



Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: October 1, 2024
Location: Haliburton Education Centre
Time: 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to order

2. Roll call

Chair J. Balfour called roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

3. Approval of agenda

Moved by D. McNerney, seconded by B. Reain that the agenda be approved.
Carried.

4. Committee action items

4.1 Approval of the minutes of the September 3, 2024, meeting

Moved by K. Irons, seconded by R. McHugh that the minutes dated September 3, 2024 be approved.
Carried.

5. Administrative updates

5.1 System updates

N. Train shared the following updates:

- N. Train reported on recent professional development for administrators and Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs) in which attendees analyzed their school data specifically for students with special needs. Staff learned how to create a school portrait in order to address the student needs at their school.
- N. Train explained that the special education department is working with the curriculum department to ensure alignment with math and literacy goals. The focus will be to

deepen understanding of IEPs for families by using parent/guardian friendly language, and ensuring that teachers understand the IEP and how to implement it to ensure they can relay information to parents easily.

- N. Train proposes a Student Voice presentation or video for each SEAC meeting in order to get a sense of how the work of the special education department is affecting students.

5.2 Department updates

M. Lefler shared the following updates:

- The Special Education department hired a Psycho Educational Consultant for a full team. Also hired a PA&LS teacher for Parkview Public School.

6. SEAC projects

6.1 IEP videos update

It has been proposed to update the IEP videos with future topics such as universal design, the difference between accommodation and modifications, when an IEP is no longer needed, and how to be a self advocate. Scripts will be developed for input from SEAC.

6.2 2024-2025 presentation requests

Requesting future presentations on TLDSB EQAO and enrollment numbers, tiered intervention for Occupational Therapists (OTs) from Five Counties Children's Centre, a presentation from the Ontario Autism Program (OAP), as well as a Mental Health presentation from TLDSB.

7. Other business

7.3 Association and community news

Community Living South Muskoka reports that the Morris and Meadows property information package has been sent to South Muskoka schools regarding trips and activities, can extend class activities outside on their 35-acre property which is fully accessible. Activities include snow tubing, snow shoeing, and building outdoor skills.

Community Living Huntsville attended the Community Living Ontario conference which had a focus on self advocating. Events happening this month include; Early Childhood Educator appreciation day, National Day of the Child event, as well as a high school faculty networking event.

FASD ONE reported that there was a review of the FASD team assessment free online training on how to complete an FASD assessment from a multi-disciplinary approach, as well as how to complete a case conference. They are starting to develop an online course and webinar on how to ask the question "Did you drink before you knew you were pregnant?". It is suspected that cases of FASD are closer to 4% but only 0.8% are diagnosed in Ontario due to the uncomfortable subject.

Community Living Trent-Highlands reported that the Resource Library just opened up and they are encouraging families and agencies to come visit during open library times. The library has over 1,600 materials and resources for children and educators including the 'Travelling Tales'

collection of inclusive children's books. They also reported that the Early Learning Resource Program is working with local programs in order to focus on Universal Design.

7.4 Future business

- In November the EQAO data and IEP feedback data will be presented.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9. Next meeting

Date: November 5, 2024
Location: Lindsay Education Centre | Muskoka Education Centre
Time: 5:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Moved by B. Reain, the meeting was adjourned.