

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

DRAFT SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

Via WebEx Video Conference

ATTENDANCE

Present:	Alex Cranfield	Five Counties Children's Centre (Committee Chairperson)
	Toni Hill	Development Services Ontario
	Marilyn Robinson	Autism Ontario – Peterborough Chapter
	Wendy Johansen	Ontario Association of Families of Children with Communication Disorders
	Angela Lloyd	Trustee (Committee Vice-chairperson)
	Jaine Klassen Jeninga	Trustee (Alternate)
	Kim Carson	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Peterborough
	Debra Toth	Alternatives Community Program Services Incorporated
	Alison Rodriguez	Community Living Peterborough
	Kathy Traynor	Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough
Regrets:	Cyndi Dickson	Trustee
	April Smoke	First Nations
Also Present:	A.M. Duncan, A. Hunt-Schmoll, C. Filip, L. Schoenmaker, J. Massie, C. McKeen, A. Fletcher and E. O'Neill.	

In light of the current health advisory and public health measures in place provincially, the meeting was held virtually using WebEx.

Land Acknowledgement

Committee Chairperson A. Cranfield called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. It was recognized and acknowledged that the Committee was meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga First Nations.

Adoption of Agenda

**MOVED BY M. Robinson, SECONDED BY A. Lloyd
That the agenda be adopted as printed.**

CARRIED

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

Adoption of Minutes

MOVED BY W. Johansen, SECONDED BY M. Robinson

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, be adopted as recorded. **CARRIED**

Board Report

Trustee A. Lloyd and Trustee J. Klassen Jeninga updated the Committee on events and initiatives being undertaken by the Board. Teachers are continuing with distance education and are getting very creative in how resources and information are deployed to students. We are waiting to receive information from the Ministry as to next steps and when students or if students will return to the classroom. The Board appointed a new trustee at the last Board meeting. Emilio Ojeda will represent Havelock, Belmont, Methuen and Trent Hills. The Long-term Accommodation review will be coming to Board this month. A. Lloyd indicated that a comprehensive plan is to be done every 10 years.

The Trustees expressed their gratitude to all administrators and staff for the connections they are making with students and families and applauded the efforts of everyone in ensuring our students are successful. All teaching federations have come to agreements with the Ministry and ratifications are taking place this month.

Special Education Budget Overview

Superintendent Duncan welcomed and introduced Colin McKeen, Senior Manager, School Business Operations and Procurement.

C. McKeen provided Committee members with an overview of the 2020-2021 Board budget, with a focus on Special Education funding. Information regarding anticipated budget process timelines was shared indicating that boards are required to approve a balanced and compliant budget by June 30, 2020.

The Committee was informed that required budgetary information has not yet been received by the Ministry; however, senior administration will work through the funding model as it becomes available. The full budget will be shared at the May 28, 2020 committee meeting.

Administrative Update

Superintendent Duncan provided an overview of the Board's Special Education plan for distance education to support our teachers, students and families.

The Special Education Department has been examining the questions what does distance learning look like for a student with special needs and how does that look in a home environment. For some students, the home environment has been very successful; however, for some it has been a great challenge. Parents have been our partners with distance learning.

The Special Education Department has developed and deployed several documents to assist parents, students, and staff. Principals and SERTs will receive documentation with processes to reach out to students and families that have not yet engaged with school staff. Processes are also being implemented to address concerns with attendance during distance learning, as processes traditionally followed do not apply in these circumstances. Resources were also provided to clarify the role of support staff and how they engage and support students during distance learning. Superintendent Duncan noted the continuing efforts from all departments to ensure the success of distance education for our students.

Questions were asked by Committee members and addressed by Superintendent Duncan.

Association Updates

All Agencies in attendance provided information on how they are offering services to clients during these challenging times.

New business

A letter was received from the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board sent on behalf of their Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), to the Minister of Education, regarding the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education. We have decided not to send a letter at this time.

Future Topics

May 28, 2020 – Compassion Fatigue
June 16, 2020 – Special Education Plan

Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee will be held via WebEx Video Conference, at 3:30 p.m. on May 28, 2020.

Adjournment

MOVED BY A. Lloyd, SECONDED BY K. Traynor
That the meeting be adjourned (4:34 p.m.).

CARRIED

A. Cranfield
Committee Chairperson