

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

DRAFT SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.
Education Centre, Peterborough ON

ATTENDANCE

Present:	A. Lloyd	Trustee (Committee Chairperson)
	J. Hunter	Curve Lake First Nation
Present via Webex:		
	A. Rodriguez	Community Living Peterborough (Committee Vice-chairperson)
	P. Brown	Trustee (alternate)
	M. Brynaert	Frontenac Youth Services
	K. Hill	Canopy Support Services
	J. McIntyre	Kinark Child and Family Services
	K. Meades	Alternatives Community Program Services Incorporated (alternate)
	M. Muir	Grandview Kids
	M. Robinson	Autism Ontario
	A. Spencer	Developmental Services Ontario
Regrets:	J. Klassen Jeninga	Trustee
	S. Gonsalves	Easter Seals Ontario
Absent:	K. Baker	Alternatives Community Program Services Incorporated
	J. Camenzuli	Five Counties Children's Centre
	N. Lajoie	Brain Injury Association Peterborough Region
Also Present:	A.M. Duncan, D. Crawford, J. Shuttleworth, and L. Hull.	

Also Present via Webex:
I. Einarson and M. Masterson.

Land Acknowledgement

Trustee A. Lloyd, called the meeting to order at 3:32 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 Anishnaabeg.

Adoption of Agenda

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

CARRIED

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

Adoption of Minutes

MOVED BY A. Rodriguez, SECONDED BY P. Brown

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday February 7, 2023, be adopted as amended with minor changes to the land acknowledgement, page 1.

CARRIED

Board Report

Trustees A. Lloyd and P. Brown updated the committee on events and initiatives being undertaken by the Board.

Trustee A. Lloyd acknowledged the retirement of Anne Marie Duncan, Superintendent of Education with best wishes.

Trustee A. Lloyd reported briefly on the upcoming Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) budget deliberations, the expectations around the Ministry of Education funding and the challenges associated with this process. More information will be shared with the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) at the May 4, 2023, meeting.

Presentations

I. Einarson, Empower Teacher Trainer and Mentor at SickKids (The Hospital for Sick Children) provided a presentation on an overview of the Empower reading program for Grades 2-5 and Grades 6 -8. Information regarding the following was shared:

- the goals of Empower Reading,
- the correlation between literacy and health outcomes,
- evolution and outreach of the Empower literacy programs,
- key instructional features,
- Empower word identification strategies and decoding,
- instructional programs and professional development,
- recommendations for implementation of Empower Reading,
- support for Empower from the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) Right to Read Inquiry Report,
- the tiered approach to reading instruction and intervention,
- metacognitive strategy-based decoding and spelling instructions for Tier 3 students.

Questions of clarification posed by committee members were addressed.

D. Crawford, System Principal of Special Education provided a presentation on the Right to Read Inquiry and KPR reading interventions which respond to the recommendations. Information regarding the following was shared:

- OHRC Right to Read Inquiry report,
- KPR actions to support the Right to Read Inquiry, including supporting documents,
- KPR tiered reading support model.

Questions of clarification posed by committee members were addressed.

Administrative Updates

Superintendent Duncan shared that the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) negotiations are currently underway, and negotiations will extend into April 2023. It was noted that KPR values the positive, collaborative relationships with all unions that are represented within the Board.

Superintendent Duncan updated the committee on the recent enhancements of the Multi-Focus Team (MFT) process. It was explained that MFTs are the mandatory meetings that are held for any students who are under consideration for an Individual Education Plan (IEP) modification below grade level or who require professional assessments such as psychological or language assessments. Recommendations for assessments which are generated from these meetings are triaged centrally. To meet the demand for assessments, options include conducting the assessment after hours or on weekends. The Ministry of Education has provided additional funding for assessments in the past two years, and we are hopeful that this will continue. The Special Education department has established processes to manage the flow of information and applications coming in from schools, and the hard work of A. Clarke, Secretary to Special Education and C. Gorman, Secretary to Senior Manager of Professional Services was acknowledged.

Superintendent Duncan reported on the extensive work completed on the IEP Guidelines documents. This has been an initiative lead by J. Shuttleworth, System Principal of Special Education. The document called, Individual Education Plan Content Table, explaining every facet of the IEP will be shared along with a presentation regarding this initiative at the next SEAC meeting on Tuesday April 4, 2023.

In response to ensuring that all KPR administrators are aware of policy to address workplace violence from students, Superintendent Duncan shared that there is ongoing professional learning being provided to Principals and Vice Principals on Administrative Regulation, HR-4.1.2 *Supporting Positive Behaviour and Safety for All*, which is available on the KPR external website. This Administrative Regulation outlines the process to address unsafe behaviour by a student from Tier 1 supports and the appropriate programming occurring in that student's classroom, through to Tier 3 supports and responses.

Superintendent Duncan provided an update that interviews for principals and vice-principals have occurred in order to ensure there are short lists of eligible candidates for future placements. The hiring and on-boarding of education workers is ongoing as applications are received.

Association Updates

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

- Canopy Support Services
- Kinark Child and Family Services
- Autism Ontario
- Developmental Services Ontario
- Frontenac Youth Services
- Community Living Peterborough
- Alternatives Community Program Services
- Curve Lake First Nation

Correspondence

Correspondence was received from the Avon Maitland District School Board sent on behalf of their Special Education Advisory Committee, to the Minister of Education, regarding funding of the Special Incidence Portion (SIP), urging the Minister of Education to evaluate the true cost associated with SIP claims to support students and to increase funding accordingly.

MOVED BY J. Hunter, SECONDED BY M. Robinson

That a letter be written to the Ontario Government regarding funding of the Special Incidence Portion (SIP) urging the Minister of Education to evaluate the true cost association with SIP claims to support students and to increase funding accordingly.

CARRIED

Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2023.

Adjournment

MOVED BY A. Rodriguez, SECONDED BY M. Brynaert

That the meeting be adjourned (4:55 p.m.).

CARRIED

A. Lloyd
Committee Chairperson