

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

Tuesday, March 27, 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

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 (<i>Alternate</i>) | | | | | X | Mannisto, Mark (<i>Alternate</i>) | | X | | | |
| Brown, Cindy | | | X | | | Nelson, Theresa | | X | | | |
| English, Jennifer, <i>Chair</i> | | | 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 | |
| Haman, Lise: <i>Director of Education</i> | | | | | | X |
| Patterson, Heidi: <i>System Special Education Resource</i> | | | X | | | |
| Kappel, Colleen: <i>Superintendent of Education</i> | | | X | | | |
| Robart, John: <i>Assistant to the Superintendent of Education/Student Success Leader</i> | | | | | | X |

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:47 p.m. due to technical difficulties with the video conferencing equipment.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Theresa Nelson Seconded by: Trustee Cindy Brown

✓ ***That, the SEAC Minutes of February 27, 2007 be approved as presented. Carried.***

3.0 Additions to the Agenda

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

Role of SEAC – Jennifer went around to each of the members to gather their thoughts with regards to SEAC. There was a general consensus that they were still feeling unsure of their role. Heidi did indicate that the role is outlined in the Board Plan which is located on the board website. She will also be sending out a pamphlet that Corinne has been working on that will outline the role of SEAC. We can discuss this further at the next meeting.

We talked about membership and the fact that we do put out an ad at the beginning of the school year. We also ask that the Principals put the information out in their newsletters inviting

membership. Patti, Heidi and Colleen have all contacted community members and also an Aboriginal representative, but it has been difficult. If any members know of anyone that is interested, please let Heidi know and she will contact those individuals.

We also talked about the Board Expectations for SEAC. As a board we welcome any feedback or requests that SEAC members may have for guest speakers. The agenda for SEAC is reflective of issues and initiatives that are happening in the board. There was a question about presentations and the inclusion of staff. Our Professional Development is based on the funding resources that are made available and we would have to look at each case on an individual basis. Heidi outlined the professional development opportunities that have been made available to staff (teachers and EAs). This includes: Behavioral Management Training, participation at conferences (Autism this year). Much of the Professional Development depends on the needs of the staff and current initiatives.

5.0 Correspondence

5.1 Janet Reynolds – Letter of Resignation

Moved by: Trustee Cindy Brown

Seconded by: Leslie Souckey

✓ ***That, the SEAC regretfully accepts the resignation of Janet Reynolds from the Committee. Carried.***

6.0 New Business

6.1 Assistive Technology Presentation

- H. Patterson / L. Penna

This will be shared with the committee at the face-to-face meeting.

7.0 Information Items

7.1 George O'Neill Public School Retrofit Update – This item will remain on the agenda. It can be noted that as the project progresses there will be more updates for the committee. The committee noted that they would like to see the project at some point and so we may consider the face-to-face meeting in the fall to be held at George O'Neil Public School.

7.2 Updated SEAC Contact List

If there are any concerns, please let Corinne know.

7.3 OPSBA Provincial Update

- M. Mannisto

Mark provided a brief overview of the meeting. He did indicate that the Ministry is not looking to re-invent the wheel with regards to funding for Special Education. We are basically in a holding pattern with regards to Special Education. Our baseline funding is based on our student enrollment which is on the decline.

8.0 Agenda Items: Next Meeting Date/Time/Venue

Next Meeting: April 24th. There was discussion that the next and final meeting could be either on May 29th or June 4th. This would be a face-to-face meeting held at Lake Superior High School.

9.0 Adjournment

Moved by: Leslie Souckey

Seconded by: Trustee Mark Mannisto

✓ ***That, the SEAC Meeting be adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Carried.***