

SUBJECT TO COMMITTEE APPROVAL

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

DRAFT SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.
Room 158, Education Centre, Peterborough ON

ATTENDANCE

Present:

A. Cranfield	Five Counties Children’s Centre (Committee Chairperson)
A. Lloyd	Trustee (Committee Vice-chairperson)
J. Klassen Jeninga	Trustee (Alternate)
K. Carson	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Peterborough
C. Dickson	Trustee
T. Hill	Development Services Ontario
M. Robinson	Autism Ontario – Peterborough Chapter
A. Rodriguez	Community Living Peterborough
A. Smoke	First Nations
D. Toth	Alternatives Community Program Services Incorporated
K. Traynor	Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough

Regrets:

W. Johansen	Ontario Association of Families of Children with Communication Disorders
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Also Present: Trustee S. Patterson; A.M. Duncan, A. Hunt-Schmoll, C. Filip, A. Fletcher, J. Massie, L. Schoenmaker, J. Nahrgang and E. O’Neill.

Land Acknowledgement

A. M. Duncan, Superintendent, Student Education, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Trustee C. Dickson was welcomed to the committee and E. O’Neill, Executive Assistant to A.M. Duncan, was introduced as the new recording secretary. It was recognized and acknowledged that the Committee was meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga First Nations.

Election of Committee Chairperson

A.M. Duncan reviewed the process for elections and called for nominations three times for the position of Committee Chairperson.

A. Cranfield, Five Counties Children’s Centre representative, was nominated by A. Lloyd and seconded by C. Dickson. K. Traynor was nominated by A. Cranfield and declined the nomination.

There were no other nominations. A. Cranfield was acclaimed Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee for the year 2020.

Election of Committee Vice-chairperson

A. Cranfield, Committee Chairperson, called for nominations three times for the position of Committee Vice-chairperson.

A. Lloyd, Trustee, was nominated by J. Klassen Jeninga and seconded by K. Traynor. There were no other nominations. A. Lloyd was acclaimed Vice-chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee for the year 2020.

Adoption of Agenda

MOVED BY C. Dickson, SECONDED BY K. Traynor
That the agenda be adopted as printed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

Adoption of Minutes

MOVED BY M. Robinson, SECONDED BY T. Hill
That the Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019, be adopted as recorded.

CARRIED

Board Report

Trustee A. Lloyd updated the committee on events and initiatives being undertaken by the Board, including the KPRDSB Strategic Plan 2019-2022 that was presented at the December 17, 2019 Board meeting.

Information related to school accommodation reviews that are currently being undertaken, and some of the challenges with growth in the Clarington area, at Millbrook/South Cavan Public School and Westmount Public School were highlighted.

Also reported were the challenges with Union negotiations, of which the majority are being handled by the province. Student needs are being met by the supports that are in place in the schools.

Tier 1 Promoting Positive Student Behaviour Strategies

C. Filip, System Principal, Special Education, shared the vision statement for Special Education: *"We promote learning for all when we create and maintain mentally healthy classrooms, through **programming, environmental conditions and organizational structures** which support all, some and few students to reach their full potential"*. The departmental focus is on the student pathway to success for all KPR students to be able to reach their full potential, and to be able to access learning in a safe, positive manner. This focus came about as a result of a focus group of KPR teachers, administration, union members, and other staff.

J. Massie, System Principal, Special Education introduced the Three Pillars of Special Education, and reviewed the concept of the three Tiers on the pyramid.

- All Students – Universal - What is essential for some, is good for all, we meet the needs of all students.
- Some Students – Targeted - Some learning challenges require accommodations/modifications that are specific to the needs of that student. For example: adaptive tech, health needs, sensory diet.
- Few Students – Intensive - Complex needs requiring supports beyond the classroom/school resources. For example: Speech Language, Psychologist, School Board Counsellor, outside agency, nurse.

The current focus is Tier 1, what is good for all students and to minimize the numbers of Tier 2 and Tier 3 using a team approach including Special Education Resource Teachers and Principals.

The Three Pillars of Special Education were explained to committee members.

- Programming:
 - Academic - Differentiated instruction to support all learners
 - Alternative - to address skill gaps identified (i.e. social skills, self-regulation)
- Environmental Conditions:
 - Physical - furniture types and placement, availability/organization of materials
 - Social/Emotional - safe, respectful classrooms, consistent expectations, learning programs for school community
- Organizational Structures:
 - Pathways, routines, processes in place to support all, some and few

It was explained that while all students are engaged in the classroom, they may not all be doing the same activity. The importance of technology integration for all students, and the importance of regular support for all students was highlighted. Some students need the ability to know there is somewhere safe to go or be and to have access to a caring adult.

