



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 16, 2016

PRESENT: Committee Members: E. Swanson (Chair), B. Morris, K. Dunsmoor-Lough, C. Smith, F. Mick-Johnston, L. Cobb, S. McBride

Administration: B. Smith, H. van der Mark, S. Cassidy-Rouleau, A. MacDougall-Popke, J. Pantuso

Guests: D. Root, S. French, J. Laderoute

ABSENT: (With Regrets) B. McIntyre, T. Williams, R. Bernard, N. Edge, C. Barber

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair E. Swanson called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF 16 NOVEMBER 2016

MOVED BY C. Smith, seconded by S. McBride, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda, as amended, for today's meeting.

The motion was CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 21 SEPTEMBER 2016

MOVED BY B. Morris, seconded by S. McBride, that the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2016.

The motion was CARRIED.

4. REPORT FROM THE BOARD

B. Morris reported on the following Board activities:

- Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) learning day held in Cobden on October 12 for over 360 grade 11 students. The keynote address was by Melissa Bishop and eighteen certifications were offered that included leadership, bear safety, photography and propane handling to name a few.
- Newly constructed outdoor classroom at Opeongo High School and the many partnerships and businesses that have contributed to the success of the project.
- Recruitment company hired and advertisement posted for position of Director of Education.

5. REPORTS FROM RESOURCE STAFF

B. Smith reviewed the SEAC Handbook: Section 3 - Self-Assessment, Section 4 - Operational Procedures and Section 5 - Special Education Report.

The Special Education Report was reviewed and input was provided by the committee on: Section 5 - IPRC Process and Appeals, Parents as Partners, Section 6 - Educational and Other Assessments, Section 7 - Specialized Health Support Services, Section 8 - Categories of Exceptionality and Definitions and Section 9 - Special Education Programs and Services.

S. Cassidy-Rouleau presented the Special Education Resource Teacher Support Document. The document is a work in progress but includes contact information, document links, year at a glance, shared beliefs, supports, tiered model, caseload model, collaborative scheduling, assessment, accommodations vs modifications, alternative programming and functional curriculum, functional behaviour assessment, IEPs and IPRCs, planning with smart goals, Ministry definitions, referrals and forms.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

J. Laderoute, Communications Manager, attended the meeting and explained his role as coordinating communications and activities of the Board and schools while working closely with the director, senior team and trustees. The committee discussed ways to make SEAC members more visible to parents and to promote the role of SEAC through the Parent Involvement Committee, Parents as Partners handbook, meet the teacher nights, open houses and school councils.

7. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

C. Smith reported that the Ottawa Carleton DSB has postponed any decisions regarding their gifted program until more inclusive consultations have been held with stakeholders such as their SEAC and parents.

8. OUTSTANDING ITEMS - nil

9. NEXT MEETINGS

- December 21, 2016
- January 18, 2017
- February 15, 2017
- March 22, 2017
- April 19, 2017
- May 17, 2017
- June 21, 2017

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY K. Dunsmoor-Lough, seconded by F. Mick-Johnston, that the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

The motion was CARRIED.