



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

February 15th @ 3:00 pm

### Videoconference Sites:

*Due to Covid-19, SGDSB will conduct their SEAC meetings virtually until further notice. Videoconference sites will be unavailable. Please contact the board office to receive the electronic invitation/link to the meeting.*

### Connect via Microsoft Teams:

#### Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

#### Or call in (audio only)

[+1 807-701-5980, 806782529#](#) Canada, Thunder Bay

Phone Conference ID: 806 782 529#

### Agenda

<b>Voting Members (4/7)</b>	<b>OS</b>	<b>TC</b>	<b>VC</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>R</b>
BRAKE-WELDON, Brandy: <i>Dilico (Chair)</i>			X		
MOORE, Jennifer: <i>Dilico (Alternate)</i>				X	
ZAPPITELLI, Sheila: <i>Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living (Vice Chair)</i>			X		
GROENEVELD, Sharon: <i>Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living (Alternate)</i>				X	
AUDIA, Jessica: <i>Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living</i>				X	
SMITH, Bobby Jo: <i>North of Superior Counseling Programs (NOSP)</i>				X	
MONTELPARE, Erin: <i>North of Superior Programs (NOSP-Alternate)</i>			X		
CORMIER, Paul: <i>First Nation Trustee</i>			X		
MCINTYRE, Margaret: <i>Trustee</i>			X		
MANNISTO, Mark: <i>Trustee</i>				X	
NESBITT, Jason: <i>Trustee (Alternate)</i>				X	
MAJOR, Christine: <i>Trustee (Alternate)</i>				X	

<b>Resource Members</b>	<b>OS</b>	<b>TC</b>	<b>VC</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>R</b>
McRAE, Pinky: <i>Board Chair</i>					X
MORDEN CORMIER, Nicole: <i>Director of Education</i>			X		
GOODMAN, Will: <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			X		
FREDRICKSON, Eric: <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			X		
COUTURE, Erin: <i>Student Trustee</i>				X	
MOLINSKI, Grace: <i>Student Trustee</i>				X	
RENAUD, Deana: <i>Mental Health Manager</i>			X		
BIANCO, Melissa: <i>Positive Behaviour Support Consultant</i>			X		
CURTIS, Sara: <i>Principal, Terrace Bay and Schreiber Public School</i>			X		
BREWSTER, Annick: <i>Special Education Lead</i>			X		
LEROUX, Erik: <i>Vice-Principal, Dorion Public School</i>			X		
DUMONSKI, Candice: <i>Secretary</i>			X		
TREPANIER, Alexis: <i>Children's Centre</i>			X		

*Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)*

<b>Land Acknowledgement:</b>		
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Call to Order:</b>	At 3:05 p.m. by M. McIntyre and P. Cormier.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes from January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022:</b>	
	Motion to approve minutes made by: P. Cormier requested changes to minutes prior to approval. Deferral of approval to next meeting March 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2022.	
	Seconded by	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Additions to the Agenda:</b>	
	5.5 W. Goodman looking for a new date for April SEAC meeting	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Business Arising from Minutes:</b>	
	None	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Agenda Items:</b>	
		<b>Host</b>
	<b>5.1</b> FASD Presentation	Alexis Trepanier
<p>A.Trepanier started by explaining what is FASD is. It is a diagnostic umbrella term that FAS, ARBD, FAE, and alcohol birth defects fall under. The program goal is to provide services to children, youth and families with FASD through consultation, system navigation, community engagement and capacity building. We build a support plan when we receive referrals. The support plan has specific goals and recommendations. Support plans are reviewed usually at the 3-month mark. Changes are made accordingly. Education provided in various ways, workshops, phone calls with various providers, one on one meetings for service providers, and families. Service providers don't have to have a specific client attached to this agency in order to reach out for assistance/services. FASD program works with many other community agencies. They support families by navigating their way through these services. Anyone 0-18 can be supported or to 21 if they remain in school. Don't have to have a formal FASD diagnosis to be eligible. Service provider can complete referral on or family can do by themselves. The form is on the website for self-referral or call intake line. Or contact one of the program staff.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>P. Cormier – Do you service Indigenous clients as well or does Dilico provide those services? How far into the region do you cover? Can anyone in our area within Superior Greenstone access it?</p> <p>A. Trepanier - Thunder Bay and district is covered. In regard to, indigenous/non-indigenous, we will make connections to additional supports to make sure that their needs are being met. In this program there are 2 workers that have this role. They connect people to services depending what they need. Very individualized. If they do need connections, say if it is Dilico, depending on what they need, we will do that. W. Goodman added that all SGDSB schools are considered a part of the Thunder Bay District.</p> <p>M. McIntyre – FASD is that strictly alcohol or does it now include drugs during pregnancy as well?</p> <p>A. Trepanier – The focus is prenatal alcohol exposure. Children/youth that are supported may have other exposures, but we don't say specifically. Norwest Community Health Centre does the diagnosis. Children's center provides all the supports.</p> <p>M. McIntyre - What is the timeline for getting a diagnosis? At one time it was very difficult to get a diagnosis. Have new tests come about to make it easier to make a diagnosis?</p> <p>A. Trepanier - Yes has gotten easier in the past 5 years. Funding has increased but waitlists have increased significantly. More accessible but more timely. Some people it can take 6 months and some 2 years for diagnosis.</p> <p>M. McIntyre – Increase in the number of children suspected of FASD?</p> <p>A.Trepanier - Yes, I think that's in connection of more awareness, reducing in the stigmatization, and the government pushing that support is needed.</p> <p>W. Goodman - Norwest Community Clinic has a clinic out of Longlac. They can do some of the diagnostics there so that families don't have to travel to Thunder Bay. Fairly new in the past 5 years.</p>		

	<p>In the past, for a diagnosis they had to go to sick kids or lots of telepsych or different hospitals outside of the region. Very time consuming. It takes 2-3 weeks to get a referral and 3-4 months to get neuropsychology tests done.</p> <p>A.Trepanier-reach out to me by email if you have further questions.</p>	
<b>5.2</b>	Revisions to PPM 132	Annick Brewster
<p>A. Brewster brought forth a presentation on new revisions to PPM 132. She explained that this PPM has to do with prior experiences of adult learners both formal and informal. They are recognized for secondary credit, minimizing duplication of learning, saving time and providing them with an enhanced pathway to graduation. PLAR(Prior Learning and Assessment Recognition) is the main assessment used to support the adult learners in achieving their goals. Two ways to provide this assessment – 9/10 PLAR equivalency and 11/12 PLAR equivalency and/or challenge opportunities. Changes effective February 1<sup>st</sup>. The main change is that to be considered a mature student you must turn 18 on or after January 1<sup>st</sup> (previously December 31<sup>st</sup>), removing the need to be out of school. The other change involves the challenge process for 11/12, previously you couldn't challenge a course you previously failed. Now you can. As well, some changes to the final 4 credits. It's the principal's discretion on whether they do the community involvement and how much. Any student can now take GLE 30/40(advanced learning strategies course). These changes open the pathway for the adult student to obtain their diploma. They can go right into PLAR and not waste time before getting their diploma.</p> <p>W. Goodman added we know that students at SGDSB can take longer to mature and can take a bit longer for graduation. This offers a greater opportunity. If they take a bit to figure things out and they miss some grade 9 courses they don't necessarily have to go back in grade 12 and take those grade 9 courses. Before they had to be out of school and had to have turned 18. If they got off track early on, they don't have to exit out of school. Helps level some of the playing fields. Helps remove some of those barriers. This is a huge change for education. It's significant for SEAC to be aware of.</p> <p>M. McIntyre asked, could someone who has been out of school for 10 years approach the school principal or how does that happen if it's someone who just wants to get their diploma? I'm not seeing an age. A. Brewster replied that there is no age. We are a continuing education program. They either go to the high school and the guidance counselor can talk with the individual or they can call me directly. There is no age limit and can come in at any time. This change allows students who are in high school, to continue along that pathway without having to wait the 10 months.</p> <p>M. McIntyre - Are you working in collaboration with confederation college to let them know these changes?</p> <p>A. Brewster - Yes in some instances. In terms of issuing the high school diploma that would be us.</p> <p>P. Cormier – with respect to grade 11/12 English and math credits, is it any level?</p> <p>A. Brewster – Yes, any level.</p> <p>P. Cormier - Is there a tool that you use to do the assessment? Does the ministry or anyone give you a tool that says here's the things to assess? I'd be interested in seeing it, if it's available.</p> <p>A. Brewster – Do you mean for 9/10 PLAR assessment itself?</p> <p>P. Cormier- You mentioned there was an assessment that's done on their prior leaning. I am wondering if there is a tool that does that?</p> <p>A. Brewster- For 9/10 it is a formal test they are given on their prior learning that we provide. There are guidelines for the 11/12 that we follow.</p>		
<b>5.3</b>	MDT Update	Sara Curtis
<p>From the last SEAC meeting we made a commitment to provide an update and highlights from one elementary and one high school for each SEAC meeting. To save on time, we are highlighting Lake Superior High School. The next hot topic session is happening in February, focusing identification placement review committees, transitions and EQAO.</p>		