A. Hunt-Schmoll, Principal, Brighton Public School, shared a presentation on the importance of the safe and welcoming environment that has been created at Brighton Public School. Strategies on what principals, teachers and support staff can do in classrooms every day and good classroom management were highlighted including:

- Visual day schedules
- Personal belonging student space
- Coping strategies in a calming room
- Student space to work on self-regulation
- Calming space and reading corners in the classroom
- Setting high expectations and goals

Ontario Human Rights Commission – Policy on Educating Students with Disabilities – Part 2

A.M. Duncan deferred this item to the next meeting due to time restraints.

Administrative Update

A.M. Duncan presented the KPRDSB Strategic Plan 2019-2022, Excellence in Learning, Life and Community, to the committee. The plan is based on consultation with students, staff, families and community members about what is most important for our students' success.

The Special Education Logic Model was distributed to members. The consultation process for the logic model came through all levels to their leadership team with input from all groups. Highlights include where the system needs are, supporting positive student behaviour, and long term outcomes were discussed.

Association Updates

Autism Ontario – Peterborough Chapter

Representative M. Robinson provided the following update:

Programs and/or Service Updates:

Events

We were approached by the Peterborough Liftlock Atom Hockey Tournament to put in a proposal to be the Charity of Choice this year. We were in competition with 4 charities and Autism Ontario was chosen. It means a \$2500 donation, our logo on participant hats and an advertisement in their program booklet.

Realm Racing donated \$589.75 raised at the Peterborough Sledarama Show.

Autism Ontario, Provincial Office is accepting applications for March Break Reimbursement Funds. Applications are due by January 24, 2020 for a maximum of \$350. To apply go to www.autismontario.com and follow the link on the home page.

The Peterborough Chapter has approved 20 families to receive Activities Funding of \$100 for 20 families for their child to participate in community events such as arts, sports or camp.

We partnered with Lansdowne place for a very successful Silent Santa. It was well attended and Santa was very sensitive to the needs of the children.

Over the holidays we had a Holiday Pool Party at the Wellness Centre, a family swim at the Wellness Centre and a family bowling day at Lakeview Bowl. We held a Rock Climbing event in Lindsay.

Upcoming Events

January 17, 2020- Kids Playland Indoor playground
for children under age 8.

January 18, 2020- Gymnastics at Champions Gymnastics

January 30, 2020- A Family night with Five Counties and
Tri County Behavioural Services

February 11, 2020- Kids Playland Indoor playground
for children under age 8.

February 20, 2020- Family Snow Tubing at Lakeridge Ski Resort, Uxbridge.

We are currently planning a workshop with Stephanie Moeser for female teens and women on the Autism Spectrum. Females with autism often present differently than males. This workshop will address issues that are unique to girls and women and give them a comfortable place to ask questions. It is in partnership with Canadian Mental Health, Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre and PARN. Date TBD.

Government Update

The Government has changed the Ontario Autism Program again. It is being referred to as the Needs Based, Sustainable Ontario Autism Program. It will include implementation of an early intervention program, care coordination, and urgent services program. Consultation is underway to look at the hardships and challenges unique to Indigenous, marginalized, rural and remote families. The hope is to involve the Ministries of Health and Education in the committee. They are also working towards some type of supports into adulthood. Families who have never received supports will be given a one-time funding as they wait for the full implementation of the OAP which will not be until 2021.

Information sessions for parents to learn about the new program will be held: January 16th and February 20th at Five Counties.

For assistance with understanding the OAP, finding qualified providers and parent resources contact Jamie Reid at Jamie@autismontario.com or phone 1-800-472-7789

For registration, intake, questions about the waitlist or funding distribution of the childhood budget contact The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services oap@ontario.ca or call 1-888-444-4530

All of the above events require registration by going to our website at www.autismontario.com

The following associations provided verbal reports that included updates on upcoming meetings, in-services, projects and various events:

- Alternative Community Program Services Incorporated
- Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Peterborough

- Five Counties Children's Centre

Future Topics

February 4, 2020 – FASD

March 3, 2020 – OHRC – Policy on Educating Students with Disabilities – Part 2

April 7, 2020 – Trauma Informed Schools

May 6, 2020 – Budget, Special Education Plan

May 28, 2020 – Compassion Fatigue

Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee will be held in Room 158 at the Education Centre, 1994 Fisher Drive, Peterborough, at 3:30 p.m. on February 4, 2020.

Adjournment

MOVED BY K. Traynor, SECONDED BY M. Robinson

That the meeting be adjourned (5:15 p.m.).

CARRIED

A. Cranfield
Committee Chairperson