



**ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (S.E.A.C.)**

MINUTES OF MEETING
December 6, 2022
DT Walkom/Teams
12:00 Start Time

Present: S. Kitts (North Shore Tribal Council), A. Gauthier (Thrive Child Development Centre) P. Mick (Member-At-Large), Margaret Barbeau (Community Living Algoma), Margaret Tuomi, (Autism Ontario), Susan. McIlquham (Sault Ste Marie Down Syndrome Society)

Trustees: S. Evans, R. Reid.

Staff: B. Vallee (Superintendent), C. Phillips (Recording Secretary), K. Viita (System Administrator)

Regrets: E. Torresan (Algoma Family Services)

Meeting called to order at 12:00 p.m. With the approval of Chair Mick, Superintendent Vallee to facilitate the remainder of the Teams meeting.

1. Round Table - Introduction of members, staff, and guests.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes (November 22, 2002)

- Agenda approval. Moved by S. Kitts. Seconded by R. Reid. All in favour.
- Approval of Minutes. Moved by M. Barbeau. Seconded by R. Reid. All in favour.

3. Correspondence: No correspondence received this month.

4. Presentation: Orientation to SEAC B. Vallee

- Superintendent B. Vallee provided an orientation presentation regarding SEAC. Topics covered in the presentation included:
 - Background information regarding the formation of SEACs and Regulation 464/97
 - Membership information including composition of the SEAC, eligibility for membership, term, nomination process, vacancies, and the role of school board personnel.
 - SEAC's role in providing advice and feedback regarding special education programs and services, the Special Education Plan/Report, Special Education Budget, and other matters pertaining to special education.
 - Information regarding meetings, including frequency, agendas, quorum, election of a chair/vice-chair, and motions & minority reports
 - Information was also provided throughout the presentation on past practices within the ADSB SEAC regarding these items.

5. Member Organization Updates

S. Kitts (North Shore Tribal Council)

- Attending large number of meetings with regards to student behaviour at school and at home as many parents are seeing similar issues. B. Vallee stated that we have definitely seen effects of the pandemic on the development of social skills, self-regulation and resilience (coping). Over the past few years, many children have not experienced the foundational social experiences that were common before the pandemic and work needs to be done to help build these skills.

M. Barbeau (Community Living Algoma)

- Education Committee meeting was yesterday (December 5th)
- Follow-up regarding the Shelley Moore presentation and possibility of a five-part learning series as a follow-up.
- Wait list updated.
- Working towards securing job coaches for summer employment programming for youth ages 15-30 including high school students who want to have a part time job.

A. Gauthier (Thrive)

- No updates to report since our last meeting two weeks ago.
- Thrive helps children with physical, communication and developmental differences, including children with autism spectrum disorders by offering occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech-language pathology, respite care, early learning resources, autism, and family support.

S. McIlquham (Sault Ste Marie Down Syndrome Society)

- The Down Syndrome Society's mission is to promote the growth and development of individuals with Down syndrome so that their lives may be enriched and that they may reach their full potential as members of society in Sault Ste. Marie.

M. Tuomi (Autism Ontario)

- No report

P. Mick (Member- At-Large)

- No report

6. Report from the Board (Trustees)

- First regular meeting of the new Board took place on November 29th.
- SEAC members for the 2022-2026 term were approved at the meeting.
- Presentation on E- learning opportunities that are available. A good reminder that E-learning is not pandemic learning 2.0.
- Presentation on Grade 8 reach-ahead credit opportunity
- Audit statements were presented. Audit review has been completed with a small surplus. This report will be presented to the Ministry.
- Trustees will also meet tonight (December 6th) for a workshop on governance.

7. Report from Administration (B. Vallee & K. Viita)

- ***Special Incidence Portion Claims:*** The focus for our staff in the Special Education Department over the past two weeks has been completion of the Special Incidence Portion (SIP) claims as these are due for submission to the Ministry by December 16th. We are targeting Monday, December 12th as a completion date to have all of our claims submitted to the Ministry for review.
- ***Formal Assessments:*** We continue to push forward with our psychological-educational assessments. We received a total of 162 referrals for formal assessment during our last intake period in June. This is approximately “double” the usual number, so we will not be accepting new referrals in December. We have provided formal assessments for approximately 45 of those referrals during the first part of the school year.

Upcoming Agenda:

- S. Kitts stated that she will try for January for the Elders in the Classroom presentation that was previously booked.
- Overview of ADSB programs/services for our new members.

8. Next Meeting: January 17, 2022

9. Motion to adjourn: Moved by S. Kitts. Seconded by A. Gauthier.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15