

**SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Special Education Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, January 16, 2007 @ 6:30 p.m.

Videoconference Sites:

Board Office, Marathon
Geraldton Composite High School, Geraldton
Lake Superior High School, Terrace Bay
Manitouwadge High School, Manitouwadge
Nipigon-Red Rock District High School, Red Rock

MINUTES

<u>Voting Members</u>	<i>Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>										
	OS	TC	VC	A	R		OS	TC	VC	A	R
Audia, Jessica		X				Keenan, Darlene					X
Aylward, Les				X		Mannisto, Mark				X	
Brown, Cindy			X			Reynolds, Janet				X	
English, Jennifer			X			Souckey, Leslie					X

<u>Resource Members</u>	<i>Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>					
	OS	TC	VC	A	R	
Patterson, Heidi: <i>System Special Education Resource</i>			X			
Pella, Patti: <i>Director of Education</i>						X
Kappel, Colleen: <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			X			
Robart, John: <i>Assistant to the Superintendent of Education/Student Success Leader</i>						X

Quorum was not available for the meeting, therefore the meeting proceeded as an information session only.

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Heidi indicated that Jennifer would be willing to be our chair. We will have to wait till the next meeting to pass a motion for this position. In the interim she did chair the meeting for us.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

As quorum was not available, the minutes will be put forward for approval at the next meeting.

3.0 Additions to the Agenda

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Feedback – Ideas for Guest Speakers at SEAC Meetings

We talked about some different options for guest speakers. If any of the members have any ideas about guest speakers for the meetings, please let Heidi know. We are going to look at an information session on Assistive Technology that is being used by our teachers and students in the board.

5.0 Correspondence

- 5.1 Ministry Memorandum: Instructions for Submissions of Special Education Plans
Heidi highlighted two aspects from this memorandum. First, the Ministry is looking at revising the format for the Special Education Board Plan. For this year boards will only be asked to submit amendments.
- 5.2 Ontario Association of Education Advocates
Heidi discussed this letter and brought to the attention the website if any members are interested in further information. Jennifer asked if any members had completed any courses. Heidi indicated none that she was aware of.
- 5.3 Ottawa-Carlton District School Board
This letter was shared with the committee. It confirms that this is a Provincial issue and that all boards are looking for support in the area of Special Education. Heidi indicated that a letter had been sent on behalf of our SEAC and that Mark had attended a meeting and was going to bring back information that could be shared with SEAC. We will make sure that he is on the next meeting's agenda.

6.0 New Business

- 6.1 IPRC Dispensation
As a result of the memorandum sent out, we are going to be looking at reducing the number of IPRCs that happen. One point brought forward was that if a parent signs the form to dispense with the IPRC for the year, can they change their minds through out the year. Heidi indicated that yes, this would be possible and that any time parents can request an IPRC for their child.

Regulation 181/98 – Section 21 Indicates that “At any time after the placement has been in effect for three months, a request for an IPRC review may be made by:

- A school Principal with written notice to the parent;
- A parent in a written request to the principal.

A request by a person for an IPRC review cannot be made more often than once in every three-month period.

- 6.2 Formal approval of SEAC appointments on December 4, 2006 as per Board Resolution No. 18/07:
Leslie Souckey (Voice of Hearing Impaired Children Representative)
Jessica Audia (Greenstone Association for Community Living Representative)
Jennifer English (Parent Member)
Janet Reynolds (Parent Member)
Joyce Michalchuk (Community Member)

Heidi noted that Joyce will not be joining the committee.

- 6.3 CODE Project
Heidi gave an update about the CODE project. We have 2.5 Critical Coaches working in our schools. We have 1.5 in the Elementary panel and 1.0 in the Secondary panel. They are working closely with the teachers in our Focus Schools. These are George O'Neil Public School, Manitouwadge Public School, BA Parker , Marjorie Mills, Nipigon-Red Rock High School , and Geraldton Composite High School.
- 6.3 OPA Student Assessment Project

Heidi reported that a proposal has been submitted on behalf of the board to help offset testing backlog and coaching to support teachers with assistive technology. Heidi will keep us informed as to whether we have been successful with our application. We have already received \$25,000 and are having 15 students tested by an outside agency.

7.0 Information Items

7.1 George O'Neil Renovations – discussions are on-going and the tenders have gone out for the work to be completed.

7.2 Professional Development – There will be a professional development day scheduled on the turn around day for Secondary Educational Assistants for Behaviour Management. Michelle Bak (an EA at Dorion Public) will be doing the training. This is a proactive training for staff to assist them when dealing with difficult students. It trains them to be able to assess a situation and know what to do to de-escalate the situation.

8.0 Agenda Items: Next Meeting Date/Time/Venue

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 27th, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

9.0 Adjournment

Adjournment at 7:25 p.m.