	No questions.	
<b>5.4</b>	Kindergarten Transitions: Students Requiring Special Education Supports	Hillary Freeburn
	<p>We support all students regardless of background. What do our students need? At SGDSB, you don't have to be ready for school, we are going to be ready for you. Transition plan spans several months early Feb-Sept/Oct. We want to make sure we know them and they know us so they are comfortable for September. Building relationships with families and children is very important.</p> <p>B. Brake Weldon added that hopefully those transitions will happen this year again. In person. Happy to see you are doing Ages and Stages in place of Fair Start in order to get those students identified quickly so we can prevent that gap from getting bigger and bigger.</p>	
<b>5.5</b>	Alternate Date for April SEAC Meeting	W. Goodman
	W. Goodman would like to send out a poll with options for alternate dates for the April SEAC meeting as many members are unable to attend on April 12 <sup>th</sup> due to schedule conflicts.	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Correspondence:</b>	
		<b>Host</b>
<b>6.1</b>	Policy/Program Memorandum No.81, Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings in 2021-22: New Expectations	Will Goodman
	Combined with 6.2 – They are looking to get the government to put all their money into speech and language that are school based SLP. We don't have any SLPs in our school board. This doesn't work for us. We have to rely on agency partners to help provide that support.	
<b>6.2</b>	Position Paper by the Association of Chief Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario District School Boards (ACSLP)	Will Goodman
	Combined with 6.1	
<b>6.3</b>	Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education – Community Collaboration	Will Goodman
	Justice for Children and Youth sent some info and resources. This included an info graphic and an IEP guide to share with SEAC.	
<b>6.4</b>	SEA Claims Approval Letter	Will Goodman
	Funds we received – SEA claims \$61,045 reimbursement. When we put a claim in for an individual, we pay the first \$800. After this \$800, is all money we can get reimbursed for.	
<b>6.5</b>	Special Incidence Portion Claim Funding	Will Goodman
	Right before the last Liberal government left office, they made huge increases to various things in education. One of those increases was to SIP claims. They had remained at \$27,000 and in last moments bumped to \$38,000. The new government froze these increases and then decided to increase it by 1% every year. Durham District School Board claims it should \$38,000. We have been doing well with SIP claims and don't believe we should support this one right now.	
<b>7.0</b>	<b>New Business:</b>	
	None	<b>Host</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Information Items:</b>	
	None	<b>Host</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Agenda Items: Next meeting Date/Time/Venue:</b> March 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2022 at 3pm	

<b>10.0</b>	<b>Adjournment:</b> 4:10 p.m.
	Motion to adjourn made by B. Brake Weldon
	Motion to adjourn seconded by: