

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

DRAFT SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.
WebEx, Education Centre, Peterborough ON

ATTENDANCE

Present:

A. Lloyd	Trustee (Committee Chairperson)
A. Rodriguez	Community Living Peterborough (Committee Vice-chairperson)
J. Klassen Jeninga	Trustee
A. Cranfield	Five Counties Children's Centre
T. Hill	Developmental Services Ontario
W. Johansen	Ontario Association of Families of Children with Communication Disorders
M. Robinson	Autism Ontario – Peterborough Chapter
D. Toth	Alternatives Community Program Services Incorporated

Regrets K. Traynor Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough

Absent: A. Smoke First Nations

Also Present: A.M. Duncan, A. Fletcher, A. Foster, A. Hunt-Schmoll, J. Massie,
G. Payne, N. Smith, J. West and L. Hull

Land Acknowledgement

Trustee A. Lloyd, called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. It was recognized and acknowledged that the land on which we gather and learn daily is the treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg.

Adoption of Agenda

**MOVED BY T. Hill, SECONDED BY W. Johansen
That the agenda be adopted as printed.**

CARRIED

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

Adoption of Minutes

MOVED BY A. Rodriguez, SECONDED BY T. Hill

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 2020, be adopted as recorded. CARRIED

Board Report

Committee Chairperson A. Lloyd and Trustee J. Klassen Jeninga updated the committee on events and initiatives being undertaken by the Board.

Trustee Klassen Jeninga reported on the Board approved Menstrual Equity Project championed by Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) Student Trustees, Justine Mackay and Roan Haggerty-Goede, and supported by Board staff.

Trustee Klassen Jeninga acknowledged the approved appointments of Maryam Abdella and Eleftheria (Ella) Voliotis as Student Trustees for the 2021-2022 school year. The committee heard that the Board's membership in the Ontario Public School Boards' Association for 2021 was renewed, and Trustee Klassen Jeninga was appointed as the Director and Delegate Member to the Association; Trustee A. Lloyd was appointed as Alternate Director.

Committee Chairperson A. Lloyd reported that the Board endorsed a motion to petition the provincial government and local health units to vaccinate education workers at the earliest opportunity due to the upcoming April break and COVID-19 Variants.

Presentation

J. West, Senior Speech Language Pathologist and N. Smith, Speech Language Pathologist presented Behaviour and Communication: Supporting Communication to Promote Positive Student Behaviour. Together they shared:

- All behaviour is a form of communication, and we need to determine what the student is telling us;
- An outline of various language disorders;
- Promoting positive behaviour in students with communication challenges including a case study.

Questions of clarification posed by committee members were addressed by J. West and N. Smith

Administrative Update

Superintendent Duncan updated the committee on the Education & Community Partnership Program (ECPP) within KPR. Mon Ami Children's Services has closed as of March 31, 2021. This brings the Board's total number of ECPP or Section 23 classes to eleven.

G. Payne, System Principal of Special Education, provided an overview of World Autism Day by describing KPR's participation in the Raise the Flag Campaign. All KPR flags are flown according to Board Policy B-1.9, Flag Display. The new Autism Teacher Resource package was presented and is available on the Special Education Application.

Superintendent Duncan reported that the Board has been provided with summer learning, mental health, and transition to school funding for this summer.

The committee was informed that as of April 1, 2021, specific functions of Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) are moving to Ontario Health, and it will become Home and Community Care Support Services Central East.

Superintendent Duncan reported that the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) has distributed 10.2 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers, in collaboration with the Teaching and Learning department to KPR schools where students have chronically low primary reading scores and are a high-indexed socio-economic school, in increments of 0.4, 0.6 and 0.8 FTE. This funding will serve 21 elementary schools.

The committee heard an overview of the daily absences reported by KPR education workers and administration's decision to allocate 6 education worker rovers, including supply secretaries and supply custodians, to fill daily education worker vacancies.

Superintendent Duncan reported that the Staff Wellness focus groups will have concluded by Friday April 9, 2021, and the committee will meet later this month to review results. Also discussed was the upcoming review and update of the Critical Incident Response portion of the Crisis Response Manual.

Superintendent Duncan announced that Jennifer Massie will be retiring at the end of June 2021 and the position will be posted in the future.

Questions of clarification posed by committee members were addressed by the Superintendent.

Association Updates

Verbal reports that included updates on upcoming meetings, in-services, projects, and various events were provided by the following associations:

- Developmental Services Ontario
- Five Counties Children's Centre
- Alternatives Community Program Services Incorporated
- Community Living
- Ontario Association of Families of Children with Communication Disorders

M. Robinson, Autism Ontario, Peterborough Chapter, presented a report highlighting dates and events in April 2021. The report was emailed to committee members.

Correspondence

A letter was received from the Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board (HPEDSB) sent on behalf of their Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), to the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Piotr Oglaza, requesting the Ministry of Health and their local health unit strengthen their commitment to ensuring the health and safety of students and HPEDSB employees who work directly with students with high needs, in regional and self-contained placements, by prioritizing vaccinations during phase 2, in support of students with special education needs and their staff.

A letter was received from the Durham District School Board (DDSB) sent on behalf of their SEAC members to Metrolinx, Ministry of Transportation, Town of Whitby, Mayor and Members of Council and the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, requesting that the decision on January 7, 2021 be reconsidered to allow access through a section of Highway 2 for buses providing door-to-door service to students with special education needs. The DDSB believes that this decision does not comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and creates an accessibility barrier.

MOVED BY A. Cranfield, SECONDED BY W. Johansen

Committee members agreed that the letters are received for information only at this time.

CARRIED

Future Topics

May 4	Learning and Life Skills (LLS) Programs
June 1	Budget
June 15	Restorative Circles
All Meetings	Review of the Special Education Plan

Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee will be held by WebEx at 3:30 p.m. on May 4, 2021.

Adjournment

MOVED BY A. Cranfield, SECONDED BY T. M. Robinson
That the meeting be adjourned (4:47 p.m.).

CARRIED

Angela Lloyd
Committee Chairperson