminus

boards have made a corresponding change to the previously scheduled April 30th PD day. The PD Day will now take place on March 19, 2021 in order to balance our calendar a bit better.

- Trustees have also received updates on plans for Blind River K-12. M. Barbeau asked for clarification on what is happening at Blind River. S. Evans spoke about the Accommodation Review process completed several years ago, and on-going work with the Ministry taking place for the past few years - with a focus on building a new school that will accommodate K- 12 students (Blind River and W.C. Eaket) in one building. We area also undertaking the project in partnership with the French Public Board. We are hoping to move ahead with the start of building in the near future.
- Trustees also received an update on the process for moving Grade 7/8 students in Elliot Lake from Central Avenue and Esten Park to Elliot Lake Secondary School. A full wing has been designated for the new program. It is exciting to see the updates in the school as they are renovating to accommodate the new program.
- Both R. Reid and S. Evans are also doing some work at the provincial level, which includes advocating for the north, reaching out to MPPs and the Ministry or Education with a focus on additional supports for special education resources, human resources, mental health and well-being supports, and indigenous learning.
- Trustees have formalized committee assignments for the upcoming year. R. Reid and S. Evans continue to be SEAC representatives, with S. Meyers designated as the alternate.

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

- ***Transition Meetings:*** The past few weeks have been busy working with parents and agencies to complete our initial Kindergarten transition meetings. So far, we have successfully completed 60 Transition Meetings. Of these, only 34 children have currently been registered so far, so we continue to work with parents and agencies to get the remainder registered. This helps schools plan and prepare for September. Currently 26 of the students have a formal diagnosis, while 16 are waiting for assessment. A large number have an ASD diagnosis, while others present with behavioural difficulties, physical needs, blindness, deafness/ hard of hearing, and/or multi-needs. 34 are working with a Speech-Language Pathologist, 27 with an Occupational Therapist and 8 with a Physical Therapist. Due to COVID-19, it appears that a smaller number than usual are participating in a day care setting this year. Profiles have been created and sent out to principals to prepare for the school-based meetings that will take place virtually in the spring (late April/ early May).
- ***Secondary Schools shift to Hybrid Learning Model:*** As of the beginning of the second semester on February 8th, all of our secondary schools have shifted to the hybrid model (elementary programs shifted to this model November 16th).
- ***Updated Public Health Guidelines:*** All staff and students are now required to confirm that they have completed self-screening each day. We have also received new guidelines regarding students or staff that are symptomatic – any one COVID-19 symptom requires a student (or staff) to remain at home, and in addition, family members must also self-isolate.
- ***Ongoing SERT Professional Development:*** We continue to meet with our SERT group on a weekly basis to discuss matters of interest and provide professional development in a timely manner. Over the past month, professional development topics have included issues related to IEP development, including expectations for developing

modified expectations, alternative expectations, and evaluation and reporting for students with special education programs.

- **Formal Assessments:** With some of the changes in public health guidelines, our psychometrists are once again picking up the formal assessment schedule with a number of psychological-educational and speech-language assessments taking place over the next few months. S. Evans asked about our wait list – do we have struggles with qualified Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) and psychometrists to complete the testing? B. Vallee- responded that there are a limited number of psychometrists available locally, and several organizations contract these individuals to do testing. ADSB also has a long-standing contract with a firm based in southern Ontario. ADSB currently employs 2 SLPs, as well as contracting a third to conduct additional assessments if there is a backlog. Our Language assessment wait-list will be cleared by the end of March and we will have another intake period for referrals. Psychological-educational assessments are back in full swing with all 3 of our testers scheduled over the upcoming months. We also plan to do summer assessments as well.
- **February 5th PD Day (Educational Assistants):** The Special Education Department provided professional learning for all of our Educational Assistants on the PD Day. EAs rotated through five workshops, presented virtually, on the following topics: *Using Read & Write Toolbars*, *Developing Oral Language Incidentally*, *Collecting Data for Functional Behaviour Assessment*, *Implementing Student Support Plans*, and *Using Edsby/Teams*.
- **Updates to Student Support Plan Template:** We are in the final stages of completing a revision to our *Student Support Plan* template, which we should be able to share at our next meeting. We have been looking at some changes to update the document and make it more user-friendly.

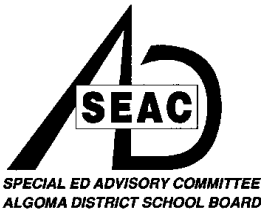
9. Next meeting: March 30th, 2021

Discussion items for next meeting:

- No suggestions

10. **Motion to adjourn:** Moved by. S. Evans. Seconded by A. Gauthier.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



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

MINUTES OF MEETING
March 30, 2021
Via MS Teams
12:00 Start Time

Present: P. Mick (Member-At-Large), L. Lambert (Algoma Public Health - Infant Child Development Program), S. Kitts (North Shore Tribal Council), M. Barbeau (Community Living Algoma)

Trustees: R. Reid, S. Evans

Staff: B. Vallee (Superintendent), C. Phillips (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Marnie Yourchuck (North Shore Tribal Council - Alternate), A. Gauthier (Thrive), K. Viita (System Administrator)

Guests: None

1. Chair Pat Mick called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. With the approval of Chair Mick, Superintendent Vallee to facilitate the remainder of the Teams meeting.

2. Round Table - Introduction of members, staff, and guests.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes (February)

- Agenda approval. Moved by S. Evans. Seconded by S. Kitts. All in favour.
- Minutes approval. Moved by S. Kitts. Seconded by S. Evans. All in favour.

4. Correspondence: Durham DSB SEAC re: Online Learning Supports/UDL
Superior-Greenstone DSB SEAC re: supporting above
Durham DSB SEAC re: Metrolinx and Transportation

- **Durham DSB SEAC:** letter requesting that the Ministry strengthen its commitment to Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in provincial online learning resources/platforms to ensure these are available and accessible to all students. At present, they feel that courses are not maintained (e.g. contain links that are broken) and the resources fail to meet accessibility standards.
- **Superior Greenstone DSB SEAC:** letter expressing support for the concerns (above) brought forward by DDSB SEAC. Our SEAC would like to prepare a letter of support as well.

- **Durham DSB SEAC** letter regarding issues related to door-to-door bus services in Whitby due to infrastructure changes made by Metrolinx.

5. **Presentation: ADSB Spec Ed Parent Survey Results**

- This year the link for the survey was provided to parents by Edsby which is the main source of communication between schools and families. 47 parents who took part. This is similar to other years. It was a nice mix of parents of different schools that did complete the survey- and students with different identifications, although not all schools had parent complete the survey.
- B. Vallee presented survey results to SEAC members. In addition to demographic information, survey questions focused on which staff support students, communication with the school, use of technology, outside agency supports, as well as a section for open commentary. S. Kitts wondered about adding Jordan's Principle to the list of external supports. We will look into this for next year.
- Although the survey represents a small sample size, some of our take-aways include the need to enhance consistent communication and feedback between home and school and additional resourcing to ensure parents understand the programs and services in place (e.g. what are the roles of different staff members). S. Barbeau stated that a lot of parents may be afraid or unaware of how to connect with schools. This is a concern that we must continue to work on.

6. **Member Organization Updates**

P. Mick– Member at large:

- Nothing to report.

L. Lambert -APH Infant Child Development Program

- Busy with year-end approaching
- Lots of work with self-regulation, transitions approaching
- Training on a new screening tool for children with autism.
- Excited to be doing another "Triple P" anxiety group offered virtually to parents one-to-one or in a group setting.
- Waiting to see about provincial budget

M. Barbeau -Community Living Algoma

- Brief meeting early this month.
- CLA is looking at their support models with discussion focused on devoting more time to support students at home & in the community (e.g. evenings and weekends) rather than during school time when school-based supports are provided.

S. Kitts North Shore Tribal Council

- All staff back at the office, but all meetings are currently virtual.
- S. Kitts asked for clarification on whether agencies can access schools. B, Vallee responded that various agencies have been able to access space in schools to provide services to students, dependent on space being available and protective strategies being followed. However, there is no access to classrooms at this point.

7. Report from the Board (Trustees)

- March 9th Committee of the Whole Meeting: Presentation on the use of Edsby and our on-line models. The presentation also focused on the implementation of the hybrid model and supports in place for this. We have been able to pivot quickly when necessary.
- Policy review and development is on-going with a number of policies being reviewed as part of the regular review cycle.
- Exciting to hear updates from Elliot Lake as renovations are occurring to accommodate the new Grade 7/8 program.
- Both R. Reid and S. Evans are also doing some work at the provincial level. This includes advocating for the north by reaching out to MPPs and the Ministry of Education with a focus on additional supports/resources for special education, mental health and well-being supports, and Indigenous learning.
- Trustees have formalized committee assignments for the upcoming year. R. Reid and S. Evans continue to be SEAC representatives, with S. Meyers designated as the alternate.

7. Report from Administration (B. Vallee)

- **Ongoing SERT Professional Development:** We continue to meet with our SERT group on a weekly basis to discuss matters of interest and provide professional development in a timely manner. Over the past month, we have taken a close look at alternative programming goals, particularly those established in relation to PPM 140 (focusing on incorporating ABA strategies into programs for students with ASD). We have been working towards providing further clarity regarding skills that are considered 'curricular' or learning skills, and those that require alternative programming goals to be established. Further examination of programming areas such as communication, social skills and self-management has also been part of our agenda.
- **Formal Assessments:** Referrals received during our December intake period have all been conducted (or scheduled over the next few weeks). We are currently conducting another intake for assessments to be scheduled between May and September (depending on the number of referrals received). We have also 'cleared' the last intake period of referrals for Speech-Language assessment and are forging ahead with a new intake period for those as well.
- **March 19th PD Day (Spec. Ed. Topics):** As part of the system-wide workshop choices on the March 19th PD Day, the Special Education Department provided professional learning on four topics including *Use of the Read & Write Toolbars*, *Developing Oral Language Incidentally*, *Implementing Student Support Plans*, and *IEP 101*.
- **Updates to Student Support Plan Template:** We have completed a revision to our Student Support Plan template and provided professional development to our administrative group (who are ultimately responsible for the process of developing student support plans). Initial feedback has been that the new document is more user-friendly and easier to understand. This is a 'soft' transition as schools are able to use the new template if/when updating SSPs during the remainder of this term, with full implementation in place beginning next September.

- **Parent Involvement Committee (PIC):** The PIC is looking for a SEAC member to sit on the Parent Involvement Committee. The role of the PIC is to encourage parent involvement board-wide, so it would be much appreciated if a SEAC member was able to bring information from SEAC to the PIC, and vice-versa. Any volunteers – please let us know at the next meeting.

9. Next meeting: April 20, 2021

Possible items for upcoming meetings:

- Update on Autism After-School Skill Building Programs

10. Motion to adjourn: Moved by S. Kitts. Seconded by R. Reid.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